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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

CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO FILES CHAPTER 9

On August 1, the City of San Bernardino filed a chapter 9 bankruptcy petition. The filing estimates that the city's assets and liabilities are more than \$1 billion, and that the number of creditors is between 10,001 and 25,000. Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit designated the Honorable Meredith A. Jury to preside over the case. The case will be heard in Judge Jury's courtroom in the Riverside Division.

The first hearings in the case took place on Friday, August 17 at 10 a.m. Judge Jury signed three orders shortening time on motions for an order limiting notice, an order approving form of notice and setting a deadline for filing objections to petition, and an order appointing a noticing and balloting agent.

The Court has set up a website to provide information about the case at <http://go.usa.gov/GKB>. The site includes contact information, significant case documents, and hearing dates. Public Notice 12-012, available at the Court's website under *News/Notices/Publications* → *Public Notices*, provides links and contacts for more information about the case.



CENTRAL DISTRICT HOSTS THE NATION'S FIRST FEDERAL COURT POWER LUNCH FOR STUDENTS

On June 8, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California hosted the nation's first Federal Court Power Lunch. A Power Lunch is a program for high school students who come to a courthouse to meet judges and lawyers to learn about the law and the legal system. Bankruptcy Judge Sandra R. Klein facilitated the Power Lunch, which also drew the participation of Chief Bankruptcy Judge Peter H. Carroll and Bankruptcy Judges Neil W. Bason, Julia W. Brand, Scott C. Clarkson, Thomas B. Donovan, and Richard M. Neiter. Additionally, Clerk of Court and Executive Officer Kathy J. Campbell, as well as many members of her staff, attended and helped make the event a success.

Approximately 25 Roosevelt High School students attended the Power Lunch, which was held in the Roybal Building. The purpose of the Power Lunch was to introduce the students to the law and the legal profession. In addition to the bankruptcy judges who participated, Chief District Judge Audrey Collins, District Judges Gee and Kronstadt, Chief Magistrate Judge Suzanne Segal and District Court Clerk and Executive Officer Terry Nafisi were enthusiastic participants in the lunch. Los Angeles

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For more information,
visit our web site at www.cacb.uscourts.gov.

COURT CLOSED

Monday, September 3—
Labor Day
Monday, October 8—
Columbus Day



Accessing Court Information by Twitter

The Court has been posting to its Twitter account for over a year now, and has sent over 700 tweets to more than 400 followers. The Court posts announcements, Notices of Sale, Public Notices, and other timely information.

Many are not aware that they can view the Court's Twitter postings without the need to get a Twitter account or even register—just click on the Twitter logo on the home page of the Court's website (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. For those with a Twitter account, you can use this free service to follow us @cacbnews.

CENTRAL DISTRICT HOSTS THE NATION'S FIRST FEDERAL COURT POWER LUNCH FOR STUDENTS (cont.)

Superior Court Judge Beverly Reid O'Connell and Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner Nicole Bershon assisted with and participated in the lunch. A number of attorneys also attended, including Keith Higginbotham, five Assistant United States Attorneys, and four Federal Public Defenders. Judge Klein's law clerks, Stephanie Rettier and Jared Ahern, as well as her externs, Jeff Bills, Jeff Salvesen, and Karen Young spoke with the students and participated in the program.

Clerk's Office staff, particularly Beryl Dixon and Sandi Brask, worked closely with Judge Klein to create a PowerPoint presentation with pictures of the judges, programs for the lunch, and a wonderful set of "justices cards" that contained pictures of sitting and noteworthy U.S. Supreme Court justices on one side, and important information about each justice on the other side.

Circuit Judge Jacqueline Nguyen kicked off the program by introducing Chief District Judge Collins, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Carroll, and Chief Magistrate Judge Segal. Chief Judge Collins welcomed the students, and provided information about the Central District and the different types of civil and criminal cases that are often filed in District Court. Chief Judge Carroll also welcomed the students, provided a brief explanation about the bankruptcy system, and noted that the Central District of California has the most bankruptcy judges in the country and the largest number of bankruptcy filings in the country: last year there were more than 140,000 filings. Chief Magistrate Judge Segal explained what a magistrate judge does and the types of cases that magistrate judges often handle. Judge Klein then introduced each judge and provided some fun facts about the judges. She asked the students to guess which bankruptcy judge wanted to be a professional golfer, and which bankruptcy judge was a contestant on *The \$100,000 Pyramid* TV show. Judge Klein then thanked the judges, the lawyers, and the Bankruptcy Court staff who donated their time to participate in the Power Lunch and who were instrumental in making the Power Lunch such a success.

During the lunch, which was generously sponsored by the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, the judges, lawyers and students sat at tables named for the nine sitting U.S. Supreme Court justices, as well as some noteworthy past Supreme Court justices. The lunchtime discussion included general legal topics and helped prepare the students for a game of "Legal Jeopardy" that was enjoyed by all. The "Legal Jeopardy" game, which is played like a traditional *Jeopardy!* game, has categories including "Judges and Lawyers," "Trials," "Bill of Rights," "Think Like a Lawyer," and "Who's Who in the Courtroom." The students had a great time answering the questions and learning about the law and the legal profession.

At the end of the Power Lunch, Judge Klein thanked everyone for participating. Judge Klein gave a heartfelt thank you to Beryl Dixon and Sandi Brask who had worked so hard behind the scenes to make the first Federal Court Power Lunch a wonderful, noteworthy event.

The next Federal Court Power Lunch with the Los Angeles Police Cadets is scheduled for October 5, 2012 at noon.

JUDGE RUSSELL MOST SENIOR BANKRUPTCY JUDGE ACTIVELY SERVING IN UNITED STATES

The retirement of Rhode Island Bankruptcy Judge Arthur N. Votolato this July has made Central District Bankruptcy Judge Barry Russell the most senior bankruptcy judge actively serving in the United States. Judge Russell, appointed in 1974, has served in the Central District for 38 years and says he has no plans to retire. On August 6, Chief Judge Peter H. Carroll and Clerk of Court/Executive Officer Kathleen J. Campbell presented Judge Russell with a plaque at a surprise ceremony in honor of his new standing.



Judge Barry Russell, Chief Judge Peter H. Carroll

CHAPTER 11 FILING FEE INCREASE

The Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012, signed into law by President Obama on May 25, includes a provision that increases the fee for filing bankruptcy under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The fee increase will apply to all new chapter 11 cases filed on or after November 21. On that date, the statutory filing fee for a chapter 11 case will increase to \$1,167. The total chapter 11 filing fee, including the administrative fee of \$46, will be \$1,213.

2012 LASAROW AWARDS HONOR PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS

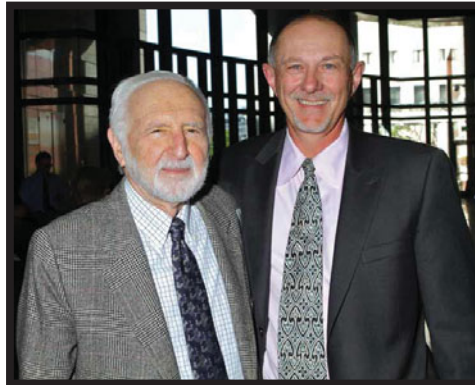
The 2012 William J. Lasarow Awards presentation is an annual *pro bono* awards presentation to recognize the outstanding contributions of bankruptcy *pro bono* volunteers. Public Counsel, the nation's largest *pro bono* law firm, honors volunteers for donating their time to make access to justice a reality for individuals and families who have nowhere else to turn for legal assistance and representation. Public Counsel and the *pro bono* partner programs at the event assist close to 8,000 unrepresented litigants a year, and the Lasarow Awards presentation celebrates this remarkable accomplishment that would not be possible without the participation of *pro bono* bankruptcy attorneys.

Public Counsel Senior Staff Attorney Magdalena Reyes Bordeaux, who manages Public Counsel's Debtor Assistance Project, opened the ceremony and delivered opening remarks. Hernán Vera, President and CEO of Public Counsel, then introduced the Honorable Vincent P. Zurzolo, who presented the prestigious Lasarow Awards to *pro bono* attorneys from each division in the Central District of California.

The evening was also a celebration of Judge Lasarow's 90th birthday, and was attended by Judge Lasarow and his wife. Judge Donovan said a few kind words to wish Judge Lasarow a happy birthday, and Judge Bluebond led the audience in singing "Happy Birthday" to the judge.



Public Counsel President/CEO Hernan Vera, Hon. William J. Lasarow, Public Counsel Senior Staff Attorney Magdalena Reyes Bordeaux, and Hon. Thomas B. Donovan



Hon. William J. Lasarow, Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo



Public Counsel Senior Staff Attorney Magdalena Reyes Bordeaux, Mark E. Brenner, Esq., Judge Vincent P. Zurzolo

JUDGE BARRY RUSSELL FEDERAL PRACTICE AWARD

On Thursday, September 27, the Los Angeles chapter of the Federal Bar Association will host the presentation of the annual Judge Barry Russell Federal Practice Award at the Biltmore Hotel. The scholarship award, presented by Judge Russell, recognizes law students "who have achieved excellence in the study of federal practice or procedure." The presentation of the award will follow a lunchtime review of Supreme Court cases by Dean Erwin Chemerinsky of the University of California at Irvine's Law School. To register for the event, see <http://www.fbala.org/Documents/meetings/supremecourtreview.pdf>.

CM/ECF Tips

Avoiding Duplicate Cases

Many duplicate cases result from the user trying to file subsequent petition documents while using bankruptcy petition preparation software. Duplicate cases may adversely affect your client's credit rating and will require you to pay additional filing fees.

To avoid filing duplicate petitions when using bankruptcy petition preparation software, be sure that you select the applicable events from the **BK - Other** menu (not **BK - Case Upload**) to file the balance of schedules or subsequent petition documents. The **BK - Case Upload** feature should only be used to file a complete new petition.

Amended Schedules D, E, and F

When filing amendments to schedule D, E, or F, be sure to use the event code: **Amendment - Amended Schedules D, E and F**, whether you are amending one or all three schedules. If you file amendments to these schedules without using the proper event code, you will be prompted to pay a filing fee. **NOTE:** Attach the amended creditors' matrix with only the additional or modified creditors to this event.

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

1st Evangelical Lutheran Church of San Fernando, CA

SV 12-13308-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 04/04/2012. Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. No Updates.

Alma Rose Winery & Vineyard, LLC

ND-12-12837-RR, Chapter 11, Filed 7/27/12, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Initial Ch. 11 Status Conference scheduled for 10/3/12

AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour, Inc.

LA-10-56761-BB, Chapter 11, Filed 10/29/10. Assets between \$100,001-\$500,000 and Liabilities between \$1-\$10 million. Monthly Operating Report Number 20 for the month ending 6/20/12 was filed by the debtor-in-possession on 8/14/12

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. Order Granting Application for 1st Interim Application for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for Blakely & Blakely LLP filed 7/31/12.

City of San Bernardino

RS-12-28006-MJ, Chapter 9, Filed 08/01/12. Assets and Liabilities \$1,000 + and Liabilities \$1,000 +. The debtor filed the list of creditors holding the 20 largest unsecured claims 8/9/12. First hearings held on 8/17/12. Motion for entry of an order limiting notice and permitting debtor to establish and maintain a publicly available internet-accessed website in lieu of notice granted, but the order has not yet been lodged, entered on the docket; Motion for entry of an order directing and approving form of notice; and setting deadline for filing objections to petition granted with modifications. City's papers are due 8/31/12; objections to the petition due 10/24/12; status conference set for 11/5/12 at 10:00 am; discovery motions are due by 9/11/12, oppositions to discovery motions due 9/18/12; discovery motions hearing set for 9/21/12, at 10:00 a.m. All filing deadlines expire at 5:00 pm. The order has not yet been lodged, entered on the docket. Motion for order appointing Rust Consulting/Omni Bankruptcy, a Division of Rust Consulting as claims, noticing and balloting agent granted, but the order has not yet been lodged, entered on the docket.

Crystal Cathedral Ministries, a California non-profit corporation

LA-10-24771-RK, Chapter 11, Filed 10/18/10. Assets and Liabilities \$50-\$100 million. Plan agent's and debtor's supplemental request for Judicial Notice in support of the joint reply brief was filed on 8/15/12

Encino Corporate Plaza, L.P.

SV-11-14917-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 04/20/11, Assets \$10-50 million and Liabilities \$1-50 million. Order Denying Motion For Relief from the Automatic Stay Real Property (re: Motion #58) filed 6/12/12. Order Granting Motion to Extend Exclusivity Period for filing a Ch. 11 Plan of Reorganization and Disclosure Statement filed 6/12/12. Amended Ch. 11 Plan & Disclosure Statement filed 6/27/12.

Figueroa Tower I LP, Figueroa Tower II, LP, Figueroa Tower III, LP (jointly administered)

SV11-18760-GM; SV11-18761-GM; SV11-17862-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 07/14/11, Assets \$50-100 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Order Granting Motion for Relief from the Auto. Stay Real Property (re: Motion #117) filed 7/6/12. Amended Ch. 11 Plan & Disclosure Statement filed 7/10/12 and 8/2/12. Order (1) Approving 5th amended joint plan of reorganization; and (2) confirming hrg. date for confirmation of debtor's 6th amended joint plan of reorganization and the discovery and briefing deadlines relating thereto filed 8/3/12.

HomeSuites, LLC

ND-11-10163-RR, Chapter 11, Filed 01/12/11, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Disclosure Statement filed 6/2/2012. No updates

Irwindale Speedway, LLC

LA-12-14994-ER, Chapter 7, Filed 02/13/12, Assets \$0- 0.01 million and Liabilities \$0.5-\$1 million. Order entered on 6/21/12 granting chapter 7 trustee's motion to approve compromise of controversy

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-12-12890-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. First day motions heard 8/8/12. Order for joint administration (lead case ND12-12883RR) entered 8/8/12; hearing scheduled for 9/24 on Motion for interim and final orders approving the use of cash collateral; Initial Ch. 11 Status Conference scheduled for 11/10/12

Natalie Suleman

SA-12-15375-CB Chapter 7, Filed 04/30/12, Assets \$0-0.05 million and Liabilities between \$0.05-\$1 million. Case closed 06/27/12.

Pacific Monarch Resorts, Inc. Vacation Marketing Group, Inc; Vacation Interval Realty, Inc.; MGVM Cabo, LLC; Desarrollo Cabo Azul, S. de R.L. de C.V.; Operador MGVM S. de R.L. de C.V. SA:11-24720-ES; SA:11-24725-ES; SA:11-24727-ES; SA:11-24729-ES; SA:11-24731-ES, Chapter 11, Filed 10/24/11, Assets and Liability \$100-\$500 Million. Disclosure Statement and Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization dated July 30, 2012 filed on 7/30/12.

Raymond P. Boucher

SV-12-10052-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 01/03/12, Assets \$5.26 million and Liabilities \$5.51 million. Order Granting Motion for 2004 Examination and The Oral Examination of Raymond P. Boucher, entered on 4/24/12. Notice of Appointment of Creditor's Committee filed on 5/8/12 by U.S. Trustee. Transcript of hearing held 5/7/12 will be restricted through 8/13/12.

RCR Plumbing and Mechanical, Inc.

RS-11-41853-WJ Chapter 11, Filed 10/12/2011, Assets \$10-50 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Stipulation filed 8/20/12, to continue hearing on approval of the disclosure statement to 9/11/12. Hearings on payment of certain administrative claims set for 9/4/12.

Summer View Sherman Oaks Apartments. LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Co.

SA-11-19800-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 08/15/11, Assets \$10-50 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Order Granting 2nd and Final Application for Compensation of Attorney Fee and Reimbursement of Expenses by Karasik Law Group, LLP, attorneys for debtor, filed on 7/12/12.

The Grande Holdings Limited

LA-11-41459-BB, Chapter 15, Filed 7/22/11. Assets between Over \$100,000 and Liabilities over \$100. Status report filed by the Grande Holdings Limited on 7/20/12

Verdugo Mental Health

LA-11-22739-PC, Chapter 11, Filed 03/25/11, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order entered on 8/2/12 confirming the debtor's first amended chapter 11 plan of liquidation.

Westrim Inc. dba Westrim Crafts

SV-11-15313-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 04/29/2011, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. No updates.

William Busey

SV-12-11182-AA, Chapter 7, Filed 02/07/12, Assets \$0- 0.05 million and Liabilities \$0.5 - \$1 million.341(a) meeting continued to 8/24/12 @ 1:30 PM.

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