UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY James J. Waldron, Clerk

February 8, 2010



THIS NOTICE IS INTENDED TO ALERT NEW JERSEY CM/ECF USERS OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND HIGHLIGHT ISSUES THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

Amended Time-Computation Rules became effective on December 1, 2009

Please be aware of the three *Notices to the Bar and Public* posted on our <u>website</u>. These important notices provide information on the time computation amendments to the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the conforming amendments to the local rules, forms and general orders for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey.

We have created a page on our website that highlights all of the changes to our Local Rules, Local Forms and General Orders. This page can be accessed by clicking on Local Rules & General Orders and selecting **December 2009 Time Computation Amendments**. Failure to use amended forms after December 1, 2009 may result in the issuance of a Deficiency Notice from the court.

Reaffirmation Agreement Changes

New and revised reaffirmation agreement documents were implemented nationally on December 1, 2009, they include:

- Reaffirmation Agreement Cover Sheet (Official Form B27)
- **Reaffirmation Documents** (including Agreement), (B240A)
- Motion For Approval of Reaffirmation Agreement (B240B)
- Order on Reaffirmation Agreement (B240C)

Discharges in Chapter 11 Individual Cases

As stated in the court's *Notice to the Bar and Public Regarding the Issuance of Discharges on Chapter 11 Individual Cases*, dated December 14, 2009, and effective immediately, the Court will require the following two documents be filed by the debtor prior to issuing a discharge:

- Debtor's Certification of Completion of Instructional Course Concerning Financial Management (B23),
- Chapter 11 Individual Debtor's Certification of Completion of Plan Payments

Upon receipt of the debtor's certifications set forth above, the Court will administratively reopen the case, issue the discharge and re-close the case. No fee will be due or motion required to reopen the case.

Both forms are available on the court's web site. To file them electronically use the events noted below.

Document	CM/ECF Category	CM/ECF Event
Debtor's Certification of Completion of Instructional Course Concerning Financial Management	Bankruptcy > Misc. Events	Financial Management Course (Official Form 23)
Chapter 11 Individual Debtor's Certification of Completion of Plan Payments	Bankruptcy > Misc. Events	Certification of Completion of Plan Payments

Loan Modification

Pursuant to the court's *Amended General Order Regarding Negotiations Between Debtor(s)* and *Mortgage Servicer(s) To Consider Loan Modifications*, dated July 27, 2009, the following event has been created.

Document	CM/ECF Category	CM/ECF Event
Motion For Approval of Loan Modification	Bankruptcy > Motions/Applications	Approve Loan Modification

This motion event sets a 14 days deadline for filing objections, and does not set a hearing. If an objection is filed, the movant will be notified by the court of the hearing date.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AUCTIONEER COMPENSATION

Pursuant to **D.N.J. LBR 2016(g)**, the court may waive the formal fee application process for auctioneers. When a waiver is granted the auctioneer may request fees and expenses via a new form entitled **Notice of Proposed Auctioneer Compensation**. The Notice may be conventionally filed by the auctioneer, or may be electronically filed by a trustee or trustee's attorney on behalf of the auctioneer. **Instructions** for e-filing the Notice are located on the court's web site, **www.njb.uscourt.gov.**

REDACTION PROCEDURES - GENERAL

Participants are reminded of the procedures contained in the court's *General Order Governing Redaction Procedures Pursuant to 11 § 107(c) and Fed.R.Bankr.P. 9037(a)* (amended December 1, 2009). Importantly, it is the filer's responsibility to ensure Personal Data Identifiers are redacted from pleadings BEFORE they are filed with the court. This policy includes claims.

Personal Data Identifiers are to be redacted as follows:

- Social security numbers to the last four digits;
- Taxpayer Identification numbers to the last four digits;
- Financial account numbers to the last four digits;
- Names of minor children to the initials;
- Dates of birth to the year.

The General Order noted above also contains detailed information regarding the actions that should be taken when a document containing Personal Identifiers has been inadvertently filed.