



**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN RE: TEMPORARY GUIDANCE
DURING THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICING
CENTER SERVICE DISRUPTION**

GENERAL ORDER 26-03

As stated in [General Order 26-02](#), an outage has impacted the Bankruptcy Noticing Center (BNC), which provides notices for bankruptcy courts by both electronic and physical mail, and all bankruptcy noticing services have been disrupted nationwide. As a result of this temporary service disruption, parties who are not registered CM/ECF users may experience delays in receiving notices from the court. The outage may also affect the ability to access the current creditors' matrices through traditional means in the Court's Case Management/Electronic Case Files ("CM/ECF") system. Importantly, Notices of Electronic Filing ("NEFs") transmitted through the CM/ECF system continue to function normally. The disruption has affected the Court's ability to provide timely notice and service of orders and other documents in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings. At this time, it is unknown how long the outage may last.

Accordingly, the Court has determined that emergency temporary procedures are necessary to ensure the continued administration of bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings and that legally sufficient notices are provided to the parties. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 105(a), Rules 2002 and 9006 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and the Court's authority

1 to administer its docket, and subject in all respects to all applicable statutes, rules, and other
2 applicable law,

3 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

4 **1. Applicability.** This Order applies to bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings
5 pending in or commenced in this District while this Order remains effective.

6 **2. Movant's Counsel or Movant, if Self Represented, Shall Serve Orders.**

7 **A.** Notwithstanding Section 2-17 of the *Central Guide*, after entry of an order
8 or judgment, the Court will NOT deliver the order or judgment by email to
9 a debtor who filed a Request to Activate DeBN or by regular mail to any party,
10 even if that party has a street address listed on the docket;

11 **B.** Any party who lodges an order that is subsequently entered by the Court:

- 12 a. within two (2) business days after entry of that order, must serve
13 a copy of the entered order on any party entitled to receive notice of entry
14 of the order that is not a registered CM/ECF user; and
15 b. within three (3) business days after entry of that order, must file
16 with the Court evidence that it has accomplished the foregoing service.

17 **3. Supplemental Notice and Service Requirements During Outage.** This Order
18 applies to notices and orders ordinarily served by the Court through the BNC for which
19 required notice has not been given because of the service interruption. No duplicate
20 notice is required to a recipient who has already been properly served through CM/ECF
21 or another authorized method. Transmission of a document to the BNC for processing
22 does not establish that notice has been given. The person responsible for providing
23 notice under this Order must promptly verify that the required notice has been given
24 or provide the notice and file a certificate of service.

25 **4. Case Commencement and § 341 Meeting of Creditors Notices.** In each bankruptcy
26 case filed on or after October 7, 2026, and effective retroactively, the debtor's attorney,
27 or if the debtor is self-represented, the debtor, must serve the official notice
28 of commencement of the case and meeting of creditors under 11 U.S.C. § 341,

1 including any accompanying notices and deadlines, upon all entities entitled to
2 receive it. Mailing must occur within three (3) days after the later of the entry of this
3 Order or issuance of the official notice by the Clerk. The debtor must serve the official
4 notice generated or approved by the Clerk and must not alter the meeting date or any
5 deadline. Notwithstanding Rule 2002(a)(1), the debtor's social security number and
6 any other federal taxpayer-identification number may be limited on the notice to the last
7 four digits. If the person responsible for providing notice is unable to ensure that
8 service is completed within the time required, that person must promptly seek
9 appropriate relief from the Court.

- 10 **5. Service of Notices under FRBP 2002.** The Debtor (if the debtor does not have
11 an attorney), the Debtor's Attorney, or the moving party seeking relief must serve
12 any notice required by Bankruptcy Rule 2002 that the Clerk would otherwise serve,
13 other than the items which the U.S. Trustee or case trustee must serve per this Order
14 as listed below:

15 The U.S. Trustee/case trustee must serve notices as the U.S. Trustee directs:

16 Under Rule 2002(f)(1)(G) a waiver, denial, or revocation of a discharge, as Rule
17 4006 provides; and

18 Under Rule 2002(f)(1)(I) a summary of the trustee's final report in a chapter 7
19 case if the net proceeds realized exceed \$1,500; and

20 Under Rule 2002(f)(1)(J) a notice under Rule 5008 regarding the presumption of
21 abuse; and

22 Under Rule 2002(f)(1)(K) a statement under § 704(b)(1) about whether the
23 debtor's case would be presumed to be an abuse under § 707(b).

- 24 **6. Certificate of Service.** Any entity required by this Order to serve a document
25 must file a certificate of service in accordance with Local Rule 9013-3.

- 26 **7. Access to Creditors Matrix.** During the outage, access to the creditor matrix
27 on CM/ECF may be impaired. Until it is resolved, parties may access the lists
28 of creditors/parties and addresses in a case using the procedure in **Attachment 1.**

1 These lists may not include addresses registered with the BNC's Electronic
2 Bankruptcy Noticing (EBN) program or the National Creditor Registration
3 Service (NCRS). Parties must review the list to ensure that notice is provided
4 to all appropriate parties and not solely those included on the list of creditors.
5 Self-represented litigants may view bankruptcy court records and obtain a creditor
6 matrix with a valid fee-based PACER account. To register for a PACER account,
7 visit <https://www.pacer.uscourts.gov>. PACER will waive fees if a user accrues
8 less than \$30.00 in a particular quarter. View information about PACER fees
9 at <https://pacer.uscourts.gov/pacer-pricing-how-fees-work>.

10 **8. Deadlines and Hearing Dates.** This Order does not extend, shorten, or alter
11 any statutory or rule-based deadlines or dispense with any required notice or service.
12 All existing or scheduled hearings remain in effect unless otherwise ordered
13 by the Court. No adverse action may be based on an entity's failure to respond to,
14 or act with respect to a deadline set forth in, an affected notice, unless the Court
15 determines that the notice was given in accordance with applicable law.

16 **9. Parties Seeking Additional Relief Due to Outage.** Any party affected by delayed
17 or unsuccessful noticing may seek a continuance, additional notice, an extension where
18 legally permitted, or other appropriate relief. Any such request must be made through
19 an appropriate motion in the applicable bankruptcy case or proceeding. The motion
20 must identify the affected notice, explain how the failure to receive notice affected
21 the party, and specify the relief requested. All such motions will be considered
22 by the Court on a case-by-case basis in accordance with applicable law.

23 **10. Self-Represented Litigants.** A self-represented litigant who cannot reasonably
24 comply with this Order must promptly contact the Clerk for procedural instructions
25 or request relief from the Court through a written motion. The submission of a motion
26 does not automatically extend any deadline or continue any hearing. On motion,
27 or sua sponte, the Court may direct the Clerk, a trustee, or another entity to provide
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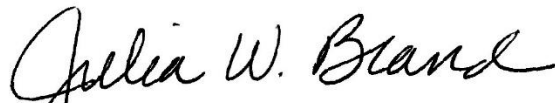
1 notice or establish alternative procedures consistent with applicable law.

2 Nothing in this Order authorizes the Clerk to provide legal advice.

3 **11. Implementation and Termination.** The Clerk may publish ministerial
4 implementation instructions consistent with this Order. This Order takes effect
5 immediately and remains in effect until further order. Upon restoration of BNC
6 service, the Clerk and affected parties must coordinate to avoid duplicate or
7 inconsistent notices and address any outstanding backlog.

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9 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

10 DATED: October 23, 2026

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13 _____
14 **Julia W. Brand**
15 Chief Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court
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Attachment 1

Part 1:

To access the list of creditors and parties in a case from CM/ECF:

1. Select **Query** from the menu.
2. Enter the case number, then select **Run Query**.
3. Select the **Creditor** link. Leave “Creditor type” blank, then select **Run Query** to view creditors and addresses.
4. Select the Party link to see parties and addresses.
5. Compare creditor and party lists to ensure a complete list.

Please note: These lists may not include addresses registered with the BNC’s Electronic Bankruptcy Noticing (EBN) program or the National Creditor Registration Service (NCRS). Parties and counsel should check service requirements to make sure every required party receives notice, including parties who do not appear on these lists.

Part 2:

Guidance for Self-represented Litigants to Provide Notice to Creditors and Parties in a Bankruptcy Case

When filing a bankruptcy case without an attorney, and pursuant to General Order 26-03, you must provide notice to creditors and other parties to the case to let them know what you have filed. You may locate the list of creditors and their addresses by accessing CM/ECF, once you have created a PACER account, and following the steps in Part 1, above.

To learn the preferred address of a creditor who is not yet listed, you may contact the creditor. For [Federal, State, and local government addresses](#), please view the [Central Guide](#) at <https://www.cacb.uscourts.gov/the-central-guide/addresses-federal-and-state-government-agencies>.

The Clerk’s Office is prohibited from providing legal advice, but you may contact a Help Desk at each Division with questions about your case. A listing of Help Desk hours is provided on the Don’t Have an Attorney page at <https://www.cacb.uscourts.gov/dhaa>, under “Free or Low Cost Bankruptcy Help.”