

This Issue

Judge Barry Russell Reappointed, Court Publishes Annual *Pro Se* Report P. 1

DeBN, Judges Zive and Bason Join Panels at Fourth ABI BK Workshop P. 2

PACER Change Affects Access to LA Division Records, Judges Russell, Zive and Klein Speak at BK Conference P. 3

Top 20 Cases P. 4



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

JUDGE BARRY RUSSELL REAPPOINTED

On August 25, Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit announced the reappointment of Judge Barry Russell. Judge Russell, who has been serving the Central District of California for nearly 40 years, is currently the longest-serving full-time bankruptcy judge in the nation. This is his fourth appointment to the bench.



Judge Russell has spent his entire legal career in government service. Before he was appointed to the bench in 1974, he served as an estate and gift tax examiner for the U.S. Department of the Treasury, as a deputy public defender, and as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Criminal Division of the Office of the U.S. Attorney in the Central District of California. Judge Russell served on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel from 1988 to 2001, and as the panel's chief judge from 1999 to 2001.

Judge Russell was instrumental in developing the Court's Bankruptcy Mediation Program, established in 1995, and has been the administrator of the program since its inception. From 2001 to 2011, he served as a member of the Ninth Circuit Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Committee. Judge Russell served as chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California from 2003 to 2006.

COURT PUBLISHES ANNUAL *PRO SE* REPORT

The Court's 2013 *pro se* report, *Access to Justice: Self-Represented Parties and the Court*, published the first week of September, describes the commitment of *pro bono* organizations and the Court to addressing a persistent 24.7 percent filing rate of self-represented parties in the Central District. Judge Maureen A. Tighe, chair of the *Pro Se* Committee, spearheaded the Court's third annual report on the district's *pro se*, or self-represented, filers. The report incorporates statistics on assistance provided to this population by the local *pro bono* organizations serving each of the Court's five divisions.

As discussed in the report, the Court and local *pro bono* organizations continued their efforts to improve service to self-represented filers. The Court offered additional online resources for self-represented parties and outreach to *pro bono* volunteers in 2013, and *pro bono* organizations

(continued on page 2)

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

COURT CLOSED

Monday, September 1—
Labor Day
Monday, October 13—
Columbus Day



Accessing Court Information by Twitter

The Court has been posting to its Twitter account since 2011, and has sent over 1,900 different tweets to more than 500 followers. The Court posts announcements, Notices of Sale, Public Notices, and other timely information. In March, 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 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. 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.

continued providing guidance to hundreds of self-represented parties who could not afford legal counsel. The assistance provided by these organizations was made possible, in part, by continued fundraising efforts and awards such as the Earle Hagen Memorial Golf Tournament, bar association holiday parties, and grants from the American College of Bankruptcy and the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation. Additionally, the Central District's Attorney Admission Fund provides essential funding to *pro bono* organizations serving bankruptcy filers in the district.

A new feature in the 2013 report is a collection of maps depicting the distribution of *pro se* filers, self-help resources, income levels, the Spanish-speaking population and bankruptcy petition preparers in relation to Court locations in the Central District. The maps, prepared by UCLA Rosenfield Fellow Julie Pollock during her 2013 fellowship, show self-represented parties are dispersed throughout the district. Taking into account U.S. Census data, the maps also indicate a correlation between the locations of bankruptcy petition preparers and concentrations of Spanish-speakers in the district.

The 2013 *pro se* report shows that the marked decline in total bankruptcy filings, resulting in cuts to the Court's budget in recent years, has been accompanied by only a comparatively slight decrease in the rate of *pro se* filings. This underscores the continuing need to address self-represented parties and to do so more efficiently with a declining number of Court staff. By continuing with its reporting efforts and evaluating the data available on self-represented parties, the Court may target its resources toward communicating with underserved communities about free and low-cost resources before needy individuals spend too much or are defrauded when seeking bankruptcy assistance. Visit www.cacb.uscourts.gov/publications to find a link to the 2013 *pro se* report.

DeBN USAGE CONTINUES TO GROW

Demand for Debtor Electronic Bankruptcy Noticing (DeBN) accounts has been high among self-represented debtors filing bankruptcy in the Central District. Through the AO-sponsored program, debtors can request to receive orders and court-generated notices by email. Since the program went live earlier this year, 693 DeBN requests have been filed in the district, 630 (or 91 percent) of them by *pro se* debtors.

In July, the Clerk's Office updated the petition package list on the Court's website to include the "Request to Activate Electronic Noticing" form. As attorneys begin using the current list and petition filing software is updated to include the form, the Court expects to see a significant increase in attorney-represented debtors requesting DeBN.

JUDGES ZIVE AND BASON JOIN PANELS AT FOURTH ABI BANKRUPTCY WORKSHOP

On August 16, Judges Gregg W. Zive and Neil W. Bason participated in panel discussions at the American Bankruptcy Institute's Fourth Bankruptcy Workshop. Judge Bason joined bankruptcy attorneys Kenneth H. Brown, Simon Klevansky and Lynnette R. Warman on the "Bankruptcy Litigation and Supreme Court Update" panel, moderated by attorney Rudy J. Cerone. Judge Zive discussed "Ethics in Bankruptcy" with attorneys Edward T. Gavin, Richardo I. Kilpatrick, Ted N. Pettit, and moderator James Patrick Shea.

PACER CHANGE AFFECTS ACCESS TO LOS ANGELES CASES CLOSED PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 1, 2001

On August 11, 2014, the PACER Service Center made a change to the PACER architecture in preparation for the implementation of the next generation of the judiciary's CM/ECF system, called NextGen CM/ECF. When fully implemented, NextGen will provide improvements for users including a single sign on for PACER. As a result of this change, Los Angeles Division cases closed prior to February 1, 2001 can no longer be accessed through PACER. However, you can still obtain information about these cases free of charge by calling the Court's toll-free Call Center at (855) 460-9641 or using the online chat feature. This information, from the docket cover sheet, includes debtor name, address, attorney of record, case number, case opening date, case closed date, disposition (e.g., dismissed or discharged), trustee, etc., and is identical to the information about these cases that used to be available through PACER. All Los Angeles Division cases closed on or after February 1, 2001 are still available on PACER, as are many earlier case records from divisions other than Los Angeles.

JUDGES RUSSELL, ZIVE AND KLEIN TO SPEAK AT 22ND ANNUAL SOUTHWEST BANKRUPTCY CONFERENCE

Judges Barry Russell, Gregg W. Zive and Sandra R. Klein will speak at the American Bankruptcy Institute's 22nd Annual Southwest Bankruptcy Conference, to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada during the weekend of September 5. On Friday morning, Judge Zive, who sits on the conference's advisory board, will discuss "Current Developments in Business Bankruptcy" with bankruptcy attorneys Peter J. Gurfein, Cecily A. Dumas and Robert L. Eisenbach, III. The panel will look at "issues ranging from bankruptcy courts' jurisdiction, venue and constitutional authority to other practical issues affecting estate professionals, plan confirmation and enforcement, avoidance actions and other bankruptcy-related litigation." That afternoon, Judge Russell will bring his considerable expertise to the "Anatomy of Evidentiary Proceedings" luncheon program, where he will review the rules of evidence with attorneys James Patrick Shea, R. Scott Williams, Robin E. Phelan and Michael P. Richman. During the conference's Saturday plenary session, "Ethics: Professionalism," Judge Klein will discuss professional conduct with attorneys Steven M. Berman and Edward T. Gavin.

DIVISIONAL OFFICE CLOSURES

The divisions of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be closed on the following dates and times:

Riverside: Thursday, September 4, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Los Angeles: Friday, September 5, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Northern: Monday, September 8, 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
San Fernando Valley: Monday, September 8, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Santa Ana: Tuesday, September 9, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

CM/ECF, LOU, PACER, and VCIS will be fully operational during the divisional closures.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

CM/ECF TIPS

Filing a Statement of Social Security

When filing the Statement of Social Security Form via CM/ECF, you must file the form separately using the event code, "Statement of Social Security Number (Official Form B21), or Statement of Social Security Number (Official Form B21) (Amended Statement)." Using this code restricts the document from public viewing. If the Statement of Social Security form is filed with the petition, it restricts all items included in the petition PDF.

Filing a Proof of Claim

If you receive the following message when filing a proof of claim: "Security Violation: **You do not have access rights to this program (CreditorInput.pl). Please contact the Systems Administrator if you feel this is in error. This access attempt has been logged,**" this message indicates that your creditor is not in the List of Creditors (Master Mailing List of Creditors) for this case and you do not have the access rights to add the creditor. You must email the name and address of the creditor to the ECF Support Desk. Also, please include the first two pages of the proof of claim for verification purposes. The Help Desk will notify you upon adding the creditor. There is no charge for filing a proof of claim.

Filing a Certificate of Credit Counseling

When filing a voluntary petition, all documents are included in a single PDF with the petition with the exception of the "Statement of Social Security" form and the Certificate of Credit Counseling. When filing the Certificate of Credit Counseling, you must use the Certificate of Credit Counseling event code. Otherwise, CM/ECF will not cancel the Certificate of Credit Counseling flag. If the flag is not cancelled, a deficiency notice with notification to the debtor may be issued and the case can possibly be dismissed.

For additional information, please phone the ECF Support Desk at 213-894-2365.

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

Allied Industrial Inc.

SV-13-11948-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 03/21/13, Assets \$13 million and Liabilities \$7 million. Orders Granting Motions for Relief from the Automatic Stay on 6/27/14, 7/1/14 & 8/8/14. Order Granting Motion by Ch 7 Trustee for Order Seeking Reassignment of Related BK case.

American Suzuki Motor Corp.

SA-12-22808-SC, Chapter 11, Filed 11/05/12, Assets \$100-\$500 million and Liabilities \$100-\$500 million. Order Granting Ex Parte Motion Authorizaion to file under seal the Settlement amount of the products liability claims entered 2/21/14, Withdrawal of Claim 25 filed 6/11/14.

ARI-RC6, LLC (Lead), ARI-RC 12, LLC, ARI-RC 14, LLC, ARI-RC 21, LLC, ARI-RC 23, LLC

SV13-14678-AA, (LEAD); SV13-14697-AA, SV13-14692-AA. SV13-14604-AA, SV13-14695-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 07/15/13, Order Granting Motion to Extend Exclusivity Period for Filing a Ch. 11 Plan and Disclosure Statement until 10/4/14, entered 7/2/14.

AWTR Liquidation Inc. fka Rhythm and Hues, Inc.

LA-13-13775-NB, Chapter 11, Filed 02/13/13, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Reply to response to objection to Administrative Claim filed by California State Board of Equalization filed on 8/12/14.

Bethal Healthcare Inc.

SV-13-12220-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 04/01/13, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order granting Motion for Relief from Automatic Stay on 6/19/14. Order granting Motion of Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors for entry of an order establishing bar date for filing admin. Expense Priority Claims entered on 7/15/14.

City of San Bernardino

RS-12-28006-MJ, Chapter 9, Filed 08/01/12. Assets and Liabilities \$1,000 + and Liabilities \$1,000 +. Status conference on chapter 9 voluntary petition continued to 9/11/14. Motion for rejection of collective bargaining agreements with Public Employees Assoc. and SB Firefighters Assoc. continued to 9/11/14. Motion for relief from stay filed by SB Firefighters Assoc. continued to 9/11/14.

CLK Human Resources, LLC

RS-13-19002-MW, Chapter 11, Filed 05/21/13. Assets \$0.01- 0.05 million and Liabilities \$1 - \$10 million. Hearing on chapter 11 status conference continued to 8/28/14. Status report # 6 filed 8/13/14.

Georges Marciano, Beverly Hills Antiques, Inc. c/o D. K. Gottlieb

SV-12-21028-VK, Chapter 11, Filed 12/26/12, Assets and Liabilities unknown. BAP/USDC appeal judgment Affirmed re: Appeal BAP/USDC #CV12-05726/CV12-05784 entered on 7/14/14.

Halsey M. Minor

LA-13-23787-TD, Chapter 7, Filed 05/24/13, Assets \$50-100 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Order entered on 6/13/14 authorizing the trustee to direct the debtor as manager to cause Fox Ridge Farms to enter into the transactions necessary to consummate the sale of the Fox Ridge Farms Property and authorizing the distribution of proceeds and payment of brokers commission and payment of property tax et al.

Hamlet Group Inc.

SV-13-12398-MT, Chapter 11, Filed 04/05/2013, Assets \$500,001-\$1 million and Liabilities \$1-\$10 million. U.S. Trustee's Motion to Dismiss or Convert filed on 8/13/14.

HDOS Enterprises

LA-14-12028-NB, Chapter 11, Filed 02/03/14, Assets \$10-\$50 million - \$1-\$10 million. Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP's fifth monthly fee application for fees and expenses filed on 8/12/14.

Internet Specialties West, Inc. a CA Corp.

SV-12-20897-GM, Chapter 11, Filed 12/18/12, Assets \$13 million and Liabilities \$5 million. Motion for Final Decree and Motion/Notice of Motion of Reorganized Debtor for Final Decree and Order Closing Ch. 11 Case filed on 7/29/14.

KSL Media Inc. (Lead Case)

Jointly Administered with TV 10's LLC - SV13-15930-AA and Fulcrum 5, Inc. - SV 13-15931-AA, SV-13-15929-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 9/11/13, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. Order on 5th Stipulation re: Motion for Relief Granted on 6/30/14. Adversary case 14-01136-AA filed on 8/7/14.

Point Center Financial Inc.

SA-13--11495-TA, Chapter 11, Filed 1/19/13, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$50-100 million. 7/1/14 HH Motion denied per tentatives attorney Jeffrey Benice to submit an order to attach to tentatives. Trustee Motion approving procedures for liquidation hearing continued to 8/8/14 @10 am crtrm 5B, Transmittals of Certificate of Rediness of Appeal filed 7/28/14, Respon/Objection by HBC U.S. Fund to be filed by noon on thursday 8/ 7/14 with seperate issue of professional to be addressed docketed 8/7/14.

S.B. Restaurant Co. dba's: Elephant Bar Restaurant, Elephant Bar Global Grill Wok Kitchen, Texas S.B. Restaurant Co. of CA, S.B. Restaurant of Missouri Co. S.B. Restaurant Co. of Kansas, LLC S.B. Restaurant Co. of Central Florida, LLC

SA-14-13778-ES, SA-14-13780-ES, SA-14-13781-ES, Chapter 11, Filed 6/16/14, Assets \$50-\$100 million and Liabilities \$50-\$100 million. Order Approving Stipulations filed 7/25/14, Hearing set on Motion for Relief 9/2/14 @9:30 am crtrm 5A, Objections filed 7/30/14, Order Establishing Interim fee Application and Expense reimbursement procedures filed 8/6/14.

Senor Fish

LA-14-10076-RN, Chapter 11, Filed 01/02/14, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Order entered on 8/11/14 approving employment of Keller Williams Pacific Estates as Business Broker for debtor.

Taicom Securities Co., Ltd

LA-12-47423-BB, Chapter 15, Filed 08/31/12, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Final decree was entered on 8/8/14.

Todd-Soundelux, LLC

LA-14-19980-SK, Chapter 11, Filed 5/21/14, Assets \$1-10 million and Liabilities \$1-10 million. Hearing set for 8/21/14 for motion to sell property of the estate free and clear of liens under Section 363(f).

The Village at Nipomo, LLC

SV-13-13593-AA, Chapter 11, Filed 05/28/13, Assets \$12 million and Liabilities \$10 million. Monthly operating report filed for the month ending April 30, 2014.

West Covina Motors, Inc.

LA-12-52197-ER, Chapter 11, Filed 12/28/12, Assets \$10- \$50 million and Liabilities \$10-50 million. Notice of firm name changed to Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP filed on 6/10/14.

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