

BANKRUPTCY BUGLE



NEW

DECEMBER 1, 2019 CHANGES TO FEDERAL RULES AND THE HAVEN ACT

Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Rules 4001, 6007, 9036 and 9037 are amended effective December 1, 2019. <https://www.uscourts.gov/rules-policies/current-rules-practice-procedure/federal-rules-bankruptcy-procedure>.

The Honoring American Veterans in Extreme Need Act of 2019 (HAVEN Act) became law on August 26, 2019. The Official Bankruptcy Forms related to current monthly income were revised effective October 1, 2019, to address changes related to the HAVEN Act. See <https://www.uscourts.gov/rules-policies/pending-rules-and-forms-amendments/pending-changes-bankruptcy-forms>. The same link includes information on additional changes to the current monthly income form, Official Form 122A-1.

COURT UPDATES

PACER Fee Waiver: Effective January 1, 2020, PACER quarterly usage of \$30 or less will be waived. This is an increase over the existing \$15 or less waiver amount. <https://www.pacer.gov/>

Local Administrative Order 2019-05: Administrative Order 2019-05 is effective December 19, 2019. This Administrative Order extends Interim Bankruptcy Rule 1007-1, which was adopted by this court on November 23, 2009 and is now extended until December 18, 2023.

UNCLAIMED FUNDS

There have been some changes to the unclaimed funds process, requested by the Administrative Office of the United States.

A new [Application for Payment of Unclaimed](#) funds replaces the Motion to Withdraw Unclaimed Funds. This Application must be used, or the request may not be processed.

The [Instructions for Unclaimed Funds](#) have also been updated. Please review these to make sure you are submitting the correct information.

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A Message From The Clerk

On behalf of the bankruptcy judges and all the staff at the Bankruptcy Court, I would like to extend our best wishes for this holiday season to one and all. May good health and good wishes abound.

- *Mary A. Schott, Clerk of Court*

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court will be closed on the following days:

- Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25th in observation of the Christmas holiday and
- Tuesday, December 31st and Wednesday, January 1st in observance of the New Year's holiday.

BIFURCATING A JOINT CASE

When a joint case needs to be bifurcated (split), docket a Motion to Bifurcate with the required fee.

In instances where an order allows a joint debtor to bifurcate or split from a case so one debtor can convert their case, after the new case is opened by clerk's office staff, it will reflect the conversion.

If an order grants the dismissal of one joint debtor and the other will continue in bankruptcy, then no motion for bifurcation is needed. Clerk's office staff will dismiss the party.



CHAT

The Nevada Bankruptcy Court has implemented a CHAT service for the public.

The CHAT Help Desk answers questions online Monday—Friday during regular court hours. In addition, phone calls to the Help Desk at 866-232-1266 will still be answered.

Access to CHAT can be found at the court website's home page:

www.nvb.uscourts.gov

COURTHOUSE HOURS

C. Clifton Young Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse Hours and Foley Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse Hours are:

7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Bankruptcy Court Intake Hours are:

9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Excluding Weekends and Federal Holidays.

STEPS TO MANUALLY OPEN A VOLUNTARY PETITION

Official Form B101/201, known as a “Voluntary Petition” must be filed by a debtor to begin a bankruptcy case.

Note: Steps 2-7 should be done immediately after opening.



In CM/ECF, click on Bankruptcy. Then click on the following Bankruptcy Events, answering the prompts that appear.

1. Open Voluntary BK Case (All Chapter 13 and 11 cases are opened as ASSET cases).
2. Creditor Maintenance ———> Upload list of creditors file.
3. Judge/Trustee Assignment. **THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT STEP** in opening a new petition. It is a crucial part of case opening, and will ensure that you receive your 341 notice immediately.
4. Miscellaneous ———> Statement of Social Security Number(s).
5. Miscellaneous ———> Declaration re: Electronic Filing.
6. Miscellaneous ———> *select applicable Income Means Test events.*
7. For Individuals Only: Miscellaneous ———> Certificate of Credit Counseling.

The following applies to Chapter 13 cases only. Search for a Chapter 13 Plan Confirmation hearing (initial hearing only) date from the self-calendaring section on the court’s website, <https://www.nvb.uscourts.gov/calendars/self-calendaring-dates/>.

8. Plan ———> Chapter 13 Plan #1.
9. Notices ———> Confirmation Hearing.



BANKRUPTCY COURT CONTACT NUMBERS



LAS VEGAS CLERK’S OFFICE: (702) 527-7000

RENO CLERK’S OFFICE: (775) 326-2100

Frequently called numbers, e-mail addresses, and live on-line chat is available on the court’s website under Court Information:

<https://www.nvb.uscourts.gov/about-the-court/contact-information/>