

October 01, 2013

CLLA To Present Lawrence P. King Award To The Hon. A. Jay Cristol at the 2013 National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges

Chicago 10/1/2013 -- The Commercial Law League of America (CLLA) and its Bankruptcy Section are pleased to present this year's Lawrence P. King Award to the Hon. A. Jay Cristol at the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in Atlanta, on Oct. 31, 2013.

"The CLLA is excited to be honoring Judge Cristol with this year's Lawrence P. King Award," says CLLA President Jeffrey Schatzman. "He truly exemplifies the qualities that the award was created to represent: scholarship, advocacy, involvement and excellence in the bankruptcy field."

Each year, the Executive Council of the Commercial Law League's Bankruptcy Section presents the Lawrence P. King Award to recognize a lawyer, judge, teacher or legislator who exemplifies the best in scholarship, advocacy, judicial administration or legislative activities in the field of bankruptcy. The award was designed to recognize the lifetime achievements of Professor King, which include contributing to the practice of bankruptcy law through teaching and working to elevate the profession through bankruptcy-related legislative activities.

This year's recipient is the Hon. A. Jay Cristol, Chief Judge Emeritus of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of Florida. Cristol served as a special assistant attorney general of Florida from 1959 to 1965 and as a trustee in bankruptcy from 1977 to 1985.

He was appointed a United States bankruptcy judge for the Southern District of Florida on April 17, 1985, and served as the district's chief bankruptcy judge from 1993 until 1999. Cristol also served his country as a captain in the Naval Reserve, with 38 years of service in the diverse roles of both a carrier pilot and a lawyer, flying day and night from the aircraft carrier Princeton during the Korean conflict and flying volunteer air lifts to Vietnam in the 1960s.

Cristol received his B.A. from the University of Miami and his J.D. , cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law, where he was research editor of the Law Review and recipient of other honors. He received his Ph.D. from the Graduate School of International Studies at the University of Miami on May 9, 1997 for his dissertation on the Liberty incident.

He is the past president of the University of Miami Law Alumni Association and has served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Miami. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Miami School of Law, where he has taught an advanced bankruptcy course for over 20 years.

Cristol has served on the Bankruptcy Committee of the Eleventh Circuit and on the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules. He has taught U.S. bankruptcy law to foreign judges in the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and Thailand. He also has taught judges from Russia, India, Malaysia, Hong Kong, and South Africa, under various programs for the State Department, USAID, the American Bankruptcy Institute and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. He has published numerous articles on law, aviation, history and other subjects, and has written a critically acclaimed book, "The Liberty Incident."

Cristol has presided over many high profile bankruptcy cases and related proceedings, including the Chapter 11 reorganizations of General Development Corporation, Prime Motor Inns, Flannigans, Banco Latino International, Arrow Air, Pan American Airways, Fine Air and AmeriJet, which case he confirmed after only 85 days in bankruptcy. The Pan Am plan was confirmed after only four months and the reorganized company was so pleased with the results of the case that its first new aircraft was named the Clipper A Jay Cristol.

The CLLA events at NCBJ will take place on Oct. 31. They include the CLLA Luncheon, featuring keynote speaker Bill Rochelle, Bloomberg News editor-at-large and bankruptcy columnist, and the CLLA's Honorable Frank W. Koger Memorial Education Program: Current Developments in Hot and Emerging Areas of Bankruptcy. The program will feature sessions on complex bankruptcy litigation, Ponzi schemes and other fraudulent conveyances; hot and emerging areas of commercial bankruptcy and the evolving bankruptcy prohibition against opaqueness.