

CHAPTER 13 HEARINGS NOTICE

The following procedures will be in effect immediately in the Northern and San Fernando Valley Divisions to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. All parties and attorneys must appear telephonically for the Chapter 13 confirmation calendar by using the instructions on the judge's court webpage. The trustee and her counsel will not be in the courtroom with the judge. No in-person check-in will be required because it is expected that parties will communicate by email before the hearing. All efforts will be made to reduce the need for any appearance telephonically, but counsel and clients will need to provide the usual requirements electronically well in advance of the hearing date to make this happen. Before the hearing, the debtor must email the trustee proof of any plan payments that are due by the time of the hearing, file all mortgage declarations and provide required documents to the trustee. All these items should be sent when due but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled hearing. If the case is ready for confirmation and all objections resolved, the trustee may inform the judge that the plan is confirmed on consent. Any plans not being confirmed may be continued without appearance if the trustee consents and creditors who have filed objections inform the trustee of their consent. Any party may choose to keep a matter on calendar if there is no agreement for the trustee to represent the status of the case. The trustee may also keep any matter on calendar and seek a dismissal rather than a continuance if the debtor has not provided required payments or documents, but counsel may also argue the matter telephonically. The miscellaneous calendar will also be telephonic for all parties. It is expected that an exclusively telephonic calendar will be temporary due to extraordinary circumstances and these policies will be revisited once the need for greater social distancing has passed.