

## PRESS RELEASE

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Chief Judge Lavenski R. Smith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit recently announced that the court has appointed Bonnie L. Clair of St. Louis, Missouri as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Eastern Missouri. Judge Clair's chambers will be in St. Louis, Missouri. She fills the vacancy created by Judge Charles E. Rendlen III, who retired in May 2020.

Judge Clair graduated from Duke University in 1990. During her time at Washington University School of Law before receiving her J.D. in 1993, she was an Articles Editor on the *Journal of Urban and Contemporary Law* (now the *Journal of Law and Policy*), a national competitor in the New York City Bar Moot Court competition, and a law clerk for the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Judge Clair focused her practice on bankruptcy law from the start of her career, beginning in the Attorney General's Honors Program in the United States Department of Justice, where she worked for the Office of the United States Trustee in St. Louis, Missouri and Little Rock, Arkansas.

In 1997, she transitioned to Norwest Financial, Inc. (now Wells Fargo Financial), where she piloted the company's field attorney program. Four years later, she joined the firm now known as Summers Compton Wells LLC, where she became a principal in 2004.

The Missouri Supreme Court appointed Judge Clair to its Region X Disciplinary Committee in 2018. In addition, Judge Clair served the Missouri Bar as a member of its Fee Dispute Resolution Committee for almost twenty years before she took the bench.

She regularly has been recognized not only for her frequent publications and legal education presentations, but also for her appearances in the Lawyers' Association of St. Louis's annual Gridiron Show.