

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

In re: THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, as representative of THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, <i>et al.</i> , Debtors. ¹	PROMESA Title III Case No. 17-BK-3283 (LTS)
In re: THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, as representative of THE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO, Debtor.	PROMESA Title III Case No. 17-BK-3566 (LTS)
In re: THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, as representative of THE PUERTO RICO HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, Debtor.	PROMESA Title III Case No. 17-BK-3567 (LTS)
In re: THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, as representative of THE PUERTO RICO ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY, Debtor.	PROMESA Title III Case No. 17-BK-4780 (LTS)

¹ The Debtors in these Title III Cases, along with each Debtor’s respective Title III case number and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, as applicable, are the (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (the “Commonwealth”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (“COFINA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3284-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (“HTA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (“ERS”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“PREPA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-4780-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (“PBA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 19-BK-5523-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801) (Title III case numbers are listed as Bankruptcy Case numbers due to software limitations).

In re:
THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD
FOR PUERTO RICO,
as representative of
PUERTO RICO PUBLIC BUILDINGS AUTHORITY,
Debtor.

PROMESA
Title III

Case No. 19-BK-5523 (LTS)

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES TO
PERFORM EVALUATIVE MEDIATION DUTIES**

Parties in interest to the PROMESA proceedings pending in the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, and the public, are hereby notified that the Honorable Ramon E. Reyes, Jr., a United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York, the Honorable Robert Summerhays, a United States District Court Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, the Honorable Maria Valdez, a United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and the Honorable Linda T. Walker, a United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, have been appointed and designated to the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico to perform evaluative mediation duties in accordance with the *Order (A) Authorizing Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedures, (B) Approving Additional Forms of Notice, and (C) Granting Related Relief* (Dkt. No. 12576 in Case No. 17-BK-3283) (the “ADR Order”). These appointees will work under the direction of the Honorable Judith Dein, who is also appointed and designated to perform evaluative mediation duties in addition to other judicial duties in these cases, pursuant to the *Order of Referral of Management and Supervision of Evaluative Mediation Phase of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Procedures* (Dkt. No. 15762 in Case No. 17-BK-3283, Dkt. No. 1069 in 17-BK-3566, Dkt. No. 963 in Case No. 17-BK-3567, Dkt. No. 2372 in 17-BK-4780, and Dkt. No. 103 in 19-BK-5523). Further procedures related to the evaluative mediation phase of the ADR Order, if necessary, will be published. Biographical profiles of the appointees follow.

Judith Gail Dein
United States Magistrate Judge
United States District Court for the
District of Massachusetts

The Honorable Judith Dein has been the designated Magistrate Judge on all the PROMESA cases since June 2017. She was appointed a Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, on July 31, 2000, and served as Chief Magistrate Judge from February 2009 until February 2012. As a Magistrate Judge, Judge Dein presides over pretrial matters in all types of civil cases filed in Federal Court and, with the consent of the parties, presides over jury and jury-waived civil cases through judgment. Judge Dein also presides over pretrial matters in criminal felony cases, and adjudicates petty offense matters, misdemeanors and extradition cases through trial and sentencing.

The Magistrate Judges in Massachusetts are the principal mediators in the District Court's pretrial mediation program, which is available to all civil litigants free of charge. Judge Dein has served as the mediator in hundreds of cases over the years, including, without limitation, employment matters, intellectual property cases, environmental litigation, civil rights disputes, insurance cases, prisoner litigation, contract disputes, ERISA and Social Security cases, and personal injury matters. Judge Dein was instrumental in creating the District of Massachusetts Mediation Advocates Panel ("MAP") with the Federal Bar Association. This program provides pro bono representation to pro se civil litigants, including prisoners, in mediations. She was honored by the Community Dispute Settlement Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts with a Community Peacemaker Award for her work on the MAP.

Judge Dein is a Fellow of the Massachusetts Bar Foundation and of the American Bar Association. She has served as a Member of the Advisory Group of Magistrate Judges for the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, and as the First Circuit Representative to the Federal Magistrate Judges Association. She is presently the Magistrate Judge Representative to the First Circuit Judicial Council.

Judge Dein had over 20 years of civil litigation experience before being appointed to the Bench. She is a 1976 graduate of Union College in Schenectady, New York, and has been a member of the College's Board of Trustees since 2012. Judge Dein graduated from Boston College Law School in 1979, where she was editor-in-chief of the Environmental Affairs Law Review. Judge Dein clerked for the Justices of the Massachusetts Superior Court and the late Justice Robert Braucher of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court before entering private practice. While in private practice, her work focused on commercial litigation and employment law.

Ramon E. Reyes, Jr.
United States Magistrate Judge
United States District Court for the
Eastern District of New York

The Honorable Ramon E. Reyes, Jr. was appointed United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York in February 2006. At the time of his appointment, he was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, serving as a Deputy Chief of Civil Appeals.

Judge Reyes has extensive mediation experience and has mediated hundreds of cases during his tenure as a Magistrate Judge. From January 2014 through late-2016, Judge Reyes served as one of three Magistrate Judges on *In Re Hurricane Sandy Cases*, 14-MC-0041 (E.D.N.Y.), in which he developed an innovative method of coordinating case management and resolution of more than 1,500 individual insurance coverage cases resulting from Superstorm Sandy in October 2012. Judge Reyes received the inaugural Jack B. Weinstein Mediation Settlement Award from the Federal Bar Association (2016) for his contributions to *In re: Hurricane Sandy Cases*.

Judge Reyes is a member of the Board of Trustees of Brooklyn Law School and the Board of Directors of the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District Chapter. He previously served as President of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association (2019), as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Bar Council (2006-2012), and a member of the American Bar Association's Coalition on Racial and Ethnic Justice (2013-16).

Judge Reyes graduated from Cornell University in 1988 with a B.S. in Public Affairs Management. He earned his J.D. from Brooklyn Law School in 1992, and a LL.M. from New York University School of Law in 1993. While at Brooklyn Law School, he served as Editor in Chief of the Brooklyn Journal of International Law, was a member of the Moot Court Honor Society, and was a Fellow in the Center for the Study of International Business Law. Prior to becoming an Assistant United States Attorney, Judge Reyes worked in private practice, and served as a law clerk to the late-Honorable David G. Trager, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York (1994). From 2000-2003 he served as a member of the United States Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel for the Eastern District of New York.

Robert Summerhays
United States District Judge
United States District Court for the
Western District of Louisiana

The Honorable Robert Summerhays was appointed to the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana in September 2018. Prior to his district court appointment, Judge Summerhays served as a United States Bankruptcy Judge in the Western District of Louisiana for 12 years, 7 years of which he served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge.

As a Bankruptcy Judge, Judge Summerhays managed an average docket of over 5,000 consumer bankruptcy cases and presided over a number of significant corporate restructurings, such as Piccadilly Cafeterias, Gulf Fleet Holdings, Saratoga Resources/Harvest Oil, American International Petroleum, the Louisiana subsidiary of German Pellets AG, and Progressive Acute Care. He has also mediated complex energy and healthcare bankruptcy cases.

Judge Summerhays is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and has lectured and written extensively on bankruptcy law. He was a member of the editorial board of the American Bankruptcy Law Journal from 2009 to 2015. He has also served as the Fifth Circuit representative to the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group. Judge Summerhays is active in the Federal Bar Association and served as President of his local FBA chapter. In 2020, he judged the final round of the Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition in New York. Since 2012, Judge Summerhays has taught advanced business law at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Prior to his service as a Bankruptcy Judge, Judge Summerhays worked in private practice concentrating in federal court litigation. Judge Summerhays served as a law clerk for Judge W. Eugene Davis (U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit) in Lafayette from 1994 to 1995. Judge Summerhays received his law degree in 1994 from The University of Texas at Austin, where he was an Associate Editor of the Texas Law Review.

Maria Valdez
United States Magistrate Judge
United States District Court for the
Northern District of Illinois

The Honorable Maria Valdez was appointed Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in May of 2005. She served as the Presiding Magistrate Judge for the district from 2016 through 2020.

In her role as a Magistrate Judge, Judge Valdez has worked as a mediator assisting thousands of parties to resolve all aspects of federal civil litigation, including intellectual property cases, contract disputes, employment matters, and civil rights issues, among others.

Prior to becoming a federal Magistrate Judge, Judge Valdez served as the Chicago Regional Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), concentrating her trial and appellate practice in the areas of constitutional law and the federal Voting Rights Act. Judge Valdez received her undergraduate degree from the University of California at Los Angeles, and her law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. She began her legal career in 1988 as a federal public defender in Los Angeles, and later worked in private practice specializing in federal civil rights litigation.

**Linda Thompson Walker
United States Magistrate Judge
United States District Court for the
Northern District of Georgia**

The Honorable Linda Thompson Walker was appointed Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, Atlantic Division, in January 2000, and served as the Chief Magistrate Judge from 2015 until 2019. As a Magistrate Judge, Judge Walker serves as a mediator in all of the different types of civil cases brought in Federal Court and has mediated hundreds of cases. In addition, she has primary judicial responsibilities for all civil cases containing claims under various consumer protection statutes; all actions brought under Section 205(g) of the Social Security Act, and related statutes; all cases containing a claim or challenge to an allegedly wrongful residential real property foreclosure, eviction or dispossessory action; all cases containing claims under federal employment discrimination statutes; all non-death penalty habeas corpus petitions and other prisoner actions; and all civil discovery motions in addition to responsibilities in connection with criminal pre-trial proceedings.

Judge Walker has been a member of the Administrative Office of the Courts Advisory Working Group, the Judiciary Data Working Group, and has served as the Magistrate Judge representative to the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Council. She is also active in the Federal Magistrate Judges Association (“FMJA”) and has served as the Eleventh Circuit Director; co-chair of the FMJA Diversity Committee; and as a member of the Nominating Committee. Judge Walker is a Founding Board Member of the Gate City Bar Association Judicial Section, the Gate City Bar Association being the oldest African American Bar Association in Georgia. She is a Diamond Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporation; a Lifetime Member of the Southern University National Alumni Association; and a member of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys and the Lawyers Foundation of Georgia.

Judge Walker has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Southern University in Baton Rouge, and a Master of Science Degree in Biology from Clark-Atlanta University. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia Law School, where she was inducted into the Order of Barristers and the Joseph Henry Lumpkin Inn of Courts. After graduating from law school, Judge Walker clerked for the Honorable G. Ernest Tidwell, former Chief District Court Judge for the Northern District of Georgia. After her clerkship, Judge Walker entered private practice where her work focused on anti-trust law, government law and general civil litigation. She then joined the County Attorney’s Office for Fulton County, the largest county in the State of Georgia, where she became the County Attorney responsible for defending Fulton County, its elected officials, and employees in all civil matters.