

ISSUE

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UNITED STATES  
BANKRUPTCY COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT  
OF CALIFORNIA

# Court News

## 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.

VINCENT P. ZURZOLO  
Chief Judge

KATHLEEN J. CAMPBELL  
Executive Officer/Clerk  
of Court

Suggestions and  
comments are always  
welcome.

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gov.



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## Bankruptcy Judge Catherine E. Bauer Sworn In

On February 26, 2010, Judge Catherine E. Bauer was sworn in by Chief Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo in Los Angeles. Approximately 20 guests attended the swearing-in, including Judge Sheri Bluebond, Judge Bauer's family, and her former colleagues.

Afterwards, Judge Bauer swore in her two law clerks, Ms. Meghann A. Ahern and Ms. Teresa M. Guenther. She also thanked everyone for their attendance and stated she looks forward to her judgeship position.

A formal induction ceremony will be held in the near future.



Chief Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo and Judge Catherine E. Bauer

## Judge Maureen Tighe Honored

With well over 300 attendees at the annual Judges' Night Dinner on February 25, 2010, the San Fernando Valley Bar Association (SFVBA) honored Judge Maureen A. Tighe with the Judge of the Year Award. Held at the Warner Center Marriot Hotel in Woodland Hills, the event was also attended by Judge Kathleen Thompson and Judge Geraldine Mund.

Upon receiving the award, Judge Tighe thanked her family, courtroom deputy, and former and current law clerks. Judge Tighe also expressed her pride of the SFVBA attorneys and the importance of the work being accomplished at the San Fernando Valley division's help-desk.



Judge Maureen A. Tighe and SFVBA President Robert T. Flagg

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

## CM/ECF Tips

### Uploading Correct PDF's

Remember to review the pdf when filing electronically to ensure the correct documents are being uploaded.

To review a pdf prior to uploading, right click on the pdf you wish to upload and select "Open (with)..."

## Pro Bono Awards/Self-Help Desk Grand Opening Event

On January 26, 2010, the Debtor Assistance Project (DAP) held its annual pro bono awards ceremony. The awards ceremony is held each year to recognize significant pro bono work in the local community.



Back row (from left): William J. Lasarow, Judge Thomas B. Donovan, Chief Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo, Jason Wallach, James T. King.  
Front row (from left): Keith Alan Higginbotham, Judge Maureen A. Tighe, and Illyse Klavir.

Chief Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo led the ceremony by presenting Jason Wallach with a Special Recognition of Exceptional Service award. Jason Wallach was recognized for his countless hours leading and promoting pro bono efforts through his service as Chairman of the DAP Committee.

The ceremony continued with the presentation of the William J. Lasarow Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Service in Bankruptcy. Judge Maureen A. Tighe presented the first award to Illyse Klavir, while Judge Zurzolo presented to Keith Alan Higginbotham, and Judge Thomas B. Donovan presented to James T. King.

Illyse Klavir was recognized for her assistance to pro se debtors at the self-help desk in the San Fernando Valley division. Keith Alan Higginbotham was acknowledged for his contribution and endless hours of refining the pro se reaffirmation counseling program in the Los Angeles division. James T. King was recognized for his constant promotion of pro bono participation and availability to mentor other attorneys with his wealth of experience and knowledge.

The evening also included the announcement of the grand opening of the Los Angeles Division Bankruptcy Self-Help Desk by Magdalena Reyes Bordeaux, coordinator of the Self-Help Desk. The new facility is located on the 1st floor at the 300 North Los Angeles Street Federal Building.

DAP provides legal assistance for low-income debtors and is presented by the Public Counsel in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Attorneys volunteer to assist debtors with various legal bankruptcy issues including, but not limited to, evaluation of a debtor's financial situation to determine whether filing bankruptcy is beneficial, preparation with petitions, counseling for reaffirmation hearings, and representation of debtors during adversary proceedings.

The Los Angeles Bankruptcy Self-Help Desk is available from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, with the exception of Court holidays. Information is provided about Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 bankruptcy, bankruptcy forms, access to reference materials, and referrals for additional legal assistance.

## Judge Ellen Carroll Assigned Riverside Division Cases

As of January 4, 2010, Los Angeles Judge Ellen Carroll began receiving a portion of newly filed bankruptcy cases from the Riverside Division. Judge Carroll will also continue to receive cases filed in the Los Angeles Division.

For more information on procedures regarding courtesy copies and hearings, please refer to Public Notice 10-002 on the Court's web site, [www.cacb.uscourts.gov](http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov) or the Judges' Procedures area under Information > Judges Procedures/Information.

## Two New Judgeship Openings

The Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit invites applications from highly qualified candidates to fill two (2) vacant Bankruptcy Judgeships for the Central District of California. It is anticipated that the candidates will maintain chambers in Santa Ana, but will hear cases from the Riverside Division.

The application may also be downloaded from the Circuit website at [www.ce9.uscourts.gov](http://www.ce9.uscourts.gov) or at Court's web site, [www.cacb.uscourts.gov](http://www.cacb.uscourts.gov), under Careers > Santa Ana Division. Applications must be received by 5 p.m., Thursday, March 11, 2010.

## Save The Date - Run for Justice 2010

On Saturday, March 20, 2010 at 8:00 a.m., the 7th Annual "Run for Justice" will be taking place in conjunction with the 2010 Los Angeles Marathon at Dodger Stadium.

Each year, teams from law firms, corporations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations come together to help raise money for Public Counsel. Last year, with the participation of 31 teams, more than 500 people ran, walked or biked for justice, raising over \$100,000.

For more information visit the Public Counsel web site at [www.publiccounsel.org](http://www.publiccounsel.org).  
For registration information contact: Cheyanne Picone at (213) 385-2977 ext. 112.

## Earle Hagen Golf Tournament

The second annual Earle Hagen Golf Tournament will be held on June 11, 2010. The tournament is sponsored by the LA Bankruptcy Forum along with other organizations.

The tournament is held in memory of Earle Hagen who practiced bankruptcy law for over 40 years and was recognized for his exceptional service and representation of consumers. Proceeds from the tournament benefit the Debtor Assistance Project.

For more information contact: Jim King at (818) 242-1100 or [king@kingobk.com](mailto:king@kingobk.com).



## Filing Statistics

### Central District of California - Percent Increase in Filings January - February 2010\* to January - February 2009

<b>39%</b> ↑ 2010: 13,919 2009: 10,014 Chapter 7	<b>46%</b> ↑ 2010: 192 2009: 132 Chapter 11	<b>37%</b> ↑ 2010: 4,075 2009: 2,965 Chapter 13	<b>39%</b> ↑ 2010: 18,186 2009: 13,111 Total
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### National - Percent Increase in Filings

12 Mo. Period Ending September 30, 2009 to Same Period Ending September 30, 2008

<b>45%</b> ↑ 2009: 989,227 2008: 679,982 Chapter 7	<b>68%</b> ↑ 2009: 14,745 2008: 8,799 Chapter 11	<b>13%</b> ↑ 2009: 398,210 2008: 353,828 Chapter 13	<b>35%</b> ↑ 2009: 1,402,816 2008: 1,042,993 Total
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\*Based on estimated filing data for February 2010.

### Clearing Your Computer's Cache Improves CM Performance

Did you know clearing the "cache" on your computer hard drive can improve your CM/ECF experience?

Clearing the cache is necessary to view the most current version of CM/ECF. Please remember, it is important that you clear the cache prior to filing documents that require a filing fee. If the cache is not cleared, you may receive error pages, incorrect information at the time of payment, or will be asked for a filing fee payment that you have already paid.

To clear the cache, take the following steps:

In Internet Explorer 8

1. From the Safety menu in the upper right, click Delete Browsing History...
2. Deselect (i.e., uncheck) any items you do not want to delete.
3. Click Delete.

In Internet Explorer 7

1. From the Tools menu in the upper right, select Delete Browsing History.

2. Next to "Temporary Internet Files", click Delete files....

3. To delete your cookies, click Delete Cookies.

In Firefox 3.5 for Windows

1. From the Tools menu, select Clear Recent History....

2. From the Time range to clear: drop-down menu, select the desired range; to clear your entire cache, select Everything.

3. Click the down arrow next to "Details" to choose what history elements to clear (e.g., check Cookies to clear cookies). Click Clear Now.



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

### **Bander Law Firm, LLP**

LA-10-15066-AA, Chapter 7, Filed 2/12/10. Assets between \$1-100 million and Liabilities between \$500,001-\$1 million. 341(a) meeting to be held on 3/18/10.

### **The Walking Company**

ND-09-15138-RR, Chapter 11, Filed 12/7/09. Assets over \$100 million and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Hearing re: Disclosure Statement for Debtors' Original Joint Chapter 11 Plan set for 3/12/10.

### **Downey Regional Medical Center-Hospital Inc**

LA-09-34714-BB, Chapter 11, Filed 9/14/09. Assets over \$100 million and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Status conference continued to 4/29/10.

### **IM Stopping Power GmbH**

SV-09-21491-MT, Chapter 15, Filed 9/1/09. Assets between \$50,000-100,000 and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Status hearing to be held on 3/10/10

### **Lenny Kyle Dykstra**

SV-09-18409-GM, Chapter 7, Filed 7/7/09. Assets between \$0-50,000 and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Order Granting Application for Writ of Possession signed on 2/3/10. 341(a) Meeting continued to 2/19/10.

### **PPA Holdings, LLC**

SA-09-16353-ES (LEAD of 22), Chapter 11, Filed 6/26/2009. Assets and Liabilities over \$100 million. Motion to Consolidate Cases pending. Notice of Filing Second Appraisal Declaration in Support of Motion for Relief From Stay filed on 2/12/2010.

### **Z Gallerie**

LA-09-18400-VZ, Chapter 11, Filed 4/10/2009. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Stipulation to continue hearing date on the post-effective date committee's motion to reduce claim No. 298 filed by GK Development, Inc filed on 2/12/2010.

### **Fatburger Restaurants of California, Inc./Fatburger Restaurants of Nevada, Inc.**

SV-09-13964-GM, SV-09-13965-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 4/7/2009. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Case 1:09-bk-13964-GM - Confirmation Hearing Continued re: Disclosure Statement to be held on 3/10/10. Case 1:09-bk-13965-GM - Amendment to Schedules A & D filed on 1/22/10.

### **Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.**

RS-09-14254-MJ (LEAD of 43), Chapter 11, Filed 3/10/2009. Assets and Liabilities over \$100 million. Hearings for application for compensation set for 3/3/10. Status conferences re stipulations set for 3/10/10.

### **Bethany Holdings Austin Apartments, LLC**

SA-09-11873-RK (LEAD of 15), Chapter 11, Filed 3/4/2009. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Order Confirming Debtor's Modified Second Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan and Substantively Consolidating Cases.

### **Right Start Acquisition Company**

SV-09-11132-MT (LEAD of 2), Chapter 11, Filed 2/3/2009. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Status report filed by Official Creditors Committee on 1/11/10. Show Cause Hearing to be held on 4/12/2010.

### **StarRibs North, LP**

SA-08-17182-TA (LEAD of 15), Chapter 11, Filed 11/6/2008. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Order Confirming Chapter 11 Amended Plan signed on 1/6/2010.

### **Palmdale Hills Property, LLC**

SA-08-17206-ES (LEAD of 25), Chapter 11, Filed 11/6/2008. Assets and Liabilities over \$100 million. Order Granting Stipulation Rescheduling Hearing Re: Debtor's Fourth Amended Joint Disclosure Statement continued to 2/26/2010.

### **Karykeion Inc.**

SV-08-17254-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 9/22/2008. Assets and Liabilities at \$1-100 million. Notice of Appeal filed by Debtor on 1/11/10. Disclosure Statement and Amended Ch. 11 Plan filed on 1/18/2010. Order Setting Administrative Bar Date for 3/1/2010. Order granting Motion to continue stay for 90 days of certain cases against debtor's employees, signed 2/9/10.

### **Century City Doctors Hospital, LLC**

LA-08-23318-SB, Chapter 7, Filed 08/22/2008. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Order granting application to employ Rosen & Company signed on 1/7/10.

### **Woodside Group, LLC**

RS-08-20682-PC (LEAD of 188), Chapter 11, Filed 8/20/2008. Assets and Liabilities over \$100 million. Hearing on Snell & Wilmer's application for interim compensation set for 4/5/10. Hearings on omnibus objections to claims set for 4/5/10.

### **IndyMac Bancorp, Inc.**

LA-08-21752-BB, Chapter 7, Filed 07/31/2008. Assets between \$1-100 million and Liabilities over \$100 million. Order granting motion for relief from the automatic stay filed by JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Association signed on 2/9/10.

### **Estate Financial Mortgage Fund, LLC**

ND-08-11535-RR, Chapter 11, Filed 07/01/2008. Assets over \$100 million and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Hearing re: EFI Trustee to obtain financing in March 2010. Hearing re: Motion to (1) determine entitlement to proceeds of sale through removal of liens: (2) authorize distribution of proceeds of sale on further notice scheduled for 4/23/10.

### **Fremont General Corporation**

SA-08-13421-ES, Chapter 11, Filed 6/18/2008. Assets and Liabilities over \$100 million. Order entered Approving Disclosure Statement Describing Chapter 11 Plan of Fremont General Corporation Presented by The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors signed on 1/28/2010.

### **eStyle, Inc.**

LA-08-13518-SB, Chapter 11, Filed 3/19/2008. Assets and Liabilities between \$1-100 million. Confirmation hearing set for 3/10/10.