



Judge Scott W. Dales – United States Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Michigan

Scott W. Dales, a native of Schenectady, New York, is the Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan. The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals appointed him to the bench in October, 2007, upon the retirement of the Honorable Jo Ann C. Stevenson, and the United States District Court appointed him as Chief Judge in 2013. He and his wife, Joanna, live with their three sons in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Judge Dales earned a bachelors degree from the University of Michigan in 1987 before moving to Washington, D.C., where he served as a legislative analyst for the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) before attending law school. After graduating from the George Washington University Law School, Judge Dales served as a law clerk for the Honorable Con. G. Cholakis, United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York. He then practiced law for several years in Albany, New York, with Barrett Gravante Carpinello & Stern. In 1998, Judge Dales moved to West Michigan to clerk for the Honorable James D. Gregg, of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan. After that clerkship and before his appointment as a bankruptcy judge in October 2007, Judge Dales practiced law with Dykema Gossett, PLLC in Grand Rapids, Michigan, before serving as in-house counsel to National City Corporation and its bank and non-bank subsidiaries. As a member of National City's insolvency practice group, he worked primarily with distressed commercial transactions, including National City's aircraft lease portfolio and troubled automotive supplier loans.

In his spare time, Judge Dales participates in his sons' school and athletic activities, enjoys photography, and spends as much time as possible in Northern Michigan.