

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO THE BAR AND PUBLIC

**THIRTY-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
CONCERNING NEW AND AMENDED
2026 LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES**

Please be advised that the Board of Judges of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey has approved for publication for a thirty-day public comment period, a draft of proposed 2026 new and amended Local Bankruptcy Rules as highlighted below:

PROPOSED LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES

- 1. DNJ LBR 3007-2 – Omnibus Objection to Claims**
- 2. DNJ LBR 3016-1 – Chapter 11 Plan and Disclosure Statement and Related Forms**
- 3. DNJ LBR 3017-1 - Combined Hearings on Disclosure Statement Approval and Plan Confirmation in a Chapter 11 Case (NEW)**
- 4. DNJ LBR 2016-5 - Compensation of Debtor’s Attorney in a Chapter 13 Case**
- 5. DNJ LBR 3011-1 - Unclaimed Funds in Cases Under chapter 7, Subchapter V of Chapter 11, Chapter 12, or Chapter 13**

IMPORTANT DATES

Dates for public comment and implementation are set forth as follows:

- June 12, 2026 - Publication of draft rules for public comment.**
- July 13, 2026 - Close of public comment period.**
- July 14, 2026 – July 17, 2026 - Consideration of comments received by the Board of Judges of the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey.**
- July 20, 2026 - Submission of draft rules for formal approval by the Board of Judges of the District Court for the District of New Jersey.**
- August 1, 2026 - Effective date of 2026 Local Bankruptcy Rules.**

By approving a publication draft, the Board of Judges solicits comments from bankruptcy professionals and members of the public. Comments may be submitted to the Court email address: local_rules@njb.uscourts.gov.

Dated: June 11, 2026

Jeanne A. Naughton, Clerk of Court

Proposed 2026 Amendment to D.N.J. LBR 3007-2 – Omnibus Objection to Claims

An omnibus objection to claims may be filed to reduce the amount of a claim or to modify a claim's priority status. Local Form Notice of Objection to Your Claim must be filed and served on each claimant. The requirement to file and serve on each claimant Local Form Notice of Objection to Your Claim does not apply in a Chapter 11 Complex Case.

(a) Permitted Categories for Omnibus Objections. Parties are authorized to file omnibus objections to no more than 100 claims in each omnibus objection on the following grounds:

- (i) To reduce the amount of claims or modify the priority status of claims;
- (ii) The amount claimed contradicts the debtor's books and records;
- (iii) The claims were incorrectly or improperly classified;
- (iv) The claims seek recovery of amounts for which the debtors are not liable;
- (v) The claims do not include sufficient documentation to ascertain the validity of the claims or the claims fail to sufficiently specify the basis for the claims;
- (vi) The Claims are filed against nondebtors, the wrong debtor or are filed against multiple debtors, except to the extent permitted under any bar date order entered in the applicable case;
- (vii) The claims are disallowed under section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code;
- (viii) The claim was withdrawn or disallowed by the claimant or pursuant to either a pleading or the entry of a Court order;
- (ix) The claims are duplicate claims, but a claim filed against two more different debtors is not a duplicate claim unless the debtors' estates have been substantively consolidated;
- (x) The claims have been amended or superseded by subsequently filed claims;
- (xi) The claims are objectionable under 11 U.S.C. § 502(e).

(b) Form of Omnibus Objections. An omnibus objection to claims must conform to the following requirements:

- (i) Each omnibus objection filed by a party in a case must be numbered consecutively (e.g., First Omnibus Objection, Second Omnibus Objection, Third Omnibus Objection, etc.).
- (ii) Omnibus objections may include multiple categories of objections under paragraph (a) of this Local Rule, provided that the total number of claims listed in the omnibus objection does not exceed 100 claims.
- (iii) An omnibus objection must attach exhibits identifying the claims to which the objection relates. Each exhibit must identify the objection category of the claims listed in that exhibit under paragraph (a) of this Local Rule. Only one objection category of claims may be listed in each exhibit, and the claims in each exhibit must be listed alphabetically by claimant name, with a sequential identifying reference number (e.g. the first claim listed in an omnibus objection will be number 1, the second will be number 2, and so forth). The exhibits must also list the claim number assigned by the debtor or debtor's claims agent for each claim

included in such exhibit

- (iv) An omnibus objection must contain a statement that the objection complies with this Local Rule.
- (c) Certification Required. Each omnibus objection must be supported by a certification, declaration, or affidavit stating that the information contained in the objection is true and correct to the best of the certifier's/declarant's/affiant's knowledge and belief.
- (d) Notice. Local Form Notice of Objection to Your Claim must be filed and served on each claimant subject to an omnibus objection. The requirement to file and serve on each claimant Local Form Notice of Objection to Your Claim does not apply in a Chapter 11 Complex Case.
- (e) Responses to Omnibus Objections. The deadline to respond to an omnibus objection must be at least 21 days after the objection is filed and at least 7 days before the hearing date.

2026 Comment

This Rule is amended to further expand the grounds upon which an omnibus objection to claims may be based and to limit to 100, the number of claims which may be contained within the omnibus objection. This Rule does not apply in a Chapter 11 Complex Case.

2025 Comment

This Rule is amended to specify that it does not apply in a Chapter 11 Complex Case.

2017 Comment

This Rule is new. Promulgated under Bankruptcy Rule 3007(c), the rule expands the grounds upon which an omnibus objection may be based beyond those set forth under Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d). It introduces Local Form *Notice of Objection to Your Claim*, which must be filed and served on individual claimants in support of the motion or adversary proceeding objecting to a claim required under Local Bankruptcy Rule 3007-1(a).

D.N.J. LBR 3016-1. Chapter 11 Plan and Disclosure Statement and Related Forms

(a) Table of Contents. Every Chapter 11 Plan or Disclosure Statement must contain a Table of Contents.

(b) Modification. If a Chapter 11 plan proponent files a modified plan, disclosure statement, plan supplement, or related document, the entire modified document must be filed. The title must use a numerical designation such as “First Modified Plan” or “Second Modified Plan.” When a plan proponent files an amended plan, disclosure statement, Plan Supplement, or related document, the proponent must also file a redline of the entire document against the last-filed version.

(c) Required Forms in Subchapter V Cases. A Subchapter V debtor must file Local Forms Subchapter V Status Report and Small Business Debtor’s Plan of Reorganization [or Liquidation] for Subchapter V Small Business Cases.

2026 Comment

This Rule is amended to require a plan proponent to accompany the filing of a modified plan with a redlined version of the document to track changes.

Proposed New 2026 Local Rule – 3017-1

Combined Hearing on Disclosure Statement Approval and Plan Confirmation in a Chapter 11 Case.

(a) Application. This Local Rule applies when a plan proponent requests a combined hearing on disclosure statement approval and plan confirmation, except a prepackaged plan.

(b) Interim Disclosure Statement Approval; Solicitation Procedures and Scheduling Combined Hearing on Approval of Disclosure Statement Adequacy and Plan Confirmation.

(i) Motion Required. A plan proponent may file a motion requesting, as applicable, (A) authority to combine the plan and disclosure statement into a single document; (B) interim disclosure statement approval; (C) approval of solicitation and voting procedures, including identifying the proposed balloting agent, if any; and (D) scheduling a joint hearing to consider final approval of the adequacy of the disclosure statement and confirmation of the proposed plan.

(ii) Notice, Objection Deadline, and Hearing. The motion must be filed at least 28 days before the hearing and be served on counsel for the debtor (if not the plan proponent), the U.S. Trustee, counsel for any official committee, counsel for any trustee, all parties who file a request for service of notices in the chapter 11 case, and all parties whose rights are affected by the motion or application. If an official unsecured creditors' committee has not been appointed in a chapter 11 case, then the movant or applicant must serve the motion or application on the creditors identified in the list filed under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1007(d). Any claims agent appointed in the case must also post the notice on the case website. If no objection is filed within 14 days after the motion is served, then the Court may grant the motion without a hearing.

(iii) Certification. The motion must certify that the notice of the deadline to object to final approval of the adequacy of the disclosure statement and confirmation of the proposed plan will comply with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(b), and that the proposed date for the joint hearing will be at least 7 days after the deadline, unless the Court orders otherwise.

(iv) Proposed Order. The motion must be accompanied by a proposed order that:

- (A) Sets the joint hearing date;
- (B) Approves the disclosure statement on an interim basis;
- (C) Approves the voting procedures, including establishing a record date under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3017(d) and 3018(a) and a voting deadline at least 10 days before the joint hearing;
- (D) Approves the form of notice to be provided to creditors and interest holders; and

(E) Approves the form of ballot, and, if the plan seeks a consensual third-party release or injunction, then the ballot must disclose the release or injunction and describe how to assent to or oppose the release or injunction.

2026 Comment

This Rule is new and provides a basis upon which a movant may file a motion to request a combined hearing on disclosure statement and plan in an appropriate Chapter 11 case.

D.N.J. LBR 2016-5. Compensation of Debtor's Attorney in a Chapter 13 Case

(a) Disclosure of compensation. The attorney must file with the petition Local Form *Disclosure of Chapter 13 Debtor's Attorney Compensation*. The attorney must select a compensation method as set forth in subdivisions (b) or (c).

(b) Standard fee. An attorney who charges a fee of ~~\$4,750~~ \$6,000 or less is not required to file an application for compensation. The standard fee includes all services and reimbursable necessary expenses required to confirm a plan, including administrative services required subsequent to confirmation. The attorney may file an application for compensation and reimbursement of necessary expenses under Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1 for the following services which are excluded from the standard fee:

- (1) representation of the debtor in an adversary proceeding;
- (2) representation of the debtor in loss mitigation/loan modification efforts;
- (3) representation of the debtor in postconfirmation filings and matters brought before the court.

(c) Hourly billing. An attorney who elects hourly billing must file and serve on the debtor and the Chapter 13 trustee an application for compensation and reimbursement of necessary expenses under Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1 not later than 7 days after the date of the order confirming the Chapter 13 plan.

(d) Application for additional preconfirmation fees and expenses. An attorney who elected a standard fee under subdivision (b) may seek additional compensation and reimbursement of necessary expenses by filing an application under Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1 on notice to the debtor and Chapter 13 trustee. The applicant must demonstrate that the additional services were unforeseeable at the time of the filing of the disclosure required under subdivision (a).

(e) Chapter 13 Debtor's Attorney Fee Application Cover Sheet. An attorney seeking compensation and reimbursement of necessary expenses in any amount must file with the application Local Form *Chapter 13 Debtor's Attorney Fee Application Cover Sheet* and comply with Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1. A request for compensation totaling under \$1,000 does not require completion of Sections I – III of the *Chapter 13 Debtor's Attorney Fee Application Cover Sheet*.

(f) Service. The attorney must serve the application and cover sheet on the debtor and Chapter 13 trustee.

2026 Comment

This Rule is amended at subsection (a) to increase the standard fee for a Chapter 13 debtor's attorney from \$4,750 to \$6000 for cases filed on or after the effective date of this Rule, August

1, 2026. Subsequent increases to the standard fee are subject to adjustment of dollar amounts governed by 11 USC Section 104.

2025 Comment

The amendments to this Rule are stylistic.

2019 Comment

This Rule is amended to require the use of a fee application cover sheet any time the debtor's attorney files a fee application, not just for fee applications of \$10,000 or more.

The fee application cover sheet has been modified to reflect any differential in distribution caused by the fee.

2018 Comment

This Rule is amended to increase the standard fee. For cases filed or converted to Chapter 13 on or after the effective date of this Rule, the court will no longer accept Local Forms, *Certification of Debtor's Counsel Supporting Supplemental Chapter 13 Fee* and *Order Granting Supplemental Chapter 13 Fees*. In those cases, all fees requested under this Rule must be filed in compliance with Local Bankruptcy Rule [2016-1](#).

Examples of administrative services under subdivision (b) include preparation and filing of a Certification in Support of Discharge, preparation and filing of a Certification About a Financial Management Course, and providing documentation requested by the Chapter 13 trustee.

Subdivision (c) does not preclude an attorney who elects hourly billing from submitting fee applications after the initial fee request.

2015 Comment [Abrogated]

This Rule was formerly Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1(j).

Taking the steps necessary to discharge liens modified under the plan under subdivision (a)(1)(G) includes the filing of Local Forms *Application to Cancel and Discharge Mortgage/Lien* and *Chapter 13 Order Authorizing Cancellation, Voiding and/or Discharge of Record of Mortgage/Lien*.

The calculation of the fee amounts in this Rule is exclusive of the filing fee and expenses.

D.N.J. LBR 3011-1. Unclaimed Funds in Cases Under Chapter 7, Subchapter V of Chapter 11, Chapter 12, or Chapter 13

(a) **Deposit.** A trustee must file Local Form *Notice Depositing Unclaimed Funds Pursuant to D.N.J. LBR 3011-1* to deposit unclaimed funds into the court’s registry without court order.

(b) Payment of unclaimed funds.

(1) All claimants must use Local Form *Application for Payment of Unclaimed Funds*.

(2) A claimant must be:

(A) the Owner of Record (original payee) or its legal successor; or

(B) the Owner of Record’s assignee or its legal successor.

(3) The application must include the supporting documentation identified in the Instructions for Filing an Application for Payment of Unclaimed Funds. The court may, in its discretion, request supplemental documentation or additional information from a claimant and conduct a hearing to verify entitlement to the funds.

(4) The application must be served on the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey and Local Form *Certification of Service* must be filed.

(5) The application must include Local Form *Order Granting Application for Payment of Unclaimed Funds*.

(6) The application must include *Request for Payee Information and TIN Certification* (AO 213P) or other acceptable documents as indicated in the *Instructions for Filing Application for Payment of Unclaimed Funds*.

(c) **Objection.** An objection to the application must be filed and served within 21 days after filing the application. ~~The court may conduct a hearing on the objection in its discretion.~~

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(d) Hearing. The court may, in its discretion, schedule a hearing and require appearances. Parties will be notified via a notice of hearing, which will indicate whether appearances are required virtually (via Zoom), telephonically, or in person.

2026 Comment

This rule is amended to add subdivision (d) to clarify that the court may schedule a hearing within its discretion whether or not an objection has been filed.

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2025 Comment

This Rule is amended to require the submission of *Request for Payee Information and TIN Certification* (AO 213P).

2024 Comment

This Rule is amended to assist the court in preventing fraud. The Rule now expressly permits the court to request additional information from a claimant and to require appearances at a hearing on any application.

2020 Comment

The title of this Rule is amended to include Subchapter V of Chapter 11 due to the enactment of the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019.

This Rule is amended to conform with the adoption of Director's Form 1340 (to be effective December 1, 2019) by the Judicial Conference of the United States.

If an objection is timely filed in accordance with subdivision (c) the court will schedule a hearing.

In a closed case, no motion to reopen is required and no reopening fee will be charged.

2015 Comment

Section 2041 of title 28 governs deposit of funds in pending or adjudicated cases, and section 2042 governs withdrawal of funds deposited in court.

This Rule applies only to unclaimed distributions deposited into court by a trustee under § 347(a) of the Code. All other funds deposited into court are governed by Local Bankruptcy Rule [7067-1](#). In a closed case, the chief bankruptcy judge will hear the motion for withdrawal.