
MEMORANDUM

TO: WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI BANKRUPTCY ATTORNEYS
FROM: RICHARD FINK, STANDING CHAPTER 13 TRUSTEE
SUBJECT: WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI MODEL PLAN FORM
DATE: 9/2/16
CC:

In anticipation of the new Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure regarding a Chapter 13 national model plan form that likely will be effective on December 1, 2017 the Judges, members of the Attorney Advisory Group, and my staff have prepared a new Western District of Missouri model plan form.

The new WDMO model plan form will be required to be used for cases, plans, and amended plans filed on or after December 1, 2016.

The significant changes from the current model plan form to the new plan form are summarized below:

- ❖ A checkbox has been added to identify the parts of an amended plan that have been changed
- ❖ Part 1: Notices
 - A new, more specific notice part has been added. Debtors must indicate whether they are proposing to pay a claim to value and must indicate whether non-standard provisions are included in Part 7 of the plan.
- ❖ Part 2: Plan Payments and Length of Plan
 - Part 2.1 (current Section 1) - an option for a step payment has been added
 - Part 2.3 - an option for additional payments (such as an annual payment) has been added
- ❖ Part 3: Treatment of Secured Claims
 - Part 3.1 (current Section 4) – maintenance and cure regarding long term secured claims. This Part may be used for both mortgage claims and vehicle claims, if they qualify as a long term debt.

- Part 3.2 combines the current Section 7(d) (secured claims paid to value) and the current Section 8 (non-purchase money security interest claims). Claims listed in this part will be paid to value. The checkbox listed in Part 1.1 relates to claims listed in this Part.
 - Part 3.3 (current Section 7(c)) is for secured claims excluded from 11 U.S.C. Section 506.
 - Part 3.4 (current Section 5) – is for mortgages amortized and satisfied during the life of the plan. Debtors have the option to make direct payments; provided the requirements set out in LR 3094-1 have been met. Debtors must also now indicate whether the amortized mortgage has an escrow account and if so, whether the monthly escrow payments will be paid by the trustee or directly by debtors.
 - Part 3.5 is a new part and is to be used for scheduled secured tax claims.
 - Part 3.6 (current Section 9) is for surrendered claims. The standard language provides for the allowance of a deficiency claim and the termination of the stay as to the collateral and the termination of the co-debtor stay.
- ❖ Part 4: Treatment of Fees and Priority Claims
- Part 4.1 includes instructions for dealing with a tax redemption claim in Part 7 (the current Section 10 has been deleted)
 - Part 4.2 (current Section 2) clarifies that the fees listed are pre-confirmation fees
 - Part 4.3 (current Section 3(a)(i)) is for ongoing, post-petition DSO claims
 - Part 4.4 (combines current Section 3(a)(ii) and 3(a)(iii)) for pre-petition DSO arrears
 - Part 4.5 (current Section 3(b)) is for priority claims other than DSO obligations (most commonly used for tax claims)
- ❖ Part 5: Treatment of Nonpriority Unsecured Claims
- Part 5.2 (current Section 12(d) removes the option for a Disposable Income Pot – 36 months (DIP-36) and adds an option for a set dividend plan.
 - Part 5.3 (current Section 6) is for the maintenance and cure of long term unsecured claims and will most commonly be used for student loan claims if they qualify as long term debts and the debtor wants to treat as a long term debt
 - Part 5.4 is new and allows the debtor to propose for special treatment of a non-priority unsecured claim
- ❖ Part 6: Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

- Similar to the current Section 11 but now requires the debtor to provide in detail how the pre-petition arrearage will be cured. As in the current plan form, the standard language provides for post-petition payments and pre-petition arrearages to be paid directly by the debtor.
- ❖ Part 7: Nonstandard Plan Provisions
 - Similar to the current Section 13. Note that the “included” box in Part 1.2 must be checked in order for these provisions to be effective.
- ❖ Part 8: Signatures
 - The debtor, whether represented by counsel or not, is now required to sign the plan
 - The attorney certifies that the plan is identical to the standard form for this district, other than the provisions listed in Part 7
- ❖ Plan Provisions
 - The Paragraphs have been reorganized to follow along with the order of the parts in the new plan form
 - Paragraph B(iv) – No proof of claim filed or no transfer filed – this has been added to more specifically address the trustee’s reserving of funds for these claims and how the trustee administer these funds at the conclusion of a case
 - Paragraph F(i)(b) – Dividend to be set in Base plans – the trustee will calculate the dividend to non-priority unsecured creditors once the case is confirmed, the bar dates have passed and the Notice Allowing/Disallowing Claims has been filed and is final. The trustee will provide notice of the set dividend.
 - Paragraph F(i)(c) – Adjustments to the dividend – describes the circumstances where the dividend may be adjusted
 - Paragraph F(ii)(a) – Liquidation analysis pot (LAP) – updates the procedure the trustee follows when setting the dividend in a LAP plan to reflect the deduction of hypothetical Chapter 7 trustee’s fees rather than deduction of pre-confirmation debtor’s attorney’s fees.
 - Paragraph (F)(ii)(b) – Removes all references to DIP-36 plans

United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Missouri

Chapter 13 Plan

Check if this is an amended plan and list below the Parts of the plan that have been changed:

Part 1: Notices

To Debtors: This form sets out options that may be appropriate in some cases, but the presence of an option on the form does not indicate that the option is appropriate in your circumstances. Plans that do not comply with local rules and judicial rulings may not be confirmable.

In the following notice to creditors, you must check each box that applies.

To Creditors: Your rights may be affected by this plan. Your claim may be reduced, modified, or eliminated.

You should read this plan carefully and discuss it with your attorney if you have one in this bankruptcy case. If you do not have an attorney, you may wish to consult one.

If you oppose the plan's treatment of your claim or any provision of this plan, you or your attorney must file a timely written objection to confirmation. The Bankruptcy Court may confirm this plan without further notice if no objection to confirmation is filed. See Bankruptcy Rule 3015 and LR Rule 3083-1(D) and (E). In addition, you must have a filed and allowed proof of claim in order to be paid under any plan.

The following matters may be of particular importance. **Debtors must check one box on each line to state whether or not the plan includes each of the following items. If an item is checked as "Not Included" or if both boxes are checked, the provision will be ineffective if set out later in the plan.**

1.1	A limit on the amount of a secured claim, set out in Part 3.2, which may result in a partial payment or no payment at all to the secured creditor	<input type="checkbox"/> Included	<input type="checkbox"/> Not included
1.2	Nonstandard provisions, set out in Part 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Included	<input type="checkbox"/> Not included

Part 2: Plan Payments and Length of Plan

2.1 Debtor(s) will make regular payments to the trustee as follows:

\$ _____ per month

[If debtor(s) will have a step payment: and \$ _____ per month starting with the payment due in (month), (year)] *Insert additional lines if needed.*

2.2 Regular payments to the trustee will be made from future income in the following manner: *Check all that apply.*

Debtor(s) will make payments pursuant to a payroll deduction order to the employer(s) and in the amount(s) listed below:

Debtor's name	Monthly amount	Employer's name	Street address	City, state & zip
	\$ _____			
	\$ _____			

Debtor(s) will make payments directly to the trustee.

2.3 Additional payments. *Check one.*

None. *If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 2.3 need not be completed or reproduced.*

Debtor(s) will make additional payment(s) to the trustee from other sources, as specified below. Describe the source, amount, and date of each additional payment.

Part 3: Treatment of Secured Claims

3.1 Maintenance of payments and cure of default, if any. *Check one.*

None. *If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 3.1 need not be completed or reproduced.*

The current contractual installment payments on the secured claims listed below will be maintained, with any changes required by the applicable contract, and noticed in conformity with any applicable rules. These payments will be disbursed either by the trustee or directly by the debtor, as specified below. Any existing arrearage on a listed claim will be paid in full through disbursements by the trustee on a pro rata basis, with interest, if any, at the rate stated. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the amounts listed on a filed and allowed proof of claim control over any contrary amounts listed below as to the current installment payment and arrearage. Mortgage payments paid by the trustee will be paid pursuant to LR 3094-1. Vehicle loans may be paid as long term debts if they qualify as such pursuant to the terms of the contract. Any vehicle loan listed in this paragraph must be paid from the plan payments pursuant to LR 3070-1.

Creditor name	Collateral/ Street address	Last 4 digits of account #	Post petition monthly payment	Post-petition payment		Estimated pre-petition arrearage	Arrearage interest rate
				Paid through plan	Paid directly		
			\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	zero
			\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	zero
			\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	zero

3.2 Secured claims for which 11 U.S.C. §506 valuation is applicable. Check one.

None. If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 3.2 need not be completed or reproduced.

The remainder of this paragraph will be effective only if the applicable box in Part 1 of this plan is checked.

Claims listed in this subsection consist of debts not treated in Part 3.3. See 11 U.S.C. §1325(a)(5) and the hanging paragraph. These claims will be paid interest at the applicable Chapter 13 rate unless otherwise modified below and specified in Part 7.

The portion of any allowed claim that exceeds the amount of the secured claim will be treated as an unsecured claim under Part 5 of this plan. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the claim amount stated on a filed and allowed proof of claim controls over any contrary amount listed below. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the collateral value amount listed on the proof of claim controls over any contrary amounts listed in this paragraph.

Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1326(a)(1), secured claims marked below as non-purchase money security interest claims will not receive pre-confirmation adequate protection payments unless the court orders otherwise.

Creditor name	Last 4 digits of account #	Collateral	Check if non-purchase money security interest claim	Value of collateral	Interest rate	EMA payment through plan
			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	Ch13 Rate	\$
			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	Ch13 Rate	\$
			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	Ch13 Rate	\$

3.3 Secured claims excluded from 11 U.S.C. §506. Check one.

None. If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 3.3 need not be completed or reproduced.

The claims listed below were either:

- (1) incurred within 910 days before the petition date and secured by a purchase money security interest in a motor vehicle acquired for the personal use of the debtor(s), or
- (2) incurred within 1 year of the petition date and secured by a purchase money security interest in any other thing of value.

These claims will be paid in full under the plan by the trustee. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the claim amount stated on a filed and allowed proof of claim controls over any contrary amount listed below. These claims will be paid interest at the applicable Chapter 13 rate unless otherwise modified below and specified in Part 7.

Creditor name	Last 4 digits of account #	Collateral	Interest rate	EMA payment through plan
			Ch13 Rate	\$
			Ch13 Rate	\$

3.4 Mortgages to be paid in full during the life of the plan

None. If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 3.4 need not be completed or reproduced.

If no monthly payment is provided, the creditor will be paid pro rata from funds available for this class after the payment of creditors with an Equal Monthly Amount.

If no interest rate is listed in the plan or on the face of the proof of claim, the trustee will use the Chapter 13 rate in effect for this case.

If the post-petition payments are paid through the plan, the trustee will only make principal and interest payments on the mortgage claims listed in Part 3.4. Pre-petition arrears will be paid as part of the principal balance of the claim and not as a separate claim.

Creditor name	Collateral/ Street address	Last 4 digits of account #	Principal balance	Monthly payment	Post-petition payments		Interest rate
					Paid through plan	Paid directly	
			\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	%
			\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	%

Escrow accounts associated with the claims listed above in Part 3.4:

None.

Any escrow accounts associated with a claim listed in this paragraph shall be paid directly by debtors or by the trustee as a separate claim record pursuant to the Information listed below. If the post-petition escrow payments are paid by the trustee, the trustee will cease making said payments once the underlying claim has been paid in full.

Creditor name	Monthly escrow payment	Post-petition escrow payments	
		Paid through plan	Paid directly
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.5 Secured tax claims. *Check one.*

None. *If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 3.5 need not be completed or reproduced.*

The trustee shall pay secured tax claims based on a filed and allowed proof of claim, whether listed in this paragraph or not, in full pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §511(a). If the claim does not provide the non-bankruptcy applicable interest rate, it will be paid at the Chapter 13 rate in effect for this case.

Creditor name	Estimated claim amount

3.6 Surrender of collateral. *Check one.*

None. *If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 3.6 need not be completed or reproduced.*

The debtor(s) elect to surrender to each creditor listed below the collateral that secures the creditor's claim. The debtor(s) request that upon confirmation of this plan the stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) be terminated as to the collateral only and that the stay under §1301 be terminated in all respects. Any allowed unsecured claim resulting from the disposition of the collateral will be treated in Part 5 below, provided a proof of claim is filed and allowed for any deficiency amount.

Creditor name	Collateral

Part 4: Treatment of Fees and Priority Claims

4.1 General

Trustee's fees will be collected pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §586.

For Domestic Support Obligation ("DSO") noticing purposes, under 11 U.S.C. §1302(d), if the DSO claim holder listed is a governmental unit, list the name(s), address(es) and phone number(s) of the actual holder of a DSO as defined in 11 U.S.C. §101(14A). Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §112 and Bankruptcy Rule 9037, do not disclose the name of a minor child. Identify only with the minor's initials.

If the debtor has a tax redemption claim, said claim must be listed in Part 7 and specific instructions for treatment of creditor must be clearly set out. The box in Part 1.2 indicating that nonstandard provisions are included must also be checked.

4.2 Attorney's fees

Total pre-confirmation attorney fees	Pre-confirmation attorney fees paid directly by the debtor	Pre-confirmation attorney fees paid from the plan payments	Equal monthly amount ("EMA")
\$	\$	\$	\$

4.3 Ongoing post-petition Domestic Support Obligations. *Check one.*

None. *If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 4.3 need not be completed or reproduced.*

The debtor(s) shall make ongoing, post-petition DSO payments directly to the holder of the claim whether payments are made to the actual recipient or to a governmental unit as assignee. The monthly payment should be listed on Schedule I and/or J.

Debtor's name	Ongoing DSO claim holder name	Address	Direct monthly payment
			\$
			\$

4.4 Pre-Petition Arrears on Domestic Support Obligation claims. Check one.

- None.** If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 4.4 need not be completed or reproduced.
- Pre-petition arrearages owed to DSO holders under 11 U.S.C. §507(a)(1)(A) and §507(a)(1)(B) shall be paid by the trustee from plan payments on a pro rata basis from funds available after payment of creditors with an EMA unless otherwise specified in Part 7.

Debtor's name	DSO arrearage claim holder name	Address	Estimated arrearage claim
			\$
			\$

4.5. Other Priority Claims. Check one.

- None.** If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 4.5 need not be completed or reproduced.
- Other Priority claims will be paid by the trustee from plan payments on a pro rata basis as funds are available for this class of claimant unless otherwise specified in Part 7. Any other special provisions must be clearly set out in Part 7.

Priority creditor name	Estimated priority claim
	\$
	\$
	\$

Part 5: Treatment of Nonpriority Unsecured Claims

5.1 General

Absent court order or other agreement with the trustee, debtor(s) shall turn over to the trustee the non-exempt portion of any federal or state tax refund that is a pre-petition asset unless the non-exempt equity in the tax refunds is satisfied by the treatment of non-priority unsecured creditors in Part 5.2. Debtor(s) may also be required to pay in tax refund(s) that are not pre-petition assets if the court determines that said refunds are disposable income.

If debtor has a pending or potential lawsuit or other administrative proceeding, whether or not such cause of action is listed on Schedule A/B, any net, non-exempt proceeds which become liquidated shall be turned over to the trustee absent other court order or other agreement with the trustee.

5.2 Nonpriority unsecured claims not separately classified.

Choose only one treatment of non-priority unsecured creditors below:

- A dividend of 100%.
- A dividend of 0%.
- A dividend of _____ %.
- A base plan. The base is _____ months of payments.
- Liquidation Analysis Pot (LAP). There is non-exempt equity of \$ _____.
- Disposable Income Pot. The DIP amount is \$ _____ (60 x \$ _____ monthly disposable income as calculated on Form 122C-2).

5.3 Maintenance of payments and cure of any default on nonpriority unsecured claims (such as long-term student loans). Check one.

- None.** If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 5.3 need not be completed or reproduced.
- The debtor(s) will maintain the contractual installment payments and cure any default in payments on the unsecured claims listed below on which the last payment is due after the final plan payment. The contractual installment payments will be disbursed either by the trustee or directly by the debtor, as specified below. Any claim for an arrearage amount will be paid in full as specified below and disbursed by the trustee pursuant to the filed and allowed proof of claim.

Creditor name	Last 4 digits of account #	Estimated claim amount	Contractual monthly payment	Post-petition payment		Estimated arrearage claim	Interest rate for arrears (if applicable)
				Paid through plan	Paid directly		
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	

5.4 Other separately classified nonpriority unsecured claims. Check one.

- None.** If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 5.4 need not be completed or reproduced.
- The nonpriority unsecured allowed claims listed below are separately classified and will be treated as follows

Creditor name	Basis for separate classification and treatment	Amount of the claim	Interest rate (if applicable)
		\$	%
		\$	%

Part 6: Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

List the treatment of executory contracts and unexpired leases below. Check one.

- None.** If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 6 need not be completed or reproduced.
- Post-petition payments and pre-petition arrearages on executory contracts and unexpired leases which are assumed shall be paid directly by the debtor(s). If debtor(s) have pre-petition arrearages, an estimated amount should be listed below. Debtor(s) should also include detailed information below on how the pre-petition arrearage will be cured.

Creditor name	Description of leased property or executory contract	Assume or reject		Estimated pre-petition arrearage	Debtor(s) will cure the pre-petition arrearage directly as follows:
		Assume	Reject		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	

Part 7: Nonstandard Plan Provisions

- None.** If "None" is checked, the rest of Part 7 need not be completed or reproduced.

Nonstandard provisions must be set forth below. A nonstandard provision is a provision not otherwise included in the approved form for the Western District of Missouri or deviating from it. Nonstandard provisions set out elsewhere in this plan are ineffective.

The following plan provisions will be effective only if there is a check in the box "Included" in Part 1.2.

Part 8: Signatures

x _____ Date _____

Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)

x _____ Date _____

x _____ Date _____

Signature(s) of Debtor(s)

The debtor(s) must sign this document even if represented by an attorney and even if the attorney also has signed above.

By filing this document, the Attorney for Debtor(s) or Debtor(s) themselves, if not represented by an attorney, also certify(ies) that the wording and order of the provisions in this Chapter 13 plan are identical to those contained in the approved form for the Western District of Missouri, other than any nonstandard provisions included in Part 7.

PLAN PROVISIONS

A. PLAN PAYMENTS AND LENGTH OF PLAN

- i. **Mailing address:** All plan payments shall be payable to "Richard V. Fink, Trustee", shall include the debtor's name and case number and shall be mailed to Richard V. Fink, Trustee, P.O. Box 1839, Memphis, TN 38101-1839. Any changes to the plan payment mailing address will be posted on www.ndc.org and www.13network.com.
- ii. **Commencement date:** Plan payments shall commence within 30 days of the petition date. Once a plan is confirmed, that plan payment remains in effect until such time as the court confirms a subsequent amendment.
- iii. **Employer wage order:** If the box for voluntary wage assignment to the employer is checked and the employer address is not provided, the wage order shall be issued directly to the debtor. If neither box in Part 2.2 is checked, the wage order shall be issued directly to the debtor. Full and timely payment is the debtor's responsibility if the voluntary wage assignment has not gone into effect or if the employer does not remit the full plan payment amount. The trustee also may cause an order to remit plan payments to be issued to the debtor's employer pursuant to LR 3083-1.
- iv. **Electronic payments:** Payments can be made electronically to the trustee. There are links to the websites at www.ndc.org and www.13network.com.

B. TREATMENT OF SECURED CLAIMS – MAINTENANCE OF PAYMENTS AND CURE OF DEFAULT, IF ANY

- i. **Interest rate for pre-petition arrearage:** All pre-petition arrearages, whether scheduled or unscheduled, shall be paid 0% interest pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1322(e) unless otherwise specified in the plan or ordered by the court. If a portion of the pre-petition arrearage is entitled to interest, the treatment should be clearly specified in Part 7 as to the amount to be paid interest and the applicable interest rate. If the proof of claim is filed with no information regarding the portion to be paid interest, the trustee shall pay interest on the amount indicated in the plan. If no specific interest rate is provided and the plan provides for interest, the trustee shall use the Chapter 13 Rate in effect for the case.
- ii. **Post-petition mortgage payment change:** A "Notice of Mortgage Payment Change" shall be filed with the court and served on the debtor, the debtor's counsel and the trustee no later than twenty-one (21) prior to any payment change and shall contain the information required pursuant to LR 3094-1 and Bankruptcy Rule 3002.1.
- iii. **Pre-confirmation adequate protection payments on claims secured by real property:** The trustee shall distribute adequate protection payments to real property creditors being paid from the plan payments pursuant to LR 3086-1.
- iv. **No proof of claim filed or no transfer filed:** The trustee shall reserve funds for the conduit portion of claims treated as long term debts and paid from the plan payments. If no proof of claim is filed, the trustee generally files a motion to deposit funds into the court registry at the conclusion of the case and will deposit the reserved funds into the court registry absent other court order. If a proof of claim is filed but the claimant does not accept funds from the trustee and no transfer or assignment of claim is filed, the trustee generally files a motion to deposit funds into the court registry at the conclusion of the case and will deposit the reserved funds into the court registry absent other court order.

C. SECURED CLAIMS – ADEQUATE PROTECTION

- i. **How adequate protection payments are made:** Creditors listed in Part 3 that are entitled to adequate protection payments pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1326(a)(1) or LR 3086-1 will receive said payments from the trustee pursuant to LR 3086-1 unless otherwise ordered by the court. A creditor shall not receive adequate protection payments if the plan does not provide for such creditor to be treated as secured in Part 3. In order for such creditor to receive adequate protection payments, the debtor must amend the plan to specify creditor's treatment as secured and to provide an equal monthly amount for that creditor or the creditor must file an appropriate motion for adequate protection with the court and obtain an order. Creditors may file objections to the adequate protection treatment provided by the plan.
- ii. **Proof of claim required:** Creditors listed in Part 3 that are entitled to adequate protection payments pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1326(a)(1) or LR 3086-1, will receive payments from the trustee only after a proof of claim is filed with the court. Adequate protection payments shall be paid from the second month following the petition or conversion month through the confirmation month. The principal amount of the adequate protection recipient's claim shall be reduced by the amount of the adequate protection payments remitted unless the court orders otherwise.

D. LIEN RETENTION

The holder of a secured claim shall retain its lien until the earlier of the payment of the underlying debt determined under non-bankruptcy law or the discharge under 11 U.S.C. §1328. If the case is dismissed or converted without completion of the plan, the lien also shall be retained by such holder to the extent recognized by applicable non-bankruptcy law pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1325(a)(5)(B).

E. TREATMENT OF FEES AND PRIORITY CLAIMS

- i. **Trustee's fees:** Trustee's fees shall be collected pursuant to 28 U.S.C §586.
- ii. **Pre-confirmation debtor's attorney's fees:** Attorney fees shall be paid from the plan payments pursuant to LR 2016-1 unless a different treatment is provided in Part 7 and the court issues a specific order regarding that proposed treatment. Pre-confirmation attorney fees are limited to the amounts set out in LR 2016-1(D) absent a court order allowing fees in excess of said amounts. The confirmation of the plan without that separate, specific court order shall not permit attorney fees to be paid contrary to the equal monthly amount specified in Part 4.2. All attorney fees paid contrary to that paragraph or other order of the court are subject to disgorgement.
- iii. **Treatment:** Eleven U.S.C. §1322(a)(2) provides that all claims entitled to priority under §507(a) shall be paid in full in deferred cash payments, except when §1322(a)(4) applies to §507(a)(1)(B) priority claim, unless the holder of a particular claim agrees to a different treatment of such claim. All priority claims, regardless of the underlying basis for the claim, are similarly classified for purposes of distribution

under this plan unless otherwise specified in Part 7 or other order of the court. Priority creditors shall not receive interest on their claims unless otherwise specified in the plan or other order of the court.

- iv. **Classification:** All priority creditors, including DSO's, with a filed and allowed claim for whom an EMA is provided in Part 7, shall be grouped for distribution purposes with any creditor for whom an EMA is provided, including secured claims and debtor's attorney's fees. All priority unsecured creditors, including DSO's, with a filed and allowed claim for whom an EMA is not provided, shall be grouped for distribution purposes with any secured creditor being paid pro rata as funds are available for that class of creditors.

F. TREATMENT OF NONPRIORITY UNSECURED CLAIMS

i. Base plans:

- a. **Base amount:** The base amount ("Base") shall be calculated by multiplying the number of months proposed in a base case by the monthly plan payment. If the monthly plan payment changes, the base shall be adjusted accordingly.
- b. **Dividend to be set in Base plans:** After both the governmental and non-governmental bar dates have passed and the trustee has filed the Notice Allowing/Disallowing Claims and said Notice is final, the trustee will set a dividend in Base cases establishing the percentage that the Base will pay to non-priority unsecured creditors at that time. The trustee will provide a notice of the set dividend.
- c. **Adjustments to the dividend:** Once the dividend has been set in a Base plan, the trustee may adjust the dividend as necessary to ensure that the case complies with the Applicable Commitment Period if the plan runs short of the Applicable Commitment Period due to a withdrawn proof of claim, a lump sum payment made by the debtor, a decrease in trustee's fees, a decrease in the conduit mortgage payment, or any other event. The dividend may also be adjusted based on a post-confirmation amended plan filed by debtor. The trustee will provide notice of the adjusted dividend. If the debtor remits sufficient funds to the trustee to pay off the case in full, e.g. 100% to all filed and allowed unsecured creditors; the trustee may adjust the plan to a 100% plan for filed and allowed unsecured creditors without further order of the court.
- d. **Payment of non-priority unsecured creditors:** Filed and allowed non-priority unsecured creditors shall be paid their pro rata share, as funds are available, of plan payments available after the satisfaction of administrative expenses, secured claims (including interest), priority unsecured claims and after all long-term debt payments being paid through the trustee are current.
- e. **Length of Base:** Because the total funds paid into the plan *must* be sufficient to satisfy the administrative expenses, secured claims and priority unsecured claims, the plan may actually run longer than the number of months needed to satisfy the Base. Any adjustments made to the Base that results in the Plan running in excess of the sixty-month statutory time limit of 11 U.S.C. §1322(d) may result in the trustee filing a motion to dismiss.

ii. Pot plans:

- a. **Liquidation analysis pot (LAP):** The LAP amount listed in Part 5.2 should be the amount of non-exempt equity. When setting the dividend to non-priority unsecured creditors, the trustee will deduct hypothetical Chapter 7 trustee fees from the LAP amount. The hypothetical fees will be calculated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §326. After deduction of said fees and any allowed priority claims, any funds remaining in the LAP will be paid to allowed non-priority unsecured claimants pursuant to the set dividend. Filed and allowed special or co-debtor non-priority claims will not receive more than their pro rata share of any funds available for distribution to filed and allowed non-priority claimants from the LAP; if the plan provides for filed and allowed special or co-debtor non-priority claims to be paid more than the other filed and allowed non-priority unsecured claimants, then the debtor shall pay to the trustee the additional funds necessary to satisfy those claims.
- b. **Disposable income pot (DIP):**
1. **DIP amount:** If the debtor has disposable income as defined in 11 U.S.C. §§1325(b)(2) and (b)(3) and the applicable commitment period as defined in §1325(b)(4)(A) is not less than five (5) years, the DIP amount shall be the amount of the monthly disposable income on Form 122C-2 multiplied by 60.
 2. **Dividends in DIP plans:** When setting the dividend to non-priority unsecured creditors, the trustee will deduct pre-confirmation attorney's fees paid from plan payments and filed and allowed special or co-debtor non-priority unsecured claims. Filed and allowed priority claims are not deducted from the DIP as they already have been deducted on the Form 122C-2. Any remaining funds in the DIP will be paid to filed and allowed non-priority unsecured claims pursuant to the set dividend. If the DIP is less than or equal to the sum of the pre-confirmation debtor's attorney's fees being paid from the plan payments and filed and allowed special or co-debtor non-priority unsecured claims, the filed and allowed non-priority unsecured claims shall receive zero percent (0%), unless the plan runs short of the applicable commitment period. See paragraph H(ii) below.
- c. **Adjustment to dividend for both LAP plans and DIP plans:** After the dividend to non-priority unsecured creditors is set, the trustee will not reduce the dividend to accommodate additional or amended proofs of claim filed and allowed after the bar date but may increase the dividend if a proof of claim is withdrawn or amended to a lower amount to ensure compliance with 11 U.S.C. §1325(a)(4). If the debtor believes that reduction of the dividend is required, it will be the responsibility of the debtor to determine the appropriate dividend and file an amended plan to adjust the dividend. Any such amendment to the plan shall reflect the dividend which previously has been set and shall provide a dividend that will comply with 11 U.S.C. §1325(a)(4) and must be at least equal to any distributions already made to non-priority unsecured creditors.
- d. **Trustee's avoidance powers:** If the trustee avoids a transfer of an interest of the debtor in property and recovers funds, the recovered funds, less administrative fees, may be distributed to unsecured creditors pursuant to the provisions of a LAP plan listed above, absent other court order.

G. DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS

- i. **Proof of claim:** The trustee shall only distribute payments, including adequate protection payments, to creditors who have filed and allowed proofs of claim. If the plan provides for the debtor to make payments directly, then the failure of the creditor to file a proof of claim does not excuse the debtor from making the required direct payments. If the debtor is to make direct payments to a creditor, those payments must be paid pursuant to the terms of the contract regardless of whether the plan is confirmed. However, if the trustee is to pay any portion of a claim, then it is necessary for the creditor to file a proof of claim to receive the portion of the claim to be paid through the trustee. Notwithstanding the confirmation of this plan, the debtor(s) and the trustee reserve the right to challenge the allowance, validity or enforceability of any claim, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. §502(b) and to challenge the standing of any party to assert any such claim.
- ii. **Order of distributions:** The trustee shall distribute to creditors, absent other order of the court, based on the confirmed plan, filed and allowed proofs of claim, and the notice to allow claims and any subsequent notices to allow additional, adjusted or amended claims. See LR-3084-1 and LR 3085-1. The manner and order of distribution to creditors shall be determined by the trustee unless otherwise clearly set out in the plan as confirmed.
- iii. **Creditor mailing address/assignments or transfers:** The trustee shall mail payments to the address provided on the proof of claim unless the creditor provides another address in writing for payments or the trustee receives other official, written notice of a change of address. If the claim is assigned or transferred, the trustee shall continue to remit to the original creditor until an assignment or transfer of claim is filed with the court.
- iv. **Payment of claim after lifting of stay:** The trustee shall continue to make payments to any creditor with a filed and allowed claim after an order granting relief from the stay is entered or the stay is otherwise not in effect. The trustee shall cease making payments only if:
 - a. the claim is withdrawn by the creditor; or
 - b. an objection to the claim is filed and an order is entered directing the trustee to cease making payments on the claim; or
 - c. the claimant notifies the trustee in writing that no further payments are owed on the claim(s); or
 - d. an amended plan is filed and confirmed which specifically provides for no further payments to the claimant.

See LR 3086-1.

H. DEFINITIONS

- i. **Arrearage:** Any arrearages listed are the debtor's best estimate of the amount owed as of the date of the petition. The trustee shall pay arrearages based on the filed and allowed proof of claim pursuant to LR 3084-1. If no arrearage amount is shown on the proof of claim, none shall be paid.
- ii. **Applicable commitment period:** If the trustee or an unsecured creditor objects to confirmation of a plan pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1325(b)(1)(B), the debtor shall devote to the plan all disposable income for payment to unsecured creditors for the applicable commitment period from the date that the first plan payment is due, as defined in §1326(a)(1), unless the plan provides for payment in full of all filed and allowed unsecured claims over a shorter period. Regardless of whether the trustee objected to the confirmation of the plan pursuant to §1325(b)(1)(B), the trustee may file a Motion to Amend Plan pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1329 to a Base plan, a dividend plan or a Pot plan if the plan as filed and confirmed will pay all administrative expenses and filed and allowed secured and priority creditors in a period of time that is less than the applicable commitment period. This includes plans running less time than anticipated due to the lifting of the automatic stay, secured or priority claims being allowed for less than the scheduled amount or not filed at all, withdrawn claims, lien avoidance or disallowance of claims or plans running less than the applicable commitment period due to other reasons. The trustee, the debtor or an allowed unsecured claimant may also file a Motion to Amend Plan pursuant to §1329 if there has been a post-confirmation change in circumstances that would allow the debtor to pay a dividend or an increased dividend to non-priority unsecured creditors.
- iii. **Equal monthly amount (EMA):** Claims with EMAs may receive more than the EMA and may receive those additional funds prior to payments being made to non-priority unsecured creditors.
- iv. **Long term debt:** A long term debt is one in which the final payment due under the terms of the contract comes due after the final Chapter 13 plan payment comes due.
- v. **Value of collateral:** The value of collateral listed is the debtor's best estimate. The trustee uses the value listed on the face of the filed proof of claim, if one is listed, pursuant to LR 3084-1 when populating the database with the proof of claim. If the value of the collateral is not provided on the face of the proof of claim or in the plan or schedules, the claim may be treated as a non-priority unsecured claim and/or the trustee may object to the claim.