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## Court News

is published by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California as an informational service for the practitioners and public of our Court.

PETER H. CARROLL  
Chief Judge

KATHLEEN J. CAMPBELL  
Executive Officer/Clerk of Court

Suggestions and comments  
are always welcome.

Please email us at editor@  
cacb.uscourts.gov.

## Important Updates

## Court Website:

- Court Manual
- Public Notices



From left: Extern Pateel Tavidian, Chief Judge Peter H. Carroll, Law Clerk Lily Tran, Law Clerk Stephanie Rettier, Law Clerk Razmig Izakelian, Judge Sandra R. Klein, Evelina Shpolyansky, Esq., Extern Wendy Chan



From left: Judge Catherine E. Bauer, Judge Julia Brand, Chief Judge Peter H. Carroll, Judge Maureen A. Tighe, Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo, Judge Thomas B. Donovan, Judge Sandra R. Klein

## COURT HONORS VOLUNTEERS DURING NATIONAL PRO BONO CELEBRATION WEEK

As a participant in the American Bar Association's [National Pro Bono Celebration](#), held the week of October 20, the Court honored 307 *pro bono* attorneys, students, and paralegals who assisted self-represented parties in the district throughout the year. An annual event, National *Pro Bono* Celebration Week is held during the third week of October and is promoted by the ABA's Standing Committee on *Pro Bono* and Public Service. Since 2011, the Court has participated by publishing an Honor Roll listing the names of volunteers, which are submitted by the *pro bono* organizations that serve visitors to each of the Court's five divisions. This year, the Court's *Pro Se* Committee added to this tradition by hosting its first Celebration of *Pro Bono* Volunteers, made possible by support from the Central District's Attorney Admission Fund.

The celebration, organized by the Court's *Pro Se* Committee, included an afternoon reception with coffee and sweets at the Roybal Building on Thursday, October 24. During the event, Chief Judge Peter H. Carroll spoke about the difference the volunteers make in the lives of those that can least afford access to the legal system. *Pro Se* Committee Chair Maureen A. Tighe, along with Judges Brand, Bauer, Donovan, Klein, Zurzolo, and Clerk of Court Kathleen J. Campbell, also attended the event to personally express their appreciation to the volunteers. Copies of the 2012 *Pro Se* Annual Report were provided, along with Celebrate *Pro Bono* certificates for each of the volunteers.

The Honor Roll, published on the Court's website together with a [recognition letter](#) from Chief Judge Peter H. Carroll, acknowledges the extraordinary efforts of the volunteers and the positive impact they have on not only the parties themselves, but also the Court and the public. Self-represented filings continue to comprise approximately one quarter of the Court's total filings, even as the number of total filings decreases. The assistance of *pro bono* volunteers streamlines these cases, which are often delayed due to the difficulty parties meet trying to complete their cases without attorney representation. The benefits of *pro bono* assistance are far-reaching, because they allow the Court to operate with greater efficiency and enhance access to justice and service to the public.

## 2014-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED BY COURT AND ISSUED BY CHIEF JUDGE

The [Court Strategic Plan](#) has been finalized and published on the Court's website. Developed over 18 months in collaboration with judges, executive management, staff, attorneys, and members of the public, the report lays out the Court's vision for the next five years.

For more information,  
visit our web site at [www.cacb.uscourts.gov](http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov).

## COURT CLOSED

**Monday, November 11—  
Veterans Day**

**Thursday, November 28—  
Thanksgiving Day**

**Friday, November 29—  
State of California Holiday**

**Wednesday, December  
25—Christmas Day**

**Wednesday, January 1—  
New Year's Day**

**EMERGENCY MATTERS  
ONLY:**

**Tuesday, December 24**

**Tuesday, December 31**



### **Accessing Court Information by Twitter**

The Court has been posting to its Twitter account for over a year now, and has sent over 1,300 different tweets to more than 490 followers. The Court posts announcements, Notices of Sale, Public Notices, and other timely information.

You do not need a Twitter account to view the Court's tweets—just click on the Twitter logo on the home page of the Court's website ([www.cacb.uscourts.gov](http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov)). The postings are arranged in chronological order, making it easy to quickly catch up with what is going on at the Court. If you have a Twitter account, you can use this free service to follow us @cacbnews.

## **DEBTOR ELECTRONIC BANKRUPTCY NOTICING (DeBN) PILOT PROGRAM PREPARES FOR TESTING**

The Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California has partnered with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO) to pilot an electronic debtor noticing program using the Bankruptcy Noticing Center (BNC). The program, called "Debtor Electronic Bankruptcy Noticing" or "DeBN," will allow debtors to consent to receive all entered orders and court-generated notices by email, rather than by U.S. postal mail. Debtors will only receive the orders and notices by email that they otherwise would have received at a mailing address (e.g., 341(a) Meeting of Creditors notice, Notice of Deficiency, Notice of Discharge, and Notice of Dismissal).

The implementation of DeBN will provide faster and more efficient service of entered orders and court-generated notices to debtors, and significantly reduce noticing costs. It will also improve attorney-client communications regarding court notices and instructions.

Internal DeBN testing will be conducted in December. Subsequent testing with live cases will be conducted with the assistance of approximately 30 volunteers from the bar. DeBN is expected to be available to the public in the spring of 2014.

## **NOTICE OF ENTERED ORDER TO BE ELIMINATED IN JANUARY 2014**

Effective January 2, 2014, lodge all orders without the page titled "Notice of Entered Order and Service List" (NOE). LBR 9021-1 and the Court Manual have been amended to eliminate the requirement to include an NOE. The revised form orders will be available before January 2, 2014, and their availability will be announced by Public Notice.

Parties who wish to deliver entered orders to other parties may still do so, but must then file a proof of service.

## **CENTRAL DISTRICT CUTS COSTS THROUGH EFFICIENT NOTICING**

For the past few years, the Central District of California's noticing practices have maintained the lowest cost per new case filed of any bankruptcy court. In 2011 and 2012, the Central District's low Bankruptcy Noticing Center (BNC) costs saved the Judiciary approximately \$3.65 million. In 2013, the Central District is ranked the most efficient in the nation when BNC costs are measured per new case filed, and the district has the fifth lowest average cost per notice. A major reason for this cost efficiency is the high percentage of professionals who receive notices and orders from CM/ECF via a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF). For these attorneys, trustees, and others, the BNC no longer sends any notices or orders. Therefore, the BNC sends each notice to fewer recipients.

A second major reason for the Central District's efficiency is its focus on sending notices and orders that contain only the information needed. As a result, the BNC is not printing and mailing pages containing unnecessary information. For example, we condensed the Order Confirming Chapter 13 Plan from eight pages into two pages. For bankruptcy cases, we combined the Order of Dismissal and the Notice of Dismissal into one notice titled "Order and Notice of Dismissal." And, in 2012, we eliminated the requirement that a Proof of Service be included in lodged orders, as proof of service is noted when a Notice of Lodgment is filed.

The Court thanks attorneys, trustees, and the public for working with us to make delivery of notices and orders more efficient, cost-effective, and timely.

## **TRANSCRIPT REQUEST FORM DOCKET EVENT ADDED**

In an effort to reduce duplicative requests for original copies of transcripts and duplication of labor in the Clerk's Office, new docket events related to the transcript request form are being introduced on CM/ECF. Now, attorneys and other registered ECF filers will be able to see if another party has already requested a transcript for a particular hearing and track the progress of a transcript request on the case docket. Before ordering a transcript, parties are encouraged to check the case docket to see if a transcript has already been issued.

During November, a new docket event for registered ECF filers, “Transcript Order Form (Public Request),” will be implemented so that a transcript request form can be filed and uploaded to the appropriate case docket. For self-represented debtors or other non-ECF filers that request a transcript, court staff will docket the transcript request form.

More information regarding the availability of the new “Transcript Order Form (Public Request)” docket event will be available on the Court’s website. Docketing procedures will also be available in CM/ECF’s help feature.

## JUDGES SPEAK TO LAW STUDENTS ABOUT EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FEDERAL COURTS

On October 21, more than 100 eager law students attended a Federal Judicial Externship Panel hosted by Loyola Law School (LLS). The event was designed to inform students about the nature of externship programs in the federal courts and the hiring process. The panel featured three federal judges from the Central District of California: the Honorable Sandra R. Klein of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, the Honorable Beverly Reid O’Connell of the U.S. District Court, and Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Suzanne H. Segal. The judges were joined by Angella D. Yates, Law Clerk to the Honorable Neil W. Bason of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, who is involved in LLS’s externship program and serves as a mentor to LLS students seeking judicial externships and clerkships.

The panelists discussed a wide range of topics, including judges’ selection criteria for externs, the “do’s and don’ts” of interviewing, and the type of work assigned to externs in their respective courts. They also emphasized that externs have the opportunity to observe many different court proceedings.

In addition to discussing how valuable the experience can be for law students, the panelists also noted that the “fresh perspective” from externs and their enthusiasm for learning are highly appreciated in chambers. Judge Klein, who moderated the event, said that she uses the externship program as an opportunity to both teach and learn from the students. She also described the high level of staff interaction within chambers and referred to her law clerks and externs as “family.”

The benefits of the externship program were strongly echoed when former externs at the event talked about their own experiences. The well-attended event provided a unique opportunity for law students to hear firsthand how a judicial externship can supplement and enrich their legal education and their legal career.

## CHANGES TO BANKRUPTCY COURT MISCELLANEOUS FEE SCHEDULE

The Judicial Conference has approved several changes to the Bankruptcy Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, effective December 1. The fee for retrieving records stored in remote locations has increased. For retrieval of one box of records from a Federal Records Center, the National Archives, or another storage location removed from the place of business of the court, the fee has increased from \$53 to \$64. For retrievals involving multiple boxes, there is now a fee of \$39 for each additional box.

The description of the fee for a bounced check has been rewritten to reflect the increasingly common use of electronic means of payment. The phrase “a check which is returned for lack of funds” has been replaced with “any payment returned or denied for insufficient funds.” There is no change to the fee, which remains \$53.

A new motion fee has been added to the schedule. The fee for filing a motion “to sell property of the estate free and clear of liens under 11 U.S.C. § 363(f)” is \$176.

## PENDING CHANGES IN BANKRUPTCY FORMS

Amendments to Official Bankruptcy Forms 3A (Application for Individuals to Pay the Filing Fee in Installments), 3B (Application to Have the Chapter 7 Filing Fee Waived), 6I (Schedule I: Your Income), 6J (Schedule J: Your Expenses), 6 Summary (Summary of Schedules), 23 (Debtor’s Certification of Completion of Instructional Course Concerning Financial Management), and 27 (Reaffirmation Agreement Cover Sheet) will take effect on December 1. The updated forms will be posted on the Court’s website on December 1.

## NEW LIVE CHAT FEATURE IN CM/ECF:

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California is pleased to announce our online live chat program for registered users of CM/ECF. The new program will allow for customers to engage in online instant messaging with a court representative who will answer case specific questions and direct users to frequently requested forms, motions, and orders. Live chat is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding federal holidays and other published Court closures. Chat can be accessed via a graphic icon on the CM/ECF homepage.

## CM/ECF TIPS

### Using the Search Feature:

The Search feature located on the blue menu bar in CM/ECF is a helpful tool when searching for an event code. By clicking on “Search” and entering a key word (e.g. “relief” for Relief from Stay), CM will indicate all of the areas where the word is found. This is an excellent way to verify that you are using the correct codes prior to filing your documents.

### Filing a Combined Notice and Motion Form:

When filing a combined notice and motion form (i.e. 10ment is submitted as a notice, an order cannot be linked to it. An order can only be linked to the motion event on the docket.

## WEBSITE FEEDBACK

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California continues to enhance its website based on feedback from users. Please let us know your thoughts about what is working well and what could be improved at [www.cacb.uscourts.gov/contact](http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov/contact).



## Top 20 Cases of Interest Filed in the Last 24 Months\*

### Allied Industrial Inc.

SV-13-11948-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 03/21/13, Assets \$13 million and Liabilities \$7 million. Hearings set for 11/14/2013, Objections to claims.

### American Suzuki Motor Corp.

SA-12-22808-SC, Chapter 11, Filed 11/05/12, Assets \$100-\$500 million and Liabilities \$100-\$500 million. Hearings set for 8/29/2013 RE: Objections of Unsecured Claims.

### ARI-RC6, LLC (Lead), ARI-RC 12, LLC, ARI-RC 14, LLC, ARI-RC 21, LLC, ARI-RC 23, LLC

SV13-14678-AA, (LEAD); SV13-14697-AA, SV13-14692-AA. SV13-14604-AA, SV13-14695-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 07/15/13, Assets \$10-\$50 million and Liabilities \$10-\$50 million. Schedules and Statement of Affairs filed 8/16/13. Order for joint administration signed 9/17/13. Plan & Disclosure Statement filed 10/15/13.

### A & S Booksellers, Inc.

SV-12-10392-VK, Chapter 11, Filed 01/13/12, Assets \$0.01- 0.05 million and Liabilities \$1 - \$10 million. No updates.

### AWTR Liquidation Inc. fka Rhythm and Hues, Inc.

LA-13-13775-NB, Chapter 11, Filed 02/13/13, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Order entered on 10/22/13 approving the amended order after status conference: (1) setting combined hearing on approval of disclosure statement and confirmation of joint liquidating Chapter 11 plan (2) setting deadlines.

### Bethal Healthcare Inc.

SV-13-12220-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 04/01/13, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Status Conference Held 9/17/13. Order Granting Stipulations for limited relief from the automatic stay to pursue recovery from insurance signed on 9/10/13.

### Beverly Hills Antiques, Inc. c/o D. K. Gottlieb

SV-12-21028-VK, Chapter 11, Filed 12/26/12, Assets and Liabilities unknown. No updates.

### City of San Bernardino

RS-12-28006-MJ, Chapter 9, Filed 08/01/12. Assets and Liabilities \$1,000 + and Liabilities \$1,000 +. Order for relief under chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code entered 9/17/13. Order granting City of San Bernardino's motion for summary judgment on eligibility and denying CalPer's Rule 56 motions entered 9/17/13. Court's statement of uncontested facts and conclusions of law entered 9/17/13. Order appointing Honorable Gregg W Zive mediator entered 9/5/13. Status conference on chapter 9 voluntary petition set for 11/6/13. Motion for rejection of collective bargaining agreements with Public Employees Assoc., SB Police Officers Assoc. and SB Firefighters Assoc set for 11/6/13. Status conference on complaint by City of San Bernardino against Jose Munoz, Michael M. Wade set for 12/5/13.

### CLK Human Resources, LLC

RS-13-19002-MW, Chapter 11, Filed 05/21/13. Assets \$0.01- 0.05 million and Liabilities \$1 - \$10 million. Order entered 10/2/13 authorizing the sale of all assets free and clear of liens. Chapter 11 Status conference continued to 1/16/14.

### Gamma Medica-Ideas (USA), Inc.

SV-12-17469-VK, Chapter 11, Filed 08/20/2012. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Order Granting Application to Employ Kinsella Weitzman Iser Kump & Aldisert LLP as Special Litigation Counsel to Ch. 11 Trustee, signed on 9/11/13. (2) Motions for Relief from Stay filed 10/09/13. Motion to Convert Case from Ch. 11 to 7 filed on 10/16/13..

### Halsey M. Minor

LA-13-23787-TD, Chapter 7, Filed 05/24/13, Assets \$50-100 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Hearing set on 10/31/13 at 10:00 a.m. for Chapter 7 trustee's motion for authority to liquidate publicly trade securities at market price free-and-clear of liens, claims and interests

### Hamlet Group Inc.

SV-13-12398-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 04/05/2013, Assets \$500,001-\$1 million and Liabilities \$1-\$10 million. Order Granting Application and Setting Hearing on Shortened Notice re: Motion for Order Establishing Bidding Procedures for the Sale of Estate's Assets - Hrg. 10/23/13, signed 10/18/13

### Internet Specialties West, Inc. a CA Corp.

SV-12-20897-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 12/18/12, Assets \$13 million and Liabilities \$5 million. Order Granting Order Confirming 2nd amended Ch. 11 Plan, signed on 9/3/13. Status conference continued to 12/17/13.

### KSL Media Inc. (Lead Case) Jointly Administered with TV 10's LLC - SV13-15930-AA and Fulcrum 5, Inc. - SV 13-15931-AA

SV-13-15929-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 9/11/13, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. 341(a) Mtg. Continued to 11/19/13. Schedules & Statement of Affairs filed 9/25/13. Amendment to List of Creditors 9/26/13. Status Conference to be held 10/30/13. Proposed Ch. 11 Plan filed 10/02/13. Order Granting Motion for Joint Administration with case SV13-15930-AA & SV13-15931-AA, signed on 10/10/13.

### Nesbitt Portland Property, LLC; Nesbitt Bellevue Property, LLC; Nesbitt El Paso Property, LP; Nesbitt Denver Property, LLC; Nesbitt Lynnwood Property, LLC; Nesbitt Colorado Springs Property, LLC; Nesbitt Livonia Property, LLC; Nesbitt Blue Ash Property, LLC

ND-12-12883-RR; ND-12-12884-RR; ND-12-12888-RR; ND-12-12889-RR; ND-12-12891-RR; ND-12-12894-RR; ND-12-12895-RR, Chapter 11, Filed 07/31/12, Assets \$10-50 million and Liabilities \$100-500 million. Hearing scheduled for 11/13/2013 re: First and Final Fee Applications; Post Confirmation Status Conference scheduled for 3/28/2014

### Point Center Financial Inc.

SA-13--11495-TA, Chapter 11, Filed 1/19/13, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Motion to Convert case from chapter 11 to chapter 7 filed on 10/4/2013 by Ch. 11 Trustee Howard B. Grobstein.

### Raymond P. Boucher

SV-12-10052-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 01/03/12, Assets \$5.26 million and Liabilities \$5.51 million. No updates.

### Taicom Securities Co., Ltd

SA-12-20383-CB, Chapter 15, Filed 08/31/12, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. OSC set for 10/23/13 at 10:00 a.m. on why bankrupt case should not be dismissed for failure to appear at status conference and continuing status conference.

### The Village at Nipomo, LLC

SV-13-13593-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 05/28/13, Assets \$12 million and Liabilities \$10 million. Application to Employ John Rossetti, Inc., as broker for the Debtor filed 10/15/13

### West Covina Motors, Inc.

LA-12-52197-ER, Chapter 11, Filed 12/28/12, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Order entered on 10/3/13 continuing the hearing to December 4, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. on the Trustee's Motion for Order Approving Stipulation between Trustee and the County of Los Angeles re: County's Payment for Debtor's Modification of Two Vehicles .

\*Based on a combination of asset and liability levels, number of creditors, high activity, and/or name recognition.