# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

# Court News



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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.

# SHERI BLUEBOND Chief Judge

# KATHLEEN J. CAMPBELL Executive Officer/Clerk of Court

Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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

This issue and back issues of the Court News are available on the Court's website at http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov/publications.

### NORTHERN DIVISION CASE ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

On January 1, 2018, Judge Martin R. Barash will be assigned a portion of the chapter 7 cases filed at the Northern Division (with a corresponding reduction of his chapter 7 case assignments at the San Fernando Valley Division). Effective January 22, 2018, Judge Peter H. Carroll's pending cases and adversary proceedings will be reassigned to Judge Deborah J. Saltzman. On February 2, 2018, Judge Carroll will retire from the bench and commence his service to the Court as a recalled judge.

Judge Carroll will retain the following case and adversary proceedings: <u>Valley Health System and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company</u> (bankruptcy case 6:07-bk-18293-PC and pending related adversary proceedings 6:10-ap-1566-PC, 6:12-ap-1032-PC, 6:14-ap-

1236-PC, and 6:17-ap-1155-PC), Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. v. Trent McNair (adversary proceeding 9:15-ap-1083-PC), Burkhardt v. Keel (adversary proceeding 9:16-ap-1072-PC), and Tradinoi Inc v. Alessi et al. (adversary proceeding 9:16-ap-1089-PC; related bankruptcy case 9:16-bk-10642-PC to be reassigned to Judge Saltzman).

After the cases have been reassigned, the judge's initials at the end of each case number and adversary proceeding number shall be changed to those of the judge to whom the matter was reassigned. For questions regarding Northern Division cases, please call Courtroom Services Specialist Kam Rust at (805) 884-4873. For questions regarding Los Angeles Division cases assigned to Judge Saltzman, please call Courtroom Deputy Elaine Garcia at (213) 894-0995.

# JUDGE SALTZMAN ADDED TO MANAGEMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Judge Deborah J. Saltzman is now participating in the Court's Loan Modification Management Pilot Program (LMM), a forum for debtors and creditors to reach a consensual resolution when a debtor's property is at risk of foreclosure.

LMM procedures and forms are available at the <u>pilot program's dedicated webpage</u>. Please note that you may only use these procedures and forms if your case, or your client's case, is assigned to one of the judges participating in the LMM.

COURT'S LOAN MODIFICATION

# REASSIGNMENT OF JUDGE SALTZMAN'S LOS ANGELES CHAPTER 7 CASES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 3

Effective January 3, Judge Deborah J. Saltzman's pending Los Angeles Division chapter 7 bankruptcy cases and related adversary proceedings will be reassigned to other Los Angeles Division judges, with the exception of the case 2:14-bk-11105-DS (Enrique and Silvia Ibarra) and related

adversary proceeding 2:14-ap-01154-DS (<u>Lara et al. v. Ibarra et al.</u>) and cases that were previously reassigned.

The cases will be reassigned according to the terminal digit of the case number. Cases that end in a zero or one will be reassigned to Chief

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## **COURT CLOSED**

Monday, January 1, 2018—New Year's Day

Monday, January 15— Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, February 19— Washington's Birthday

EMERGENCY MATTERS ONLY:

Tuesday, January 2, 2018



# Accessing Court Information by Twitter

The Court has tweeted over 3,500 times since 2011, and its Twitter account has over 750 followers. The Court tweets announcements, Notices of Sale, Public Notices, and other timely information. In March 2015, the Court began tweeting judicial opinions.

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 (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, follow @cacbnews.

#### **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.

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Judge Sheri Bluebond; those that end in two or three will be reassigned to Judge Robert N. Kwan; those that end in four, five, or six will be reassigned to Judge Ernest M. Robles; and those that end in seven, eight, or nine will be reassigned to Judge Barry Russell.

After the cases have been reassigned, the judge's initials at the end of each case number and adversary proceeding number shall be changed to those of the judge to whom the matter was reassigned.

### CHIEF DEPUTY OF ADMINISTRATION STEVE SLONIKER RETIRES

On January 3, Chief Deputy of Administration Steve Sloniker will retire. The nationwide search process to fill the position is currently underway.

Mr. Sloniker retires with 42 years of federal service, including 28 years at the Bankruptcy Court. His career at the Court began in 1989, when he accepted the position of Administrative Assistant. After advancing through a number of positions of increasing responsibility, Mr. Sloniker was promoted to Chief Deputy of Administration in 2011.



# ANNUAL WILLIAM J. LASAROW AWARDS RECOGNIZE PROBONO VOLUNTEERS

On the evening of Thursday, October 26, Public Counsel held the 2017 William J. Lasarow Awards in the lobby of the Edward R. Roybal Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Los Angeles. Approximately 87 guests were welcomed by Public Counsel Supervising Senior Staff Attorney Magdalena Reyes Bordeaux. In her opening remarks, she shared the stories of just two of the many litigants that volunteers have helped at the Court. Ms. Bordeaux also thanked the District and Bankruptcv Courts for their support, Loyola Law School for offering its Consumer Bankruptcy Practicum to law students, and the Karsh Center for hosting Public Counsel's bankruptcy clinics at its offices. Bankruptcy Judges Vincent P. Zurzolo, Maureen A. Tighe, Robert N. Kwan, Catherine E. Bauer, and Scott C. Clarkson were among the crowd of attorneys, Bankruptcy Court staff, and judges in attendance.

The event's keynote speakers praised the volunteers' service. Public Counsel President and CEO Margaret Morrow spoke about the 19,000 individuals and nonprofit organizations assisted by Public Counsel,



some of whom receive aid from the Debtor Assistance Project. Ms. Morrow said the volunteers "open the courthouse doors" for unrepresented litigants whose access to the courts would be foreclosed otherwise. After sharing the story of one litigant who was the victim of identity theft, Ms. Morrow thanked the volunteers for the "tremendous difference" they have made in clients' lives.

Judge Zurzolo thanked the staff of Public Counsel for all of its efforts and initiated a moment of silence in recognition of Judge Lasarow's passing. (Judge Lasarow, in

whose honor the awards are held, passed away on November 18, 2016, at the age of 94.) Observing the tumult of recent events, including wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and terrorist attacks, Judge Zurzolo referred to Voltaire's Candide and the great impact that is possible when a person decides to "tend to his own small garden" in the face of society's many challenges.

Clerk of Court Kathleen J. Campbell reported the magnitude of the Central District's pro se bankruptcy filings, which account for 13.2 percent of all such filings in the nation. Ms. Campbell emphasized the impact that volunteers make, noting that they served approximately 4,800 visitors in the district in 2016, a year when the Court had 9,058 pro se filings. Ms. Campbell encouraged the audience to read the Court's 2017 Honor Roll, which names the volunteers who have served during the past 12 months. The Honor Roll was published earlier that week to

coincide with the American Bar Association's annual National Pro Bono Celebration. Ms. Campbell also praised the implementation of a videoconference system at the Northern Division, expanding the reach of the self-help desk's services to a new clinic in Paso Robles. Representatives of each of the pro bono organizations that manage a self-help desk at the Court presented the awards. Winners included attorneys John Parry (Los Angeles Division/Public Counsel's Debtor Assistance Project), Patricia Fox (Northern Division/ Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County), Misty Perry Isaacson (Santa Ana Division/Public Law Center), and Michael W. Davis (San Fernando Valley Division/ Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County). Ms. Bordeaux presented a special award to the attorneys representing Farmers Insurance Corporate Legal for their assistance at reaffirmation hearings. Each recipient expressed how meaningful the experience of volunteering has been.

### **JUDGE KLEIN ADMINISTERS OATH TO OVER 4,500 NEW CITIZENS**

On September 20, approximately 15,000 people gathered in the Los Angeles Convention Center for the Constitution and Citizenship Week naturalization ceremony. The Honorable Sandra R. Klein presided over the early morning ceremony, swearing in and administering the oath to 4,560 new citizens.

Judge Klein remarked that "it is because of the Constitution that [the 4,560 people sworn in at the LACC] are now citizens of this great country and will experience the many freedoms enjoyed by all American citizens." To emphasize the United States' significance as a nation of diverse cultures and beliefs, Judge Klein guoted President John F. Kennedy, who said: "Immigrants have enriched and strengthened the fabric of American life." Judge Klein reminded the new citizens of the freedoms they enjoy as Americans, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to vote. She urged the newly naturalized Americans to make good use of the freedoms they now enjoy as United States citizens. The ceremony concluded with the Huntington



Middle School Choir's moving rendition of the national anthem.

Constitution and Citizenship Week originated in 1940, when Congress proclaimed the third Sunday in May "I Am an American Day." The holiday was intended to recognize "all who, by coming of age or naturalization, have attained the status of citizenship," and to highlight "the privileges and responsibilities of being an American citizen." Today, Americans observe Constitution and Citizenship Week every September to commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787. This year marks the 230th anniversary of that event.

### **CM/ECF TIPS**

Flattening and Shrinking the Document Image

All PDF files must be "flattened" prior to uploading in CM/ECF to preserve image quality and legibility. Flattening also reduces the file size of a fillable form by over 90 percent, conserving the Court's valuable resources. When CM/ECF users do not flatten files, the Clerk's Office will ask them to resubmit the files.

To "flatten" an electronic file (i.e., to make the field data indistinguishable from the rest of the text in the form), "print" the form to PDF (using the print dialog box), and file the resulting document. Detailed instructions for flattening and shrinking a PDF document are available on the Court's website under the heading "Warning for Electronic Filers."

# Clearing Browser History and Cache

Files stored in your cache take up space, so from time to time, you may wish to clear it. Emptying your cache can significantly improve the speed and performance of your internet browser. To clear the browser history and cache, follow these steps:

#### **Internet Explorer 11**

- 1. Click on **Tools**.
- Select Delete Browsing History.
- Ensure all boxes are checked in the new window, leave Preserve Favorites website data unchecked.
- 4. Click Delete.

#### Google Chrome

- 1. Open Chrome.
- Click the Chrome menu located in the top right hand side of the browser window.
- Select Settings from the list.
- . Select **History**.
- 5. Choose **beginning of time** to delete everything.
- 6. Click Clear browsing data.

#### Microsoft Edge

- 1. Click the **Hub** icon.
- 2. Click the **History** icon.
- 3. Click the link labeled **Clear all history**.
- 4. Check the boxes for each item you want to clear.
- 5. Click the Clear button.

### Top 20 Cases of Interest\*

#### Auto Strap Transport, LLC

RS-16-19936-MH, Chapter 11, Filed 12/01/17. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Voluntary chapter 11 petition filed 12/1/17. Balance of schedules due 12/15/17 filed by debtor 12/6/17. Notice issued 12/11/17 re: Meeting of creditors to be held on 1/2/18 at 2:30 p.m. Rm 720, 3801 University Ave, Riverside, CA. Order (1) setting scheduling hearing and case management conference and (2) Requiring status report entered 12/12/17 - hearing scheduled for 1/9/18 @ 2:00 p.m., Courtroom 303.

#### Bikram's Yoga College of India LP, a Limited Partnership

(Lead case to JNTADM cases) Bikram Choudhury Yoga, Inc., a California Corporation, Bikram Inc, a Delaware Corporation, Yuz Inc., a California Corporation International Trading Representative, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company ND-17-12045-PC, ND-17-12046-PC, ND-17-12047-PC, ND-17-12048-PC, Chapter 11, Filed 11/09/2017, Assets Under \$1 and Liabilities \$10-50 million; ND-17-12049-PC, Assets Under \$1 and Liabilities Under \$1 million. Hearing re: U.S. Trustee Motion to dismiss or convert case with an order directing payment of quarterly fees and for judgment thereon scheduled for 1/10/18 at 10 a.m.

#### British Motorcars Ventura, Inc. DBA Land Rover Jaguar Ventura

ND-17-10489-PC, Chapter 11, Filed 03/22/17. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order confirming debtor's first amended plan entered 10/10/17; hearing re: fee applications scheduled for 11/15/17 at 10 a.m.

#### Cartel Management, Inc

LA-17-11179 DS, Chapter 11, Filed 01/03/17. Assets \$0.5-\$1 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Notice of motion and motion to disallow proof of claim of Mavericks Invitational, Inc. was filed on 12/11/17. Hearing was set for 1/10/18 at 2:00 pm in courtroom 1639. Notice of objection to claim number 7-1 was filed by debtor-in-possession on 12/11/17.

SA-16-14633-TA, Chapter 7, Filed 11/09/16. Notice of assets filed by trustee 10/25/17. Application to Employ the Law Office of Weneta Kosmala as General Counsel filed 11/14/17. Declaration that No party requested a hearing on Motion filed 12/7/17. Notice of lodgment of Order in BK case trustee application to employ filed 12/7/17. Order filed on Chapter 7 Trustee's Application to Employ W. Kosmala as General Counsel filed 12/13/17.

#### ColorFX, Inc.

SV-17-10830-VK, Chapter 11, Filed 03/31/17. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Status report filed on 12/14/17. Status conference hearing continued to 2/8/18 at 1 p.m.

#### Hoad Urgent Care Tustin Inc.

(Lead case to JNTADMIN cases) Hoag Urgent Care -Huntington Harbour, Hoag Urgent Care -Orange Inc., Hoag Urgent Care -Anaheim Hills, Inc., Cypress Urgent Care, Inc. Laguna Dana Urgent Care Inc. SA-17-13077-TA SA-17-13078-TA SA-17-13079-TA SA-17-13080-TA SA-17-13089-TA SA-17-13099-TA, Chapter 11, Filed 8/2/17, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order denying debtor's Motion to assume filed 12/12/17, Chapter 11 Plan filed 12/13/17; Motion to Dismiss debtor's case denied without prejudice. Notice of insider compensation Granted, Hearing held Status Conference emergency motion Granted on same terms for 60 days, Motion to assume lease granted, Motion to server unexpired lease for non-resid. real property withdrawn, Vol. Petition Status hearing set 2/14/18 at 10:00 am.

#### **K&A Global Management Company**

SV-16-13295-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 11/17/16. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Disclosure Statement approved December 28. The plan confirmation hearing scheduled for March 21 at 9:30 a.m.

#### Lincoln James Investment Properties, LLC

RS-17-17285-WJ, Chapter 11, Filed 08/30/17. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. U.S. Trustee motion to dismiss or convert filed 11/3/17, hearing scheduled on 11/28/17 @ 2 p.m. Courtroom 304. Monthly operating report number two for month ending 10/31/17 filed 11/14/17. Voluntary dismissal of motion to convert or dismiss filed by U.S. Trustee on 11/20/17. Monthly operating report three for month ending 11/30/17 filed 12/14/17.

#### Lindley Fire Protection Co. Inc.

SA-17-10929-CB, Chapter 11, Filed 03/12/17. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Monthly Operating Reports filed 10/27/17. Status report updated Chapter 11 case. Order Granting Debtor's Motion authorizing interim use of cash collateral filed 12/6/17. Hearing continued on Emergency Motion authorizing use of cash collateral of IRS and EDD set for 1/10/18 at 10 a.m. Hearing continued Vol. Petit. chapter 11 status hearing to be held on 3/28/18 at 10 a.m.

#### Menco Pacific Inc

SV-16-12791-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 09/26/16, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Post-confirmation status conference to be held on March 21 at 9:30 a.m.

#### Nasty Gal Inc.

LA-16-24862-BB, Chapter 11, Filed 11/09/16, Assets \$10- 50 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Order entered on 12/18/17 approving stipulation between Province Inc., as Trustee of NG DIP Liquidating Trust and the Ohio Department of Taxation to continue hearing on NG DIP Liquidating Trust's Objection to Proof of Claim No. 344-1. Trustee's notice of motion and motion for authority to compromise with the Center for Environmental Health was filed on 12/18/17.

#### Shepherd University

LA-17-19964-BB, Chapter 11, Filed 08/14/17, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order entered on 12/13/17 approving the appointment of Bradley Sharp as trustee by the United States Trustee. Monthly Operating Report number 04 for the month ending 11/30/17 was filed by debtor on 12/18/17.

#### Solid Landing Behavioral Health Inc.

(Lead case to JNTADMIN cases) Cedar Creek Recovery Inc, EMS Toxicology, Silver RockRecovery, Sure Haven Inc. SA-17-12218, SA-17-12218, SA-17-12221, SA-17-12222, SA-17-12223, Chapter 11, Filed 6/1/17, Assets \$50- 100 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Hearing held on First Interim application for Order Approving and Allowing Payment of fees and reinbursement of expenses Granted 12/7/17. Omnibus Order Granting application for compensation granted 12/11/17, Monthly operating reports filed, Hearing held on Joint Motion of debtor's and committee of unsecured creditors Disclosure statement approved confirmation hearing set for 2/28/18 at 10 a.m. Hearing held Motion Granted application to employ creditor committee joint comittee, Order Granting application for compensation (final Fees and Expenses filed 12/15/17; Order granting Solid Landing Behavioral Health Motion to compromise controversy with Estate

#### Styles For Less Inc.

SÁ-17-14396-MW, Chapter 11, Filed 11/6/2017, Assets \$10-50 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million, Chapter 11 Voluntary Petition filed 11/6/17. Emergency Motion set for shorting notice 11/13/17 at 2 p.m. Order granted; Order setting hearing on Status of Chapter 11 case 1/17/18 at 9 a.m., Bar date set for 1/19/18. Hearing set for 1/8/18 at 9 a.m. on Motion for Relief unlawful detainer filed 12/14/17. Application to Employ Smiley Wang-Ekvall as special conflicts counsel granted; Objection to emergency motion authorizing store closing sales free and clear of all liens filed 12/15/17; Order authorizing store closing sales filed 12/19/17.

#### Tours Incorporated, Inc.

SV-17-10256-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 1/31/17. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order entered 12/15/17 denying approval of Disclosure Statement. Status conference hearing 3/21/18 at 9:30 a.m.

#### WHAA LLC

RS-17014661-MW, Chapter 11, Filed 6/2/17, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. U.S. Trustee motion to dismiss or convert filed 11/3/17, hearing scheduled on 12/5/17 @ 2 p.m. Courtroom 225. Voluntary dismissal of motion to convert or dismiss filed by U.S. Trustee on 11/20/17. Monthly operating report number 5 for the month ending 10/31/17 filed 11/2017.

#### WJA Asset Management, LLC

(Lead case to JNTADMN cases) 5827 Winland Hills Drive Development Fund, Alabama Housing Fund, CA Express Fund, CA See Jane Go Fund, CA Whirl Fund, Clairton Residential Renewal, Equity Indexed Managed Fund, Luxury Asset Purchasing International, LVNV Multi Family, PMB Managed Fund, Prosper Managed Fund, TD Opportunity Fund, TD Reo Fund, Urban Produce Fund, Whirl Fund, WJA Express Fund, WJA Real Estate Opportunity Fund I, WJA Real Estate Opportunity Fund II, WJA Secure Real Estate Fund, WJA Secure Income Fund, William Jordan Investmens; CA Real Estate Opportunities Fund I, CA Real Estate Opportunity Fund II, California Indexed Growth Fund, Secure California Income Fund, CA Real Estate Opportunity Fund III. SA-17-11996, SA-17-12003, SA-17-12003, SA-17-12003, SA-17-12004, SA-17-12005, SA-17-12005, SA-17-12009, SA-17-12009, SA-17-12009, SA-17-12009, SA-17-12011, SA-17-12012, SA-17-12015, SA-17-12016, SA-17-12019, SA-17-1 Reports filed, Hearing held on Motion for relief action in non-BK formu Denied 12/14/17, Order Granting Motion of Luxury Asset Purchasing International.

#### Zetta Jet USA, Inc.

LA-17-21386-SK, Chapter 11, Filed 09/15/17. Assets \$50-100 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Order entered on 12/4/17 granting debtor's motion to convert case to chapter 7. Order entered on 12/18/17 granting chapter 11 trustee's motion for entry of an order authorizing the debtors to (I) reject certain aircraft leases pursuant to section 365 of the bankruptcy code and bankruptcy rule 6006 and (II) abandon certain aircraft and engines pursuant to section 544 of the bankruptcy code and bankruptcy rule 6007. Summary of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Financial Affairs for non-individual were filed on 12/18/17.

#### Zetta Jet PTE Ltd.

LA-17-21387-SK, Chapter 11, Filed 09/15/17. Assets \$50-100 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Order entered on 12/4/17 granting debtor's motion to convert case to chapter 7. Meeting of creditors 341(a) meeting to be held on 1/8/18 at 11:00 a.m. at room 7, 915 Wilshire Blvd., 10th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017. Summary of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Financial Affairs for Non -Individual were filed on 12/18/17.