

UNITED STATES DISTRICT & BANKRUPTCY COURTS
DISTRICT OF IDAHO



April 11, 2016

A Tribute to Former Lawyer Representative Thomas High

BOISE – The Judges of the United States District and Bankruptcy Courts for the District of Idaho regretfully inform the public that Twin Falls attorney and former lawyer representative, Thomas High, passed away on Sunday, March 27.

Mr. High was appointed to serve as a lawyer representative in November 2009 and did so until December 2012. During his three year term as lawyer representative, Mr. High, along with two other lawyer representatives, assisted the Courts with improving the administration of justice in the District of Idaho and matters concerning the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. In this role, he represented the Bar, worked to advance his colleagues' opinions and suggestions for improvement, and assisted the Courts in the implementation of new programs and procedures. During the 2011 Bench Bar Conference in Boise he delivered a presentation on cross examination skills, which was insightful and informative, as well as humorous, which was truly a reflection of his personality. In 2012, Tom (along with lawyer representatives Trudy Hanson Fouser and Bruce Anderson) informed the conference attendees about the many changes facing practitioners, discussed the impact of social media, and emphasized the need for a third Article III judgeship in Idaho.

Tom's Twin Falls practice consisted of insurance, malpractice, business and estate planning as well as product liability defense. He was a longstanding member of the Idaho State Bar (ISB), and received the ISB Service Award in 1996 and the ISB Professionalism Award in 2003. Tom also served on the Idaho Law Foundation's Continuing Legal Education Committee for six years, the Professional Conduct Board for two years, and the Access to Justice Idaho Campaign Leadership Committee for two years.

In noting his passing, Chief District Judge B. Lynn Winmill, commented that, "Tom was not only the consummate professional, but he was a lawyer's lawyer – constantly seeking to improve the practice of law, serving as a mentor for young lawyers, and giving freely of his time to promote the Rule of Law. But, to the Judges in the District of Idaho, he was more than that – he was a friend."

The Judges are grateful for the many contributions that Tom High made to the District of Idaho, on behalf of lawyers throughout the state. They extend their deepest sympathy to his wife Patty, his family, and all those who were touched by him.

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