



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
1 COURTHOUSE WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02210

Sarah Allison Thornton
CLERK OF COURT

PRESS RELEASE
January 3, 2013

The Judges of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts have re-appointed Leo T. Sorokin after review of the recommendation made to the Court by the Panel of Citizens, appointed pursuant to the Order dated July 16, 2012. The current term of Magistrate Judge Sorokin expires on April 10, 2013. He has been reappointed for another eight year term.

Judge Sorokin was appointed United States Magistrate Judge by the United States District Court on April 11, 2005. Since February 1, 2012, he has served as Chief Magistrate Judge and presides over the Court Assisted Recovery Effort for the District of Massachusetts, promoting the development and maintenance of sober, employed and law abiding lives by felons under the supervision of the Court. The District of Massachusetts was one of the first federal courts to create such a program and the program has been a model for other districts. He has served as a faculty member on numerous educational programs sponsored by the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, the Federal Judicial Center, the Federal Bar Association and the Boston Bar Association. In 2009 the Boston Bar Association awarded Magistrate Judge Sorokin its Citation of Judicial Excellence.

Magistrate Judge Sorokin graduated from Yale College, *cum laude* in 1983, and Columbia Law School, in 1991, where he was a Kent and Stone Scholar as well as the Articles Editor of the *Journal of Law and Social Problems*. After his graduation from law school, he served as a law clerk to Rya W. Zobel, a Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts (1991-1992). He then joined Mintz Levin as an associate (1992-1994). He then became an Assistant Attorney General under Scott Harshbarger at the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office (1994-1997). During his tenure at the Office of the Attorney General he served in the Administrative Law Division of the Government Bureau representing the Commonwealth in a range of civil matters in the trial and appellate courts. During his last year in the Office, he became the Opinions Coordinator for the Attorney General (1996-1997). Thereafter, he then became an Assistant Federal Defender in the Federal Public Defender's Office for the District of Massachusetts (1997-2005), where he represented indigent defendants in federal criminal prosecutions at trial and on appeal. He remained in this position until his appointment to the bench.

Magistrate Judge Sorokin resides in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Please contact: Sarah Allison Thornton, Clerk, U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, 617-748-9165.