

A CM/ECF Newsletter Sponsored by the United States Bankruptcy Court District of Nevada

THE BANKRUPTCY BUGLE JUNE 2008

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SPECIAL DELIVERY!

Right to your desk! Want to be the first in town to "*READ ALL ABOUT IT*"? If you're a Bugle Fan you can sign up to

receive your Bugle via e-mail right from the court! Just drop us a line at the address below and give us your current e-mail address, we'll do the rest! Write us at:

HelpDesk@nvb.uscourts.gov.

Fine Print: This offer is good until the Court comes up with a better idea! Subject to change with or without notice. Subscriber responsible for e-mail address updates.



CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE:

If it is on your document **DO** enhance the text to reflect this.

(Some categories have an automatic prompt. If you don't get the prompt, be sure and type it in at the "Modify Docket Text" screen.)



COURTESY COPIES

All Nevada Bankruptcy judges require paper courtesy copies on matters with a hearing date and time. Courtesy copies are required to be filed within 24 hours of the electronic filing or at least 10 business days prior to the hearing.



JUST ASK JERRYI

Q: When I open a new petition and I do a name search, what if the person's name comes up in the database?

A: During training we recommended that you search the database for the debtor's name to prevent duplicate records. While we encourage you to continue this practice, we'd like you to be careful when a match is made. We're finding that e-filers are accepting matches on names even though they're not an EXACT match.

Here's an example: You're opening a case for John Doe, and you know he has a previous chapter 7. When you search the database, the system produces John Doe's name and address. The only difference is that this search indicates John E. Doe. So you pick this one, even though it does not match the name on your petition. This is an error that must be corrected. So remember, please make sure you are choosing an exact match. If it's not, simply add the person to the database as if they are a first-time filer.



When you are opening a new Chapter 13 petition, please remember that they are all **ASSET** cases! This applies to Chapter 11 cases as well. *And*, pay close attention when adding parties, remember that a second debtor is a JOINT DEBTOR and should be added accordingly.





Howdy folks! Ole Mugsy 'n me were just thinkin' bout the old days...again. Was up in Silver City last night and ran across an old feller, used to be a city-slicker lawyer, but gave all that up to find his fortune in the gold mines. By the looks of his card playin' talents, I'd say it's a good thing he has a legitimate career to fall back on...yee haw, that was a good one! But I digress...

Anyways, once he found out I was a famous rovin' reporter for the Bankruptcy Bugle, he told me a bit about the history of bankruptcy. I found it kinda fascinating, so I thought I'd share it with my loyal readers!

Gettin' some folks to pay their bills (willingly or otherwise) dates back to practically the beginning of time! Why, all the way back to the Roman days it was tough to collect a debt! The historic response to getting these debtors to pay up was to force them into a proceeding of some kind to divide up their assets among their creditors in fair fashion. If a debtor's assets weren't sufficient to pay all his creditors, the ancient Romans gave themselves the power to dismember and distribute a debtor's body to creditors in proportion to the amount of debts owed to them!

In the old country, back in Italy during the dark, mediaeval times, if a businessman didn't pay his debts, they would destroy his tradin' bench. It was called *"banca rotta"* and in Italian it means "broken bench" (banca for bench or table, rotta for broken or ruptured). BANKRUPTCY!

The merchants who were "bankrupt" got their benches broken signaling the revocation of the merchant's trading privileges or his banishment from the city.

The Italians carried this grave situation even further. If one wanted to avoid criminal liability for not paying their debts, they were given the option of going through the shaming of a public declaration by exposing their naked bodies in public and then banging their backsides on a public post while loudly proclaiming "I am bankrupt" three times!

In France, those who could not pay their creditors had to wear a "Green Cap" at all times so that others would know they had not paid their debts!

Oh folks, it gets better! But, I'm outta room!!! Used up my allotted space in this issue, so I guess you'll just have to wait 'til next month for PART II to see how it all turns out!

That's what my grandpappy used to say...always leave 'em wantin' more and you'll be assured of your next paycheck (or bag o' gold, as the case may be)! Yee haw!

Until we meet again...

PASSWORDS AND Logins

The login assigned by the court to an individual represents one way you sign



your document. You have agreed to be responsible for anyone who uses that login. This also includes financial responsibility. That is why it is so important to change your passwords often! CM/ECF passwords should be changed on a regular basis and should **always** be changed when you have staff turnover.

MEANS TEST: If you did not file this with the original petition, DO NOT file this document as an amendment. It should be docketed separately under: Category > Miscellaneous > Means Test (applicable chapter).



SPECIAL PROCEDURES

Jointly Administered and Consolidated cases, whether a Bankruptcy Case or an Adversary Proceeding, have special docketing instructions we'd like you to be aware of.

In either instance, a LEAD CASE is appointed. Please be aware that ALL docketing must be on the **lead case only**. In the caption of your pleading, the LEAD CASE number should always appear first, followed by the member case number directly below.

Example: 07-89212 BAM (Lead) 07-89222 BAM

In the event that one of the cases will be dismissed, discharged or converted, and the remaining case(s) will be continuing on, the order must, in part, address this issue. The order should indicate which case(s) shall remain active, and, when required, the bankruptcy court will designate a new lead case.

ERRORS: If you know you've made one, please don't try to "fix it" by re-docketing the same document again. **STOP** and call the Help Desk to

report the problem OR send the information to



HelpDesk@nvb.uscourts.gov. (Include the case number, docket entry

number and the new pdf (if you need it replaced) and a brief description of the error). Often the Court can fix the mistake without

having to make additional docket entries.



When docketing schedules which add creditors, please remember to physically ADD the new creditors to the matrix. DO NOT upload the original matrix as this could result in duplicate noticing. ADD THE **NEW CREDITORS** ONLY. **PREFIX DROP-DOWN BOX**: Remember to use this functional tool. It's handy when matching up the

docket text to the pleading title. *AMENDED, EX PARTE, FINAL, STIPULATED*...and many, *many* more are there for your docketing pleasure. Please use them!





WELCOME NEW E-FILERS!

Every month new CM/ECF e-filers are joining the District

of Nevada. We welcome you all, and want to assure you the Court's goal is to serve, assist and support you and your staff so that the transition from paper docketing to electronic filing becomes an asset to your office.

Even when classes have ended, our staff is here to support you - you're not on your own!

Call our **HELP DESK** at **866-232-1266** for any assistance you may need for e-filing.

The hours of operation are: Monday - Friday from 9 AM - 4 PM. Closed from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, and all official federal holidays. If you don't need immediate assistance, you can also e-mail us at:

HelpDesk@nvb.uscourts.gov.

We'll process your request as soon as possible.



RULE 9021 REMINDER

Documents submitted to the court must comply with Local Rule 9021. Documents that are listed in subsection (a) of LR 9021 must be submitted to the court with the specific certification language stated in LR 9021(c).

It is growing more common for attorneys to forget to include the certification language in a proposed order. Rather than providing a 9021 certificate, the attorney recites in the findings that service was made and no one objected.

Please remember that without the certification language found in the rule, your proposed order could be returned.