United States Bankruptcy Court Western District of Missouri



SUMMARY OF REVISIONS TO LOCAL RULES OF PRACTICE EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2016

The Court adopted a new Local Rules of Practice document that goes into effect on June 1, 2016. These Rules incorporate local rule amendments adopted individually by Order of the Court after November 30, 2012 until the present.

A summary of the rule changes follow:

1. Local Rule 1017-1A Related to Dismissal. This rule was revised to limit its application to Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 cases only.

The rule provides: "A debtor's motion to dismiss a <u>Chapter 7 or 11</u> voluntary case, or a petitioning creditor's motion to dismiss an involuntary case, shall state the reason for requesting dismissal and shall disclose any agreement involving the debtor, any creditor, or other party in connection with the motion or the case. The moving party shall file and serve on all creditors a notice allowing creditors and interested parties 21 days in which to file an objection to the motion to dismiss. If no timely objection is filed to the motion, the Court may dismiss the case without further notice or hearing."

- 2. Local Rule 1073-1B Related to Assignment of Cases. This rule was revised to substitute Judge Cynthia Notion for Judge Jerry Venters for assignment of case purposes. The Honorable Judge Jerry Venters retired in January 2013.
- **3.** Local Rule 1073-1I Related to Divisional Transfer for Stone County Residents. This rule was created to provide a simplified divisional venue transfer process for Stone County residents.

The rule provides: "Cases filed for Stone County residents in the Southwestern Division will be automatically transferred to the Southern Division on debtor's motion if a motion is filed with the petition, served on the U.S. Trustee, and states that debtor resides in Stone County and resides geographically closer to Springfield than Carthage. A motion for transfer not meeting the above criteria must be served on all creditors and other parties in interest. If the debtor fails to file the motion to transfer with the petition, such motion will not be considered prior to the § 341 meeting of creditors."

4. Local Rule 2016-1D Related to Chapter 13 Attorney Fees. This rule was revised to increase the "no look" fee for debtor's counsel from \$3,000 to \$3,500 in above median family income cases when a Rights and Responsibilities Agreement is executed.

The rule provides: "If debtor's attorney's total fee in a below median family income case is \$3,000 or less, or if the total fee in an above median family income case is \$3,500 or less, and if the attorney and

the debtor(s) have signed the applicable Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (See Local Forms MOW 2016-1.3 or 2016-1.4), the disclosure of fees in initial filings is sufficient and it is unnecessary to file an application under subpart C of this rule."

5. Local Rule 2016-1F Related to Post-Confirmation Attorney Fees in Chapter 13 Cases. This rule was revised to allow additional attorney fees for post-confirmation services according to a flat fee schedule when services related to Motions to Approve Home Mortgage Modifications are performed.

In pertinent part, the rule provides: "Additional attorney fees, if any, for post-confirmation services may be allowed according to the flat fee schedule set out in this rule. Any deviation from this schedule shall be by motion made to the Court, supported by detailed time and expense records.

Motions to Approve Permanent Home Mortgage Modification (no hearing) - \$250
Motions to Approve Permanent Home Mortgage Modification (with hearing) - \$350
Motions to Approve Trial Home Mortgage Modification (no hearing) - \$250
Motions to Approve Trial Home Mortgage Modification (with hearing) - \$350

6. Local Rule 2016-1G2 Related to Payment of Attorney Fees through the Chapter 13 Trustee in Dismissed Cases. This rule was revised to remove reference to conversion cases in response to the SCOTUS ruling in *Harris v. Viegelahn, Chapter 13 Trustee*.

In pertinent part, the rule provides:

"G. Payment of Attorney Fees through Chapter 13 Plan.

- 2. Dismissed Cases <u>or Converted Cases</u>. If the Chapter 13 case is dismissed <u>or converted</u> and the debtor's attorney is owed fees:
 - a. Pre-confirmation:
 - i. The attorney is not entitled to payment of attorney fees from the trustee other than from funds received on or before the date of the entry of the order of dismissal/conversion which otherwise would be refunded to the debtor; and
 - ii. In order to obtain those funds, less the trustee's fee, the Court must enter an order upon a timely filed motion.
 - b. Post-confirmation: The trustee shall distribute funds to creditors, including debtor's attorney, pursuant to the terms of the confirmed plan as funds are available."
- 7. Local Rule 3001-1 Related to Proofs of Claim. Based on a change in court procedure regarding the filing of exhibit summaries (in lieu of complete exhibits) and generally limiting exhibits and supporting documents to no more than five pages, this rule was revised to remove the CM/ECF

five page exhibit filing limit and to clarify that legible, properly redacted exhibits shall be filed in their entirety. It also clarifies that if the debtor is *pro se*, the claim and exhibits shall be served by the filing party conventionally.

8. Local Rule 3002.1-1 Related to Notice for Claims Secured by a Security Interest in the Debtor's Principal Residence Not Required in Certain Circumstances. This rule was created to provide that:

"The parties shall not be required to comply with the provisions of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3002.1 as to claims secured by a deed of trust or mortgage on the Debtor's principal residence if (1) the stay has been lifted as to such claim and the creditor's secured claim has been either denied or withdrawn; (2) debtor has filed a plan surrendering such residence, or the court has entered an order authorizing the Debtor to do so; or (3) the deed of trust or mortgage securing such claim has been stripped off."

- **9.** Local Rule 3082-1 Related to Home Mortgage Modifications in Chapter 13 Cases. This rule and associated local forms was created to codify the court's approval procedures for home mortgage modifications in Chapter 13 cases.
- **10. Local Rule 3084-1A Related to Chapter 13 Proofs of Claim.** Based on a change in court procedure regarding the filing of exhibit summaries (in lieu of complete exhibits) and generally limiting exhibits and supporting documents to no more than five pages, this rule was revised to remove the CM/ECF five page exhibit limit and clarify that legible, properly redacted proofs of claim exhibits shall be filed in their entirety. It also clarifies that if the debtor is *pro se*, the claim and exhibits shall be served by the filing party conventionally.
- **11. Local Rule 3089-1 Related to Refunds in Dismissed Chapter 13 Cases.** This rule was revised to remove reference to conversion cases in response to the SCOTUS ruling in *Harris v. Viegelahn, Chapter 13 Trustee*.

The rule provides: "If a plan payment is received by the trustee on or before the date of the order of dismissal <u>or conversion</u> in a confirmed plan, those funds will be disbursed to creditors pursuant to the terms of the confirmed plan."

12. Local Rule 3095-1 Related to Attorney Certification of Chapter 13 Plans and Plan Amendments. This rule was created to codify the court's procedures for attorney certification of Chapter 13 plans and plan amendments to address a perceived problem that some debtors were not reviewing or otherwise familiar with the substance of their Chapter 13 plans before they were filed.

The rule provides: "A Chapter 13 plan and any plan amendment signed by an attorney for the debtor pursuant to Local Rule 9011-1 shall constitute a certification that (a) such attorney has obtained the prior consent of the debtor to the filing of the Chapter 13 plan or plan amendment which consent shall be in a writing signed by the debtor; and (b) that the attorney has explained the proposed Chapter 13 plan or plan amendment to the debtor. For purposes of this Local Rule 3095-1, the term "signed" or "signature" means an original signature, image of an original signature, image with the debtor's signature captured electronically, or any other electronic symbol or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record. The writing memorializing the consent of the debtor as contemplated by this Local Rule 3095-1 shall be

maintained in the attorney's files and shall be available for inspection by the Court, the Chapter 13 trustee or the Office of the United States Trustee upon request."

- **13.** Local Rule 4004-6 Related to Discharge in Chapter 12 Cases. This rule was created to codify the court's procedures leading to entry of a discharge order in Chapter 12 cases. The new rule is similar to the Chapter 13 discharge process.
- **14. Local Rule 7001-1 Related to Rules of Pleading Regarding Bankruptcy Court's Authority to Enter Final Judgment.** This rule was created to codify the court's rules of pleading regarding the court's authority to enter final judgment and is intended to be consistent with the SCOTUS ruling in *Executive Benefits Insurance Agency v. Arkison* [*In re Bellingham*].

The rule provides: "In an adversary proceeding before a bankruptcy judge, the complaint, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party complaint shall contain a statement that the proceeding is either (1) both statutorily and constitutionally core; (2) statutorily, but not constitutionally core; or (3) non-core. Any responsive pleading shall admit or deny such statement. If (2) or (3) are alleged in any such pleading, that pleading shall further state whether the party consents to entry of final orders or judgment by the bankruptcy court."

- 15. Local Rule 7016-1 Related to Pre-Trial Procedures. Based on a change in court procedure regarding the filing of exhibit summaries (in lieu of complete exhibits) and generally limiting exhibits and supporting documents to no more than five pages, this rule was revised to clarify that not later than three business days before trial, or as set forth in a pretrial order, parties shall electronically file and serve an exhibit index, and mark, redact and electronically file and serve all trial exhibits (in their entirety). While the rule requires that all exhibits be filed in their entirety, such filings are subject to the redaction rules pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9037, or other applicable law. The rule further allows parties to move the Court for a waiver of the electronic filing requirement for exhibits unsuitable for such filing.
- **16.** Local Rule 9011-4 Related to Information Provided with Attorney's Signature Block on Pleadings. To address a perceived problem that some attorneys failed to provide meaningful contact information on their pleadings, this rule was revised to require *monitored* telephone and email addresses on pleadings. The revised rule also clarifies that "The attorney's use of the login and password issued for ECF shall constitute the signature of the attorney and client(s) for all purposes including Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9011."
- **17. Local Rule 9013-1B Related to Motion Practice.** Based on a change in court procedure regarding the filing of exhibit summaries (in lieu of complete exhibits) and generally limiting exhibits and supporting documents to no more than five pages, this rule was revised to remove the five page filing limitation.

The rule provides: "When allegations of fact not appearing of record are relied on in support of a motion, affidavits and other pertinent documents may be filed as exhibits to the motion. Opposing counsel and trustee will receive service by electronic means. If the debtor is pro se, paper copies of affidavits and other pertinent documents shall be served by the filing party conventionally.

18. Local Rule 9040-1 Related to Exhibits and Attachments. Based on a change in court procedure regarding the filing of exhibit summaries (in lieu of complete exhibits) and generally limiting exhibits and supporting documents to no more than five pages, this rule was revised to remove the

five page filing limitation.

The rule provides: "Except as otherwise provided or permitted by these Rules, documents and proofs of claim shall be filed in their entirety. Opposing counsel and trustee will receive service by electronic means. If the debtor is pro se, paper copies of exhibits or attachments shall be served by the filing party conventionally. For service requirements on Proofs of Claim, see Local Rules 3001-1B and 3084-1A."

19. Local Rule 9060-1C Related to Continuance of Hearings. This rule was revised to clarify the court's procedures regarding requests to continue hearings in attempt to deter untimely continuance requests.

The rule provides: "If a hearing continuance is desired, a motion must be filed no later than two business days prior to the scheduled hearing, except for cause arising within that two day period. If the motion is filed late on the day before or the day of the scheduled hearing, the movant must also contact the assigned courtroom deputy by e-mail or telephone. Any motion for continuance shall state, in addition to the reasons for such continuance, whether opposing counsel consents to such motion. A movant who is not aware of opposing counsel's position on the continuance should also state the efforts made to contact such counsel, including the date on which movant first attempted such contact."

20. Local Rule 19013-1C Related to Motion Practice [Regarding Pro Se Filers]. Based on a change in court procedure regarding the filing of exhibit summaries (in lieu of complete exhibits) and generally limiting exhibits and supporting documents to no more than five pages, this rule was revised to remove the requirement that all affidavits and other pertinent documents be summarized on the pleadings filed with the court.

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI



2013 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 1017-1A RELATED TO DISMISSAL

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 1017-1A is amended to read:

Rule 1017-1A. Dismissal or Conversion of Case; Reinstatement or Reopening of Dismissed Case

A. Dismissal. A debtor's motion to dismiss a Chapter 7 or 11 voluntary case, or a petitioning creditor's motion to dismiss an involuntary case, shall state the reason for requesting dismissal and shall disclose any agreement involving the debtor, any creditor, or other party in connection with the motion or the case. The moving party shall file and serve on all creditors a notice allowing creditors and interested parties 21 days in which to file an objection to the motion to dismiss. If no timely objection is filed to the motion, the Court may dismiss the case without further notice or hearing.

This General Order is effective on July 19, 2013 and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: July 19, 2013

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI



2013 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 1073-1B RELATED TO ASSIGNMENT OF CASES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 1073-1B is amended to read:

Local Rule 1073-1B. Assignment. Cases shall be assigned to judges based on the county in which debtor's domicile, residence, principal place of business, or principal assets were located for the greater part of the 180-day period preceding commencement of the case as follows:

- **1. Division 3 (Judge Federman)**: Cedar, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Douglas, Greene, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Ozark, Polk, Pulaski, Taney, Texas, Webster, and Wright;
- **2. Division 2 (Judge Dow)**: Benton, Boone, Callaway, Camden, Cole, Cooper, Hickory, Howard, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Osage, and Pettis;
- **3. Division 1 (Judge Venters Norton)**: Andrew, Atchison, Barton, Barry, Buchanan, Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Jasper, Lawrence, Livingston, McDonald, Mercer, Newton, Nodaway, Platte, Putnam, Stone, Sullivan, Vernon, and Worth;
- **4. Random Assignment**: Bates, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Henry, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Ray, Saint Clair, and Saline shall be randomly assigned to all judges presiding in this Court.

This General Order is effective on February 1, 2013 and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/S/	_Arthur B. Federman
	Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/ c /	Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: January 17, 2013



2014 GENERAL ORDER CREATING LOCAL RULE 1073-11 RELATED TO DIVISIONAL TRANSFER FOR STONE COUNTY RESIDENTS

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 1073-11 is created to read:

Rule 1073-11. Stone County. Cases filed for Stone County residents in the Southwestern Division will be automatically transferred to the Southern Division on debtor's motion if a motion is filed with the petition, served on the U.S. Trustee, and states that debtor resides in Stone County and resides geographically closer to Springfield than Carthage. A motion for transfer not meeting the above criteria must be served on all creditors and other parties in interest. If the debtor fails to file the motion to transfer with the petition, such motion will not be considered prior to the § 341 meeting of creditors.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: August 7, 2014



2014 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 2016-1D. RELATED TO CHAPTER 13 ATTORNEY FEES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 2016-1D, is amended to read:

D. When Application Unnecessary. If debtor's attorney's total fee in a below median family income case is \$3,000 or less, or if the total fee in an above median family income case is \$3,500 or less, and if the attorney and the debtor(s) have signed the applicable Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (**See Local Forms MOW 2016-1.3 or 2016-1.4**), the disclosure of fees in initial filings is sufficient and it is unnecessary to file an application under subpart C of this rule.

This General Order is effective on May 14, 2014 and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
(1)
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: May 14, 2014



2014 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 2016-1F RELATED TO POST-CONFIRMATION ATTORNEY FEES IN CHAPTER 13 CASES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 2016-1F is amended to read:

Rule 2016-1. Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses

F. Post-Confirmation Attorney Fees in Chapter 13 Cases. Additional attorney fees, if any, for post-confirmation services may be allowed according to the flat fee schedule set out in this rule. Any deviation from this schedule shall be by motion made to the Court, supported by detailed time and expense records.

Amendments to Schedules - \$150

Amendments to Schedules I & J with Business Attachments - \$200

Appearance at Hearing Due to Trustee's Request for Hearing Based on Debtor's Failure to Cooperate - \$125

Certificate of Service Regarding State Tax Returns - \$100

Defense of Motions for Relief from the Automatic Stay - \$350

Defense of Motions to Dismiss - \$200

Filing Proofs of Claim on behalf of creditors - \$125

Motions for Emergency Hearing - \$100

Motions for Payoff of Chapter 13 Plan - \$75

Motions for Relief from Stay (divorce) - \$200

Motions to Approve Permanent Home Mortgage Modification (no hearing) - \$250

Motions to Approve Permanent Home Mortgage Modification (with hearing) - \$350

Motions to Approve Settlement/Allow Use of Settlement - \$175

Motions to Approve Trial Home Mortgage Modification (no hearing) - \$250

Motions to Approve Trial Home Mortgage Modification (with hearing) - \$350

Motions to Avoid Lien or Avoid Judgment - \$200

Motions to Distribute Insurance Proceeds - \$125

Motions to Employ Counsel/Professional - \$175

Motions to Incur Additional Debt - \$150

Motions to Retain Tax Refund Greater than \$2,500 - \$150

Motions to Suspend or Abate Payments - \$200

Motions to Sell Property - \$200

Motions to Vacate or Set Aside Order - \$125

Objections to a Notice of Payment Change or a Notice of Fees, Expenses, and Charges (Local Rule 3094-1.C.3.) (no hearing) - \$250

Objections to a Notice of Payment Change or a Notice of Fees, Expenses, and Charges

(Local Rule 3094-1.C.3.) (with hearing) - \$350

Objections to Proofs of Claim (no hearing) - \$125

Objections to Proofs of Claim (with hearing) - \$225

Obtaining Confirmation of Amended Plan - \$250

Review of a Notice of Payment Change or a Notice of Fees, Expenses, and Charges (Local Rule 3094-1.C.3. (without filing an objection) - \$50

Debtor's attorney may also request reimbursement for expenses, in addition to the above fee schedule, at the rate of up to \$0.25 per copy and any postage costs that debtor's attorney incurs. Debtor's attorney must include the number of copies, the postage rate, and the number of items mailed in the request for post-confirmation fees.

Debtor's attorney seeking payment of flat fees pursuant to this rule shall file with the court a motion (**See Local Form - MOW 2016-1.2**) identifying the services provided, and stating that the services are for post-confirmation work. Such motion shall be served on the debtor, the trustee, the United States Trustee, and parties who requested notice, with 21 days after service to object. Motions for post-confirmation fees in excess of \$1,000 must be noticed to all creditors pursuant to Local Rule 2016-1. If no objections are filed, the court may enter an order as to such fees without further hearing.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judg
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: October 2, 2014



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 2016-1G2 RELATED TO PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES THROUGH CHAPTER 13 PLAN IN DISMISSED CASES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 2016-1G2 is amended to read:

Rule 2016-1. Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses.

- G. Payment of Attorney Fees through Chapter 13 Plan.

 - 2. Dismissed Cases or Converted Cases. If the Chapter 13 case is dismissed or converted and the debtor's attorney is owed fees:
 - a. Pre-confirmation:
 - i. The attorney is not entitled to payment of attorney fees from the trustee other than from funds received on or before the date of the entry of the order of dismissal/conversion which otherwise would be refunded to the debtor; and
 - ii. In order to obtain those funds, less the trustee's fee, the Court must enter an order upon a timely filed motion.
 - b. Post-confirmation: The trustee shall distribute funds to creditors, including debtor's attorney, pursuant to the terms of the confirmed plan as funds are available.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: September 15, 2015

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 3001-1 RELATED TO PROOFS OF CLAIM

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 3001-1 is amended to read:

Rule 3001-1. Proofs of Claim

- **A. Form.** Proofs of Claim may be filed with the Court electronically and shall conform substantially to the Official Form. A proof of claim shall include not more than 5 pages of legible Legible exhibits in support of the claim. If there are more than 5 pages of exhibits, a summary listing all documents in support of the claim, if any, shall be properly redacted and filed (See Local Form MOW 9040-1.1).in their entirety.
- B. Service of Proofs of Claim.
 - **1. Proofs of Claim** No More than 5 pages of with Exhibits. Debtor's attorney and trustee will receive service by electronic means. If the debtor is pro se, service of the claim and exhibits shall be served by conventional means the filing party conventionally.
 - 2. Proofs of Claim with a Summary of Exhibits. A legible copy of the claim and each supporting document shall be served conventionally on the debtor's attorney, if any, or on debtor and, if applicable, the trustee concurrently with the electronic filing of the claim.
 - **32. Proofs of Claim in Chapter 13 cases.** Proofs of Claim in Chapter 13 cases are subject to the requirements of Local Rule 3084-1.
- **C. Transferred Claims.** Any assignment or evidence of transfer of a claim filed after a Proof of Claim has been filed must include:
 - 1. the amount of the claim;
 - 2. the name of the original creditor (transferor);
 - 3. the name and address of the transferee; and
 - 4. a waiver of notice by the transferor if applicable.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in

effect until further order or notice of this court.

Kansas City, Missouri

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge Dated: June 11, 2015

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI



2013 GENERAL ORDER CREATING LOCAL RULE 3002.1-1 RELATED TO NOTICE FOR CLAIMS SECURED BY SECURITY INTEREST IN THE DEBTOR'S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 3002.1-1 is created to read:

Rule 3002.1-1. Notice Relating to Claims Secured by Security Interest in the Debtor's Principal Residence Not Required in Certain Circumstances.

The parties shall not be required to comply with the provisions of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3002.1 as to claims secured by a deed of trust or mortgage on the Debtor's principal residence if (1) the stay has been lifted as to such claim and the creditor's secured claim has been either denied or withdrawn; (2) debtor has filed a plan surrendering such residence, or the court has entered an order authorizing the Debtor to do so; or (3) the deed of trust or mortgage securing such claim has been stripped off.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ <u>Cynthia A. Norton</u>
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: November 19, 2013



2014 GENERAL ORDER CREATING LOCAL RULE 3082-1 RELATED TO HOME MORTGAGE MODIFICATIONS IN CHAPTER 13 CASES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 3082-1 is created to read:

Rule 3082-1. Home Mortgage Modifications in Chapter 13 Cases

- A. Local Forms Required. Unless otherwise ordered in advance by the Court, motions to enter into trial home mortgage modifications and motions to approve permanent home mortgage modifications shall use the approved Local Forms. This replaces the prior practice of plan amendments to address loan modifications. (See Local Forms MOW 3082-1.1 and MOW 3082-1.2).
- B. **Objections.** Objections are due 7 days after a trial or permanent home mortgage modification motion is filed. If no response is filed within 7 days, the court will enter an order granting the motion.
- C. **Trial Home Mortgage Modification.** If the debtor successfully negotiates a trial home mortgage modification, a motion shall be filed in accordance with subsection A.
 - 1. **Pay mortgage directly, or through trustee.** During the trial home mortgage modification period, the debtor may elect to either pay the mortgage directly to the creditor, or pay the mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from plan payments.
 - i. Mortgage paid directly.
 - 1. **Trustee to cease disbursement on arrearage records.** If the debtor elects to pay the mortgage directly, the Chapter 13 trustee shall cease all disbursement on any pre-petition mortgage arrearage claim, any post-petition mortgage arrearages, and the initial post-petition amount (IPA) claim upon entry of the order granting the motion.
 - 2. **Plan payment change.** If the debtor elects to pay the mortgage directly, the debtor may request a Chapter 13 plan payment change, which, once approved, will continue until further order of the Court.
 - ii. Mortgage paid through trustee.
 - 1. **Trustee to cease disbursement on arrearage records.** If the debtor elects to pay the mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from the plan payments during the trial period, the Chapter 13 trustee shall cease all disbursement on any pre-petition mortgage arrearage claim, any post-

- petition mortgage arrearages, and the initial post-petition amount (IPA) claim during the trial period or until the expiration of the 6 month period set forth in Paragraph 2 below. The trustee shall continue making the on-going mortgage payments at the amount specified in the trial loan modification motion until further order of court.
- 2. **Plan payment change.** If the debtor elects to pay the mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from the plan payments during the trial period, the debtor may request a Chapter 13 plan payment change, which, once approved, will continue until further order of the Court.
- 2. **Six months to finalize modification.** Absent Court order to the contrary, the debtor shall have 6 months to finalize the home mortgage modification.
 - i. **If agreement reached.** If a permanent home mortgage modification agreement is reached, the debtor shall file a motion set forth in subsection D.
 - ii. **If agreement not reached.** If a permanent home mortgage modification agreement is not reached at the end of the 6 month period, or a motion set forth in subsection D is not filed, the Chapter 13 trustee shall file a motion, pursuant to Local Rule 3094-1C, to amend the Chapter 13 plan to pay the mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from the plan payments and increase the plan payment if merited.
- D. **Permanent Home Mortgage Modification.** If the debtor successfully negotiates a permanent home mortgage modification, a motion shall be filed in accordance with subsection A.
 - 1. **Pay modified mortgage directly, or through trustee.** If a permanent home mortgage modification agreement is reached, the debtor may elect to either pay the modified mortgage directly to the creditor, or pay the modified mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from plan payments.
 - i. Modified mortgage paid directly.
 - 1. **Plan payment change.** If the debtor elects to pay the modified mortgage directly, the debtor may request a Chapter 13 plan payment change, which, once approved, will continue until further order of the Court.
 - 2. **Trustee to cease disbursement.** If the debtor elects to pay the modified mortgage directly, the Chapter 13 trustee shall cease all disbursement on any pre-petition mortgage arrearage claim, any postpetition mortgage arrearages, and the initial post-petition amount (IPA) claim upon entry of the order granting the motion.
 - ii. Modified mortgage paid through trustee.
 - 1. **Plan payment change.** If the debtor elects to pay the modified mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from the plan payments, the debtor may request a Chapter 13 plan payment change, which, once approved, will continue until further order of the Court.
 - 2. **Post Loan Modification Amount.** If the debtor elects to pay the modified mortgage through the Chapter 13 trustee from the plan payments, the trustee will set up a Post Loan Modification Amount (PLMA) as a separate claim record and will provide for the first modified mortgage payment to be paid on a pro rata basis, as funds are available, until the modified mortgage payment is brought current. The PLMA will include a 5% increase to cover any late fees.
 - 2. **Upon motion approval, trustee to reset mortgage claims.** Upon Court approval of the motion to approve permanent home mortgage modification, the Chapter 13 trustee shall reset the mortgage claim records in his case management database accordingly.

- E. **Effects of Plan Payment Change.** Any order changing the plan payment shall not prohibit the Chapter 13 trustee from requesting amended schedules to support a lower plan payment or filing a motion to amend plan if merited.
- F. Continuing Payment of Additional Fees, Expenses and Charges. This rule does not affect the payment of additional fees, expenses and charges filed in connection with a mortgage claim. Once allowed, these fees are set up by the Chapter 13 trustee as separate claim records that will continue to be paid absent objection and further order of the court pursuant to Local Rule 3094-1C(3)(e).

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: October 2, 2014



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 3084-1A RELATED TO CHAPTER 13 PROOFS OF CLAIM; OBJECTIONS TO CLAIM

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 3084-1A is amended to read:

Rule 3084-1. Chapter 13 Proofs of Claim; Objections to Claim

A. Filing and Service. Chapter 13 claims Proofs of Claim may be filed electronically with the Clerk. A proof of claim shall not include more than 5 pages of legible Legible exhibits in support of the claim. If there are more than 5 pages of exhibits, a summary listing all documents in support of the claim, if any, shall be properly redacted and filed (See Local Form – MOW 9040-1.1).in their entirety. Debtor's attorney and trustee will receive service by electronic means if the claim has no more than 5 pages of exhibits. If the debtor is pro se or if there are more than 5 pages of exhibits, the claim, with attachments, must shall be served by the filing party conventionally on the Chapter 13 trustee and on debtor's counsel, including any notice of transfer of claim, as required by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3001(e).

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: June 11, 2015



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 3089-1 RELATED TO REFUNDS IN DISMISSED CHAPTER 13 CASES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 3089-1 is amended to read:

Rule 3089-1. Refunds in Dismissed-and Converted Chapter 13 Cases.

If a plan payment is received by the trustee on or before the date of the order of dismissal or conversion in a confirmed plan, those funds will be disbursed to creditors pursuant to the terms of the confirmed plan.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Dated: September 15, 2015 Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri



2015 GENERAL ORDER CREATING LOCAL RULE 3095-1 RELATED TO ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION OF CHAPTER 13 PLANS AND PLAN AMENDMENTS

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 3095-1 is created to read:

Rule 3095-1. Chapter 13 Plan and Plan Amendments - Attorney Certification.

A Chapter 13 plan and any plan amendment signed by an attorney for the debtor pursuant to Local Rule 9011-1 shall constitute a certification that (a) such attorney has obtained the prior consent of the debtor to the filing of the Chapter 13 plan or plan amendment which consent shall be in a writing signed by the debtor; and (b) that the attorney has explained the proposed Chapter 13 plan or plan amendment to the debtor. For purposes of this Local Rule 3095-1, the term "signed" or "signature" means an original signature, image of an original signature, image with the debtor's signature captured electronically, or any other electronic symbol or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record. The writing memorializing the consent of the debtor as contemplated by this Local Rule 3095-1 shall be maintained in the attorney's files and shall be available for inspection by the Court, the Chapter 13 trustee or the Office of the United States Trustee upon request.

This General Order is *effective for new Chapter 13 cases filed on and after December 1, 2015* and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: October 30, 2015



2015 GENERAL ORDER CREATING LOCAL RULE 4004-6 RELATED TO DISCHARGE IN CHAPTER 12 CASES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 4004-6 is created to read:

Rule 4004-6. Discharge in Chapter 12 Case

- A. Motion for Entry of Discharge Completed Plan Payments Pursuant to §1228(a). After completion of payments required by the plan, debtor shall file a motion for entry of Chapter 12 discharge using the Court's form (See Local Form MOW 4004-6.1).
- **B.** Motion for Entry of Discharge Not Completed Plan Payments Pursuant to \$1228(b). After confirmation of the plan but before completion of payments required by the plan, debtor may file a motion for entry of Chapter 12 discharge using the Court's form (See Local Form MOW 4004-6.2).
- **C. No Motion Filed.** If no motion for entry of Chapter 12 discharge is filed within 60 days after completion of payments required by the plan, the case may be closed without entry of a discharge order. If the motion for entry of chapter 12 discharge is filed after the case has been closed, the debtor must also file a motion to reopen the case with a 21-day notice to all creditors and parties in interest pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002 and Local Rule 2002-1. A filing fee to reopen the case must be paid with the motion.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: October 16, 2015



2014 GENERAL ORDER CREATING LOCAL RULE 7001-1 RELATED TO RULES OF PLEADING REGARDING BANKRUPTCY COURT'S AUTHORITY TO ENTER FINAL JUDGMENT

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 7001-1 is created to read:

Rule 7001-1. General – Rules of Pleading Regarding Bankruptcy Court's Authority to Enter Final Judgment.

In an adversary proceeding before a bankruptcy judge, the complaint, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party complaint shall contain a statement that the proceeding is either (1) both statutorily and constitutionally core; (2) statutorily, but not constitutionally core; or (3) non-core. Any responsive pleading shall admit or deny such statement. If (2) or (3) are alleged in any such pleading, that pleading shall further state whether the party consents to entry of final orders or judgment by the bankruptcy court.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: August 7, 2014



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 7016-1 RELATED TO PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURES

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 7016-1 is amended to read:

Rule 7016-1. Pre-Trial Procedures

- **A. Trial Date.** The trial date is generally set when the adversary complaint is filed and will be stated on the summons. <u>Parties may request an earlier trial date.</u>
- **B. Pretrial Period.** In an adversary action, parties generally will be given 60 days to complete pretrial procedures, which may be adjusted for cause. Parties may request an earlier trial date.
- C. Pretrial Conference; Scheduling Order. Discovery and pretrial conferences, and orders scheduling discovery may be set by the Court or on request of a party. If the Court determines that the Conference of Parties and Discovery Plan specified in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) should be required in a particular proceeding, the Court shall enter a scheduling order as contemplated by Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b). Plaintiff shall serve the pretrial order, summons, and complaint on all parties unless otherwise ordered. The attorney who will handle the trial shall participate in all conferences unless excused by the Court. Counsel must have authority to agree to uncontroverted facts and to the scope and scheduling of discovery.
- <u>D. Exhibits</u>; Witnesses. Three Not later than three business days before trial, or as set outforth in a pretrial order, parties shall electronically file and serve a witness list.
- E. Exhibits. Not later than three business days before trial, or as set forth in a pretrial order, parties shall electronically file and serve an exhibit index, and mark and exchangeelectronically file and serve all trial exhibits which may be offered, and file and serve.
 - 1. Paper copies. Unless otherwise ordered, it is not necessary to provide paper copies of the exhibit and witness lists. An Exhibit Index on index or exhibits to the Courtform (see. However, paper copies should be available for use by witnesses at trial.

- 2. **Filing order.** The exhibit index shall be filed first as the main document, using the approved Local Form –(See Local Form MOW 7016-1.1) must be submitted at the trial.). Individual marked and redacted exhibits shall then be filed, in their entirety, as attachments to the exhibit index. The exhibit index shall describe all exhibits with sufficient detail to allow for easy identification during trial.
- 0.3. Marking and redaction. All exhibits shall be marked before filing. Plaintiff-or/movant exhibits will be marked with numbers, and defendant-or/respondent exhibits will be marked with letters. All exhibits shall also be properly redacted before filing pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9037, or other applicable law.
- 4. **Exhibits unsuitable for electronic filing.** Parties may move the Court for a waiver of the electronic filing requirement for exhibits unsuitable for such filing.
- 5. **Non-Compliance.** The Court may exclude evidence not filed in accordance with this rule.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: June 11, 2015



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 9011-4 RELATED TO INFORMATION PROVIDED WITH ATTORNEY'S SIGNATURE BLOCK ON PLEADINGS

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 9011-4 is amended to read:

Rule 9011-4. Signatures.

Pleadings filed by an attorney shall bear the attorney's name, bar number, firm name, address, <u>monitored</u> telephone number, fax number, and monitored <u>email</u> address, and the name of the client if required by the pleading filed. The attorney's use of the login and password issued for ECF shall constitute the signature of the attorney and <u>client(s)</u> for all purposes including Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9011.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: October 30, 2015



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 9013-1B RELATED TO MOTION PRACTICE

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 9013-1B is amended to read:

Rule 9013-1. Motion Practice

B. Supporting Documents. When allegations of fact not appearing of record are relied on in support of a motion, no more than 5 pages of affidavits and other pertinent documents shall be filed with the motion. If all affidavits and other pertinent documents exceed 5 pages, they shall be summarized and this summary (See Local Form MOW 9040-1.1) shall be submitted with the motion. True and accurate copies of all affidavits and other pertinent documents shall be provided to opposing counsel at the time the motion is filed. It shall be sufficient that the summary appear as part of the motion. affidavits and other pertinent documents may be filed as exhibits to the motion. Opposing counsel and trustee will receive service by electronic means. If the debtor is pro se, paper copies of affidavits and other pertinent documents shall be served by the filing party conventionally.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton
Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: June 11, 2015



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 9040-1 RELATED TO EXHIBITS AND ATTACHMENTS

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 9040-1 is amended to read:

Rule 9040-1. Exhibits and Attachments

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: June 11, 2015

Except as otherwise provided or permitted by these Rules, documents and proofs of claim may shall be filed with no more than 5 pages of exhibits or attachments.in their entirety. Opposing counsel and trustee will receive service by electronic means. If the document or claim has more than 5 pages of exhibits or attachments, the Summary of Exhibits (See Local Form – MOW 9040-1.1) debtor is filed in place of exhibits or attachments. Paperpro se, paper copies of exhibits or attachments that are summarized in the Summary of Exhibits must be mailed to opposing counsel or made available upon request. shall be served by the filing party conventionally. For service requirements on proofs Proofs of claimClaim, see Local Rules 3001-1B and 3084-1A.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

> /s/ Arthur B. Federman Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge /s/ Dennis R. Dow Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI



2013 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 9060-1C. RELATED TO CONTINUANCE OF HEARINGS

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 9060-1C. is amended to read:

Local Rule 9060-1C. Continuance of Hearings. If a hearing continuance is desired, a motion must be filed no later than two days prior to the scheduled hearing, except for cause arising within that two day period. If the motion is filed on the day before or the day of the scheduled hearing, the movant must also contact the assigned courtroom deputy by e-mail or telephone. Any motion for continuance shall state, in addition to the reasons for such continuance, whether opposing counsel consents to such motion. A movant who is not aware of opposing counsel's position on the continuance should also state the efforts made to contact such counsel, including the date on which movant first attempted such contact.

This General Order is effective on June 10, 2013 and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/	Arthur B. Federman
	Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge
/s/_	Dennis R. Dow
_	Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge
/s/	Cynthia A. Norton
. 5/	Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri Dated: June 6, 2013



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 9060-1C RELATED TO CONTINUANCE OF HEARINGS

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 9060-1C is amended to read:

Rule 9060-1. Notices and Hearings.

C. Continuance of Hearings. If a hearing continuance is desired, a motion must be filed no later than two <u>business</u> days prior to the scheduled hearing, except for cause arising within that two day period. If the motion is filed late the movant must also contact the assigned courtroom deputy by e-mail or telephone. Any motion for continuance shall state, in addition to the reasons for such continuance, whether opposing counsel consents to such motion. A movant who is not aware of opposing counsel's position on the continuance should also state the efforts made to contact such counsel, including the date on which movant first attempted such contact.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

<u>/s/ Arthur B. Federman</u>

Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow

Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri

Dated: October 30, 2015



2015 GENERAL ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 19013-1C RELATED TO MOTION PRACTICE

For good cause shown, and pending revision to this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 19013-1C is amended to read:

Rule 19013-1. Motion Practice and Service

C. Supporting Documents. When allegations of fact not appearing of record are relied on in support of a motion, all affidavits and other pertinent documents may be filed as exhibits to the motion. Opposing counsel and trustee will receive service by electronic means. If an opposing party is pro se, paper copies of affidavits and other pertinent documents shall be summarized on the pleadings filed with the Court (See Local Form MOW 9040-1.1). Copies of the attachments and supporting documents shall be served on affected parties by the filing party conventionally.

This General Order is effective immediately for all pending and new cases and shall remain in effect until further order or notice of this court.

/s/ Arthur B. Federman
Arthur B. Federman, Chief Bankruptcy Judge

/s/ Dennis R. Dow
Dennis R. Dow, Bankruptcy Judge

Kansas City, Missouri
/s/ Cynthia A. Norton

Dated: June 11, 2015

Cynthia A. Norton, Bankruptcy Judge