

The Honorable Michael B. Kaplan was appointed as a bankruptcy judge on October 3, 2006, for the District of New Jersey and designated Chief Judge on May 1, 2020. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Kaplan served as a Standing Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee, as well as an appointed trustee in cases under Chapters 7, 11 & 12. Judge Kaplan received his A.B. degree from Georgetown University (1984) and his J.D. Degree from Fordham University School of Law (1987). Judge Kaplan is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges for which he has served as Treasurer and as an Executive Board Member. Judge Kaplan also serves on the Judges Advisory Council for the Rabiej Litigation Law Center.

Over the past thirty years, Judge Kaplan has spoken to numerous bar associations and business organizations, and since 2009 has taught as an adjunct professor at Rutgers University School of Law and Seton Hall university School of Law. He is a co-author of West's *Consumer Bankruptcy Manual* and *Consumer Bankruptcy Handbook*, as well as *Collier on Bankruptcy*, 16<sup>th</sup> ed.

Judge Kaplan has presided over numerous notable cases, including *Revel AC, Inc.*, *Crumbs Bakeshop, Inc.*, *Sur La Table, Inc.*, *LTL Management, LLC*, *Blockfi, Inc.*, *Rite Aid, Inc.* and the *Invitae Corporation*.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Kaplan served as Mayor and Councilman for the Borough of Norwood, NJ, and as a member of the Norwood Planning