

## **REVISED EARLY MEETING OF COUNSEL, JOINT STATUS CONFERENCE INSTRUCTIONS**

1. A COPY OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE COPY OF THE COMPLAINT SERVED UPON EACH PARTY, AND THE PROOF OF SERVICE OF THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT MUST INDICATE THAT SUCH COPY WAS SERVED THEREWITH.
2. These instructions apply only to parties represented by counsel. If you do not have an attorney you must appear at the status conference in person.
3. This status conference will be conducted **by telephone** at the date and time shown on the summons. Telephone appearances for status conference will be arranged through **Court Call™** pursuant to the attached Instructions for Telephonic Appearances. Court Call is an independent conference call company that arranges conference calls on a national and international basis for business. It has no business connection with this court.
4. If the proceeding involves money or property exceeding \$10,000.00 or if the plaintiff believes trial time will be four hours or more, plaintiff must serve, with the summons and complaint, a notice that compliance with **Local Rule 7026-1** is required. Plaintiff must also file proof of service of the notice with proof of service of the summons and complaint.
5. If **Local Rule 7026-1** applies, counsel for the parties **MUST TIMELY MEET TO DISCUSS SETTLEMENT AND TO EXCHANGE DOCUMENTS, OTHER EVIDENCE, AND LISTS OF WITNESSES AND PRELIMINARY DISCOVERY SCHEDULES AS PROVIDED IN SAID RULE.**
6. Unless all defendants have defaulted, the parties shall file a Form F7016.1.1 Joint Status Report pursuant to **Local Rule 7016-1(a)(2)** at least 14 days before the date of the status conference. If **Local Rule 7026-1** applies, the parties must include in the Joint Status Report a statement that they have met to discuss settlement and have exchanged documents, other evidence, lists of witnesses and preliminary discovery schedules. If the parties request dates for discovery cut-off, pre-trial or trial other than those ordered herein, this request shall be made in the Joint Status Report.
7. If no response to the complaint is timely filed, plaintiff may request entry of default by the clerk or by the court. Plaintiff may also request entry of a default judgment by filing and serving an appropriate motion, see **FRBP Rule 7055 and Local Rule 7055.**
8. If the parties dispute whether the adversary proceeding is "**core**" or "**non-core**," they shall file points and authorities in support of their positions. Any party that contends the proceeding is "**non-core**" shall file and serve its points and authorities at least **14 days** before the status conference. Any response must be filed and served at least seven days before the status conference.
9. Failure to comply with these instructions including the failure to timely file a joint status report will subject the responsible party to monetary **sanctions**, without a further hearing.
10. Failure of counsel for any party to appear at a status conference or pre-trial conference may be considered an abandonment or failure to prosecute or defend diligently and the proceeding may be dismissed or judgment entered against the defaulting party without a further hearing.
11. Plaintiffs demanding trial by jury in the bankruptcy court shall file a demand with their complaint. All other parties stipulating to trial by jury in the bankruptcy court should file their stipulation not later than the date of the status conference.

**HON. ERNEST M. ROBLES**  
**United States Bankruptcy Judge**

## AMENDED ORDER RE TELEPHONIC STATUS CONFERENCE IN ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS

This proceeding having been assigned to Judge Ernest M. Robles, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. Unless otherwise ordered all status conferences and continued status conferences ("Conferences") in this proceeding shall be conducted by telephone. However, any party or counsel may appear in person if they wish. As set forth in paragraph six below, if you do not have counsel you must appear in person at the status conference.
2. Plaintiff shall serve a copy of this order on all defendants, together with the summons and complaint. The return proof of service shall indicate such service. In continued status conferences and pre-trials, plaintiff shall serve a copy of this order together with plaintiff's notice of continued hearing.
3. **Any settlement stipulations or default judgments shall be filed with the Court at least 7 days before the status conference or pretrial. If the orders are not timely filed, all parties must appear. Parties submitting late stipulations or default judgments may be subject to Court Call's regular charges even if the hearing never takes place.**
4. Unless otherwise ordered, all applicable Local Bankruptcy Rules remain in force. In particular, all parties and counsel are encouraged to review Local Bankruptcy Rules 7026-1 (early meeting of counsel) and 7016-1 (status conferences and pre-trial hearings), and (Second Amended) General Order No. 95-01 ("Adoption of Mediation Program for Bankruptcy Cases and Adversary Proceedings").
5. Except in instances where either the plaintiff or defendant are not represented by counsel, conference calls shall be initiated by counsel for the plaintiff and Court Call<sup>SM</sup> shall coordinate such conference calls. Relevant instructions are attached. Court Call<sup>SM</sup> is not affiliated with the U.S. Courts nor has the U.S. government contracted in any way with Court Call<sup>SM</sup>. Payment for the conference call shall be the responsibility of the parties individually, unless the parties have agreed to other arrangements.
6. In cases where either the plaintiff or defendant are not represented by counsel the parties shall appear in person.

**Ernest M. Robles**  
**United States Bankruptcy Judge**



UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

**JON D. CERETTO**  
Executive Officer  
Clerk of Court

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**RE: REVISED INFORMATION REGARDING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR  
ASSOCIATION/PUBLIC COUNSEL BANKRUPTCY PRO BONO PROGRAM**

The Los Angeles County Bar Association, in conjunction with Public Counsel, has implemented a Bankruptcy Pro Bono Program in the Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley divisions. Currently, this program is available only for defendants in § 523 nondischargeability adversary proceedings who cannot afford an attorney. If the defendant cannot afford an attorney, he or she may apply for free legal representation with Public Counsel. All applicants will first be screened for eligibility. If found eligible, an attorney may be found who will represent the applicant in the § 523 non-dischargeability adversary proceeding free of charge.

To apply for legal representation under this program or for additional information, please contact Public Counsel. For contact information, please see the "Notice to Defendants of Availability of Los Angeles County Bar Association/Public Council Bankruptcy Pro Bono Program." The most current version of this notice can be obtained from our web site at [www.cacb.uscourts.gov](http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov). To access the notice, double click on the "Pro Bono Program" button on the left-hand side of our web site. Then select the file named **DAP.PDF. Do not contact the Clerk's Office for information regarding your eligibility for this program .**

Plaintiffs in § 523 non-dischargeability adversary proceedings filed in the Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley divisions will be required to serve a notice of the availability of the above program on the defendants along with the Summons and Notice of Status Conference and to provide proof of such service with the Court. A sample of the notice of the availability of the program is attached to this Public Notice.

**JON D. CERETTO**  
**CLERK OF CLERK**

## **FREE LEGAL HELP**

A creditor has sued you in bankruptcy court. You were served with a Summons and Complaint, and you must now file an Answer. If you do not file an Answer on time, the court may enter a default judgment against you. This means that your debt may not be discharged and you will be responsible for paying it back.

**IF YOU CAN NOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY, FREE LEGAL HELP MAY BE AVAILABLE.**

For more information, call:

**Public Counsel's**

**Debtor Assistance Project Hotline**

**(213) 385-2977, ext. 704**

