

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF HAWAII

In re:

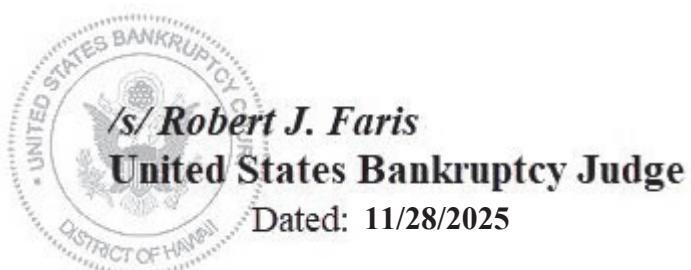
LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES.

GENERAL ORDER
Dated: November 28, 2025

**ORDER ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL
BANKRUPTCY RULES, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2025**

As authorized by Rule 9029(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and LR 1070.1(e) of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii, the court adopts the attached amendments to the local bankruptcy rules, effective December 1, 2025. The amended rules apply in all pending bankruptcy cases and proceedings to the extent practicable.

SO ORDERED.





**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF HAWAII**

LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES

December 1, 2025

Local Bankruptcy Rules

LBR 1001-1.	Scope of Rules	1
LBR 1005-1.	Petition – Caption.....	2
LBR 1007-1.	Lists, Schedules, and Statements.....	3
LBR 1007-2.	List of Creditors	5
LBR 1007-3.	List of 20 Largest Creditors in Chapter 11 Case.....	6
LBR 1009-1.	Amendments to Lists and Schedules.....	7
LBR 1009-2.	Correction of Social Security Number	8
LBR 1015-1.	Joint Administration.....	9
LBR 1017-1.	Conversion of Chapter 7 Cases	10
LBR 1019-5.	Chapter 13 Final Reports in Cases Converted to Chapter 7.....	11
LBR 1072-1.	Places of Holding Court	12
LBR 1074-1.	Corporations and Other Artificial Entities	13
LBR 2002-1.	Notice of Preferred Addresses	14
LBR 2002-2.	Notice to Creditors Whose Claims are Filed	15
LBR 2003-1.	Meeting of Creditors.....	16
LBR 2004-1.	Rule 2004 Examination.....	17
LBR 2014-1.	Employment of Professional Persons.....	19
LBR 2015-1.	Trustees - Payment of Administrative Expenses.....	20
LBR 2015-2.	Appointment of Subchapter V Trustee.....	21
LBR 2015-6.	Mail Redirection	22
LBR 2015-7.	Monthly Operating Reports	23
LBR 2015-8.	Debtor's Books and Records	24
LBR 2015-9.	Trustees – Interim Reports	25
LBR 2016-1.	Compensation of Professionals	26
LBR 2070-1.	Estate Administration	31
LBR 2072-1.	Notice to Other Courts.....	32
LBR 2083-1.	Chapter 13 – General.....	33
LBR 2083-2.	Chapter 13 – Motions to Approve Sale of Real Property.....	35
LBR 2090-1.	Attorneys - Admission to Practice.....	37

LBR 2091-1.	Attorneys - Withdrawal and Substitution.....	38
LBR 3001-2.	Requests to Pay Administrative Expenses	41
LBR 3002-1.	Electronic Filing of Proof of Claim	43
LBR 3002-2.	Extension of Time to File Claim	44
LBR 3003-1.	Chapter 11 Claims Bar Date	45
LBR 3004-1.	Claims Filed on Behalf of Creditor	46
LBR 3007-1.	Claims – Objections.....	47
LBR 3010-1.	Dividends – Small.....	48
LBR 3011-1.	Unclaimed Funds	49
LBR 3015-1.	Chapter 13 Plan	51
LBR 3015-2.	Chapter 13 - Plan Amendment and Modification.....	54
LBR 3015-3.	Chapter 13 – Confirmation.....	56
LBR 3017-1.	Disclosure Statement – Approval	57
LBR 3017-2.	Disclosure Statement – Small Business Case	59
LBR 3018-1.	Ballots – Voting on Plans.....	60
LBR 3020-1.	Chapter 11 – Confirmation.....	61
LBR 3022-1.	Chapter 11 - Final Decree.....	62
LBR 3070-1.	Chapter 13 – Payments.....	63
LBR 3070-2.	Chapter 13 – Distributions	64
LBR 4001-1.	Automatic Stay; Codebtor Stay - Relief From	68
LBR 4001-2.	Cash Collateral and Postpetition Financing	72
LBR 4001-4.	Rent Deposit	73
LBR 4001-5.	Automatic Stay - Extending or Imposing Stay; Confirming No Stay in Effect.....	75
LBR 4003-1.	Exemptions	77
LBR 4004-3.	Discharge of Individual Debtor	78
LBR 4008-1.	Reaffirmation	80
LBR 5001-2.	Clerk - Location.....	81
LBR 5005-1.	Filing Papers - Requirements	82
LBR 5005-2.	Filing Papers - Number of Copies.....	84
LBR 5005-4.	Electronic Filing	85
LBR 5009-1.	Order Declaring Lien Satisfied.....	90
LBR 5011-1.	Withdrawal of Reference.....	91

LBR 5073-1.	Photography, Recording Devices & Broadcasting.....	92
LBR 5077-1.	Transcripts and Recordings	94
LBR 5081-1.	Fees - Form of Payment.....	96
LBR 6004-1.	Sale of Estate Property	97
LBR 6006-1.	Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases	99
LBR 6070-1.	Tax Information Filed with Court	100
LBR 6071-1.	Property of the Estate	102
LBR 7001-2.	Effect of Dismissal of Bankruptcy Case on Pending Adversary Proceeding	103
LBR 7003-1.	Cover Sheet	104
LBR 7016-1.	Pretrial Procedures	105
LBR 7017-1.	Trial and Post-Trial Briefs.....	107
LBR 7026-1.	Conference of the Parties	108
LBR 7026-2.	Responses to Discovery Requests.....	109
LBR 7030-1.	Depositions; Original Transcripts	110
LBR 7037-1.	Enforcement of Discovery Requirements; Sanctions	111
LBR 7041-1.	Dismissal of a Complaint Objecting to the Debtor's Discharge.....	112
LBR 7054-1.	Adversary Proceedings - Taxation of Costs	113
LBR 7054-2.	Adversary Proceedings and Contested Matters - Attorney Fees	114
LBR 7055-1.	Default.....	115
LBR 7056-1.	Summary Judgment.....	116
LBR 7067-1.	Registry Fund	118
LBR 7067-2.	Bonds.....	121
LBR 8001-1.	Notice of Appeal.....	122
LBR 9003-2.	Confidentiality.....	123
LBR 9003-5.	Gratuities	124
LBR 9004-1.	Papers - Requirements of Form.....	125
LBR 9006-1.	Time Periods	126
LBR 9009-1.	Forms.....	121
LBR 9011-1.	Attorneys - Duties	122
LBR 9011-2.	Pro Se Parties	123
LBR 9013-1.	Motion Practice	124
LBR 9013-2.	Briefs and Memoranda of Law	127

LBR 9013-3.	Certificate of Service	128
LBR 9013-5.	Amended Pleadings.....	129
LBR 9014-1.	Contested Matters - Applicability of Rules	130
LBR 9014-2.	Contested Matters - Attendance of Witnesses.....	131
LBR 9018-1.	Sealing and Redaction of Documents	132
LBR 9019-1.	Settlements	134
LBR 9019-2.	Alternative Dispute Resolution.....	135
LBR 9019-3.	Loan Modification Program.....	141
LBR 9021-1.	Judgments and Orders - Entry	142
LBR 9022-1.	Judgment and Orders - Notice	143
LBR 9024-1.	Motions for Reconsideration	141
LBR 9037-1.	Privacy Protection of Personally Identifiable Information	142
LBR 9070-1.	Exhibits	143
LBR 9072-1.	Orders - Proposed	144
LBR 9073-1.	Hearings – Notice.....	147
LBR 9074-1.	Remote Appearances	148

LBR 1001-1. Scope of Rules

- (a) **Scope of Rules.** These local rules govern practice and procedure in all bankruptcy cases and proceedings in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawaii. They may be cited as LBR__.
- (b) **Effective Date.** Unless the court orders otherwise, these rules apply to all bankruptcy cases and proceedings pending on the date of adoption. These rules supersede all previous local bankruptcy rules for the District of Hawaii.
- (c) **Definitions.** As used in these rules:
 - (1) "all creditors" – when used with respect to service of documents - includes parties in interest, parties who have requested notice in a case, any trustee and committee appointed in a case, and the Office of the United States Trustee;
 - (2) "clerk" means the Clerk of Court, or the Clerk of Court's designee, of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawaii;
 - (3) "CM/ECF" means the Case Management/Electronic Case Files system used in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawaii;
 - (4) "court" means the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawaii, and does not refer to any particular judge of the court;
 - (5) "debtor" includes the joint debtor, if any;
 - (6) "district court" means the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii;
 - (7) "judge" means any United States Bankruptcy Judge;
 - (8) "LR" or "local rule" refers to a local rule in Chapter I – General and Civil Rules, Local Rules of Practice for the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii;
 - (9) "Bankruptcy Rule" refers to a rule of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure; and
 - (10) "§" refers to a section under title 11 of the United States Code, unless another title is cited.
- (d) **Modification and Applicability of Rules.** In any case or proceeding, the court may direct that provisions of these rules be modified or suspended, or that certain local general or civil rules of the district court be made applicable.

LBR 1005-1. Petition – Caption

Other Names Used by Debtor. If the petition lists other names used by the debtor that are modified by a term indicative of an artificial entity, such as "Inc." or "LLC", the debtor must file with the petition a declaration substantially conforming to the local form (**Declaration Regarding Trade Name(s) Used by Debtor**), stating that the name was used as a trade name but does not identify a separate legal entity. Absent such a declaration, the clerk will not include such a name as an alias or "dba" in the case information and notices sent by the court.

LBR 1007-1. Lists, Schedules, and Statements

(a) Case Opening Documents.

- (1) **Definition.** The case opening documents that are subject to this subdivision include the schedules and statements required to be filed with the court under § 521(a), other than copies of payment advices; the certificate from an approved nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency required to be filed under § 521(b); and any other document required to be filed with the petition or within a specified amount of days thereafter, under a statute, rule, or order.
- (2) **Dismissal Upon Failure to File Case Opening Documents.** In a voluntary case where case opening documents are not filed with the petition, the clerk is authorized to issue an order to satisfy the deficiency and to give notice that failure to file the subject documents within a specified number of days after the date the petition was filed, or some later date as the court directs, may result in dismissal of the case without further notice, unless on or before the filing deadline the court enters an order extending the time to file the documents. An order dismissing the case under this provision may include a 180-day bar to refiling a subsequent petition under § 109(g)(1).
- (3) **Extension of Time to File Case Opening Documents.** A debtor may request an extension of time to file case opening documents by filing with the court a motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Motion to Extend Time to File Case Opening Documents**) that states the date the petition was filed, the date set for the first meeting of creditors, the new deadline being requested, and the reason for the extension. Consideration of the motion may be expedited if it contains the signature of an authorized representative of the Office of the United States Trustee in a chapter 11 case and the Chapter 13 trustee in a chapter 13 case indicating that there is no objection to an extension.

(b) Payment Advices.

- (1) **Non-Filing of Payment Advices.** Unless the court orders otherwise, the copies of payment advices or other evidence of payment received by the debtor from any employer described in § 521(a)(1)(B)(iv) may not be filed with the court. If the court permits the filing, the filing party is responsible for redacting any confidential information, such as all but the last 4 digits of the debtor's Social Security number and any financial account numbers.
- (2) **Submission to Trustee.** The copies of payment advices or other evidence of payment described in § 521(a)(1)(B)(iv) must be submitted to the trustee in a

case under chapter 7, 12, or 13, or the Office of the United States Trustee in a case under chapter 11, not later than 7 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors under § 341, or 45 days after the date of the filing of the petition, whichever is earlier. The debtor may offer an explanation why payment advices are not being submitted by providing to the trustee or the Office of the United States Trustee a statement substantially conforming to the local form **(Debtor's Statement Regarding Payment Advices, Tax Returns, and Domestic Support Obligations)**.

(3) **Failure to Submit.** If the debtor fails to submit to the trustee the copies of payment advices or other evidence of payment within the time specified in paragraph (2) of this subdivision, the trustee may request an order dismissing the case by filing a motion substantially conforming to the local form **(Trustee's Ex Parte Motion to Dismiss Case Under 11 U.S.C. § 521(i)(2))** or, in the alternative, a motion for an order declining to dismiss the case for the reasons stated in § 521(i)(4). In the absence of such motions, the court will presume that the debtor has submitted these documents timely to the trustee and that the debtor's case is not subject to dismissal under § 521(i)(1) or (2). A party in interest other than a trustee requesting dismissal under § 521(i)(2) for failure to file payment advices must file and serve on the debtor and all creditors a motion to dismiss with the trustee's declaration that the trustee did not receive any payment advices or any statement by the debtor regarding the failure to submit such information.

(c) **Motion to Reconsider Dismissal.** A debtor whose case has been dismissed for failure to file required documents may request the court to reconsider the order dismissing the case by filing the required documents and then filing a motion substantially conforming to the local form **(Debtor's Motion to Reconsider Order Dismissing Case)**.

LBR 1007-2. List of Creditors

- (a) **Requirement to File.** The clerk may reject for filing a voluntary petition submitted without a creditor list, i.e. the list of names and addresses of entities included or to be included on Schedules D, E/F, G, and H.
- (b) **Format of Names and Addresses.** The format of names and addresses in the creditor list must conform to guidelines issued by the clerk.
- (c) **Digital File Format.**
 - (1) **Electronic Filing.** A person electronically filing a voluntary petition must upload the creditor list immediately after filing the petition. An image of the list must also be included with the petition. When electronically filing an amended list to include additional creditors, only the names and addresses of the additional creditors should be included in the upload and the image of the list.
 - (2) **List Submitted on Paper.** A person submitting a paper copy of a voluntary petition for filing must submit both a paper copy of the creditor list and an electronic version on media (diskette, CD, USB drive, etc.) capable of being uploaded in the court's electronic filing system. As an alternative, a creditor list may be created online at the court website, www.hib.uscourts.gov.
- (d) **Verification.** The creditor list must be accompanied by the debtor's verification that all entities included on Schedules D, E/F, G, and H have been listed in the creditor list, using a form that substantially conforms to the local form (**Debtor's Verification of Creditor List**).
- (e) **Amended Creditor List.** The debtor must file an amended creditor list to reflect any changes or additions to the names and addresses of entities included on Schedules D, E/F, G, or H, including a change of address of the entity or the entity's attorney, or the addition of an entity or an entity's attorney. An amended list is subject to the requirements of subdivisions (b) and (c) of this rule. The debtor is responsible for serving the notice of bankruptcy case, meeting of creditors, and deadlines, as well as any other notices sent by the clerk, on the parties listed in the amended list. The amended list should attach a cover sheet and certificate of service substantially conforming to the local form (**Cover Sheet for Amendments**).

LBR 1007-3. List of 20 Largest Creditors in Chapter 11 Case

In a voluntary chapter 11 case, the list containing the name, address, and claim of the creditors holding the 20 largest unsecured claims (Official Form 104/204) must include the email address of the creditor or agent of the creditor, if known to the debtor.

LBR 1009-1. Amendments to Lists and Schedules

- (a) **In General.** Unless the originally filed document exceeds 15 pages, an amendment to a list, schedule, or statement must be comprehensive, *i.e.* include any unchanged information, rather than just add new or updated information. If the originally filed document exceeds 15 pages, the amendment must clearly indicate that it is supplemental in nature.
- (b) **Cover Sheet with Declaration.** A party filing an amended list, schedule, or statement pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1009(a) must attach a cover sheet substantially conforming to the local form (**Cover Sheet for Amendments**), containing the debtor's declaration that the information in the amendments is true and correct. If the amendments are filed electronically, the debtor must submit to the court, not later than 7 days after the date of electronic filing, a declaration substantially conforming to the local form (**Declaration re: Electronic Filing**).
- (c) **Notice.** Whenever Schedule D, E/F, G, or H is amended to add a creditor or party in interest, the debtor must serve a copy of the notice of commencement of the bankruptcy case, the meeting of creditors, and any deadlines set by the court, as well as any other notices sent by the clerk, upon all added entities. The debtor must file a certificate of service to show compliance with this provision. The requirement to file a certificate of service may be satisfied by using the cover sheet substantially conforming to the local form (**Cover Sheet for Amendments**), containing a section for certifying service.

LBR 1009-2. Correction of Social Security Number

- (a) **Amended Statement of Social Security Number.** The debtor must promptly submit an amended **Statement of Social Security Number** (Official Form 121) upon becoming aware that an incorrect number was provided at the time of filing the petition, whether the petition was filed electronically or on paper. The amended statement must be submitted on paper with the debtor's original signature and must indicate conspicuously that it is an amended statement intended to correct the number previously provided to the court. It is not necessary for the debtor to file an amended petition to correct the last 4 digits of the number showing on the petition.
- (b) **Notice to Creditors.** Upon submitting an amended Statement of Social Security Number, the debtor must give notice of the correct number to all creditors and parties in interest by sending a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Corrected Social Security Number**). The debtor must also send the notice to the major credit reporting agencies whose names and addresses are included on the form. This notice must include the debtor's full (9- digit) Social Security Number and must not be filed in order to protect the debtor's privacy.
- (c) **Certificate of Service.** The debtor must file a certificate of service substantially conforming to the local form (**Certificate of Service: Notice of Corrected Social Security Number**) to show compliance with the notice requirement of this rule. The certificate of service must not include the debtor's full Social Security Number or attach a copy of the notice that was served, in order to protect the debtor's privacy.

LBR 1015-1. Joint Administration

- (a) **Motion.** A motion by one or more debtors requesting joint administration, but not substantive consolidation, of related cases may be presented to the court ex parte, provided that the court may set the matter for hearing after notice to parties in interest.
- (b) **Case Dockets.** Unless the court orders otherwise, all documents must be entered on the docket of the case designated as the lead case.
- (c) **Notice List.** The clerk will maintain a single, consolidated list of names and addresses of creditors and parties requesting notice in the lead case.
- (d) **Claims Register.** Unless the court orders otherwise, the clerk will maintain a single claims register in the lead case. All proofs of claim and interest must be filed in the lead case but must indicate the particular debtor against whom the claim or interest is asserted.
- (e) **Separate Accounts and Reports.** Unless the jointly administered cases are also substantively consolidated, the debtor in possession or trustee must maintain separate accounts of property and distributions of each estate and must report on each estate separately. All monthly operating reports and interim and final reports by a trustee or debtor in possession must be filed in the lead case but must clearly identify the separate estate involved.

LBR 1017-1. Conversion of Chapter 7 Cases

Motion and Notice. A chapter 7 debtor seeking to convert a case to one under another chapter pursuant to § 706(a) must file a motion and give notice. Notice is sufficient if given to the Office of the United States Trustee, the case trustee, and all parties receiving notice electronically through the court's transmission facilities. The notice must advise that the court may enter an order granting the motion without further notice or hearing if no objection to the motion is filed within 14 days after the date that the motion was filed. The debtor may include the notice with the motion by filing a motion substantially conforming to the local form **(Debtor's Motion to Convert Chapter 7 Case to Another Chapter)**.

LBR 1019-5. Chapter 13 Final Reports in Cases Converted to Chapter 7

In a chapter 13 case converted to a case under chapter 7, the chapter 13 trustee shall file a final report and account on or before the later of (i) 30 days after the date of conversion or (ii) 45 days after all outstanding checks issued by the trustee have been negotiated and cleared.

LBR 1072-1. Places of Holding Court

The court shall be in continuous session in Honolulu, Hawaii.

LBR 1074-1. Corporations and Other Artificial Entities

- (a) **Authority to File Petition.** When a voluntary petition is filed by an entity other than a natural person, a copy of the document authorizing the filing of the petition, such as a resolution of the board of directors of a corporation, must be attached to the petition as an exhibit.
- (b) **Designation of Responsible Individual.** Every debtor that is an artificial entity must designate a natural person to be responsible for performing the debtor's duties in bankruptcy. The designation must be filed within 14 days after the date the petition is filed and must include the individual's name, position, address, telephone number, and email address, and must include the individual's consent. If more than one individual is designated, the designation must specify everyone's responsibilities.
- (c) **Representation by Counsel.**
 - (1) **Chapter 11 Debtor in Possession.** Every chapter 11 debtor in possession that is an artificial entity must be represented by an attorney whose employment is subject to court approval under § 327(a).
 - (2) **Contested Matters and Adversary Proceedings.** Except for requesting an award of compensation as a professional, an artificial entity must appear through counsel when acting as a party in a contested matter or adversary proceeding.

LBR 2002-1. Notice of Preferred Addresses

- (a) **Notice of Preferred Address.** The notice of address that may be filed under § 342(f)(1) must be submitted through the National Creditor Registration Service ("NCRS"). Forms and registration information are available at www.ncrsuscourts.com. Registering a preferred address with the NCRS constitutes filing such notice with the court.
- (b) **Override of Preferred Address.** A creditor requesting an override of the nationally registered preferred address in a particular case must file a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Override of Preferred Address**), in order to comply with § 342(e)(1).

LBR 2002-2. Notice to Creditors Whose Claims are Filed

Unless the court orders otherwise in a particular case, Bankruptcy Rule 2002(h) applies to all cases covered by that rule.

LBR 2003-1. Meeting of Creditors

- (a) **Attendance Required.** The following are required to attend the meeting of creditors held pursuant to § 341(a):
 - (1) the debtor and the joint debtor, if any, or if the debtor is an artificial entity, the responsible individual designated under LBR 1074-1; and
 - (2) an attorney representing the debtor and the joint debtor if the petition was filed through counsel.
- (b) **Failure to Attend Meeting.**
 - (1) **Debtor, Joint Debtor, or Designated Responsible Individual.** The trustee or United States Trustee may request dismissal of the case for failure of the debtor, joint debtor, or designated responsible individual to attend the meeting of creditors by filing and serving on the debtor and all creditors a motion and notice of hearing substantially conforming to the local form (**Motion to Dismiss Case for Non-Appearance at Meeting of Creditors; Notice of Hearing**). In the alternative, the trustee may continue the meeting and request the court to issue an order to show cause that gives notice of the continued date. The order will provide for dismissal without further notice or hearing if the debtor fails to appear at the continued meeting. If the case is dismissed, the order may bar the debtor(s) from filing a subsequent voluntary petition for 180 days, pursuant to § 109(g)(1).
 - (2) **Attorney.** The trustee or United States Trustee may move for the imposition of monetary or other sanctions against the debtor's attorney of record if an attorney fails to appear at the meeting of creditors.
- (c) **Meeting Held Open.** In a chapter 13 case, a meeting held open by the trustee does not extend the time for the debtor to file any unfiled tax returns in compliance with § 1308, unless the trustee explicitly directs that the meeting be held open for that purpose.

LBR 2004-1. Rule 2004 Examination

(a) **Examination Order Issued by Clerk.** A party in interest seeking to examine the debtor or other entity pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2004 may request an examination order by filing a motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Motion for Rule 2004 Examination**). The clerk is authorized to issue an examination order requested by a party in interest who has complied with the requirements of this local rule. Such examination order will compel the attendance or production of documents by the debtor, or, if the examinee is not the debtor, will authorize the issuance of a subpoena substantially conforming to the **Subpoena for Rule 2004 Examination** (B2540) in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9016 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 45. If the requirements of this rule are not satisfied, the clerk may issue an order denying the request for an examination order.

(b) **Date, Time, and Place of Examination.** Prior to filing a motion for an examination order, the party seeking the order shall make all reasonable efforts to arrange a mutually convenient date, time, and place of examination. The motion for an examination order must be supported by a declaration stating either:

- (1) that the proposed date, time, and place of examination have been agreed upon by all concerned; or
- (2) that the parties could not agree to a date, time, and place of examination after all reasonable efforts were made, in which case the examination will take place with the moving party's proposed date, time and place of examination, but no earlier than 14 days after the filing of the motion for an examination order, and no earlier than 30 days after the date of issuance of the examination order or subpoena, whichever is later, if the motion requests production of documents or electronically stored information.

(c) **Request Limited to Delivery of Documents.** Subdivision (b) of this rule does not apply to requests for production of documents or electronically stored information to be delivered to the requesting party so long as the deadline for delivery is not less than 30 days after the date of issuance of the examination order or a subpoena, whichever is later. The motion requesting an order for production of documents or electronically stored information by mail or similar delivery method may include a request for authority to issue a subpoena for a personal examination following review of the materials produced so long as the examination date is not less than 14 days after the date of issuance of the subpoena.

- (d) **Other Discovery Procedures Not Available.** The declaration supporting issuance of an order under Bankruptcy Rule 2004 must state that the requested examination does not involve pending litigation in which discovery is available under Bankruptcy Rules 7026, 9014, or other authority.
- (e) **Objections.** An examinee or party in interest objecting to an examination must file and serve on the examining party a motion for a protective order or, if a subpoena has been served, a motion to quash the subpoena.

LBR 2014-1. Employment of Professional Persons

- (a) **Employment by Trustee or Chapter 11 Debtor in Possession.** A request for an order of employment may be made by filing an application substantially conforming to the local form (**Application to Employ Professional**). The applicant shall either (i) submit a proposed order bearing the approval of the Office of the United States Trustee, (ii) arrange for the Office of the United States Trustee to notify chambers that the Office of the United States Trustee does not object to the application, in which case the court may enter a text order granting the application, or (iii) if there is an objection to the application, obtain a hearing date from the courtroom deputy and give notice of the hearing.
- (b) **Employment by Debtor.** A debtor in a case under chapter 7, 12, or 13 may employ an attorney or other professional without court approval. However, an attorney representing the debtor in a case or in connection with a case is subject to § 329 and must file a disclosure of any compensation as required by that provision. In addition, a fee application for court approval is required for any postpetition payment of compensation in chapter 12 or 13.

LBR 2015-1. Trustees - Payment of Administrative Expenses

- (a) **Expenses Not Exceeding \$1,000.** The trustee may pay the actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the estate, which may include but are not limited to, rent, utilities, taxes, insurance, moving and storage costs, without a court order obtained in advance if:
 - (1) the amount for any single item does not exceed \$1,000,
 - (2) when all creditors and parties in interest are notified of the need to file a proof of claim, the notice advises that they may file an objection and request for a hearing on this procedure within 28 days after the date of the notice, and
 - (3) the trustee obtains court approval before or at the time of the court's determination on the trustee's final application for compensation and reimbursement for expenses submitted with the trustee's final report.
- (b) **Expenses Exceeding \$1,000.** The trustee may obtain an order approving the payment of administrative expenses exceeding \$1,000 by filing a motion and notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Trustee's Motion to Approve Payment of Administrative Expense and Notice of Opportunity to Object**), providing 14-day notice of a deadline to file an objection. The trustee shall serve the motion and notice on all parties entitled to notice under Bankruptcy Rule 2002 (Bankruptcy Rule 2002(h) applies).
- (c) **Applicability of Rule.** Subdivisions (a) and (b) of this rule do not apply to the following.
 - (1) **Use of Non-Estate Funds.** The trustee may pay administrative expenses from non-estate funds and later seek court approval for reimbursement under Bankruptcy Rule 2016.
 - (2) **Operation of a Business.** The trustee may pay administrative expenses related to operating a business, including the leasing of real or personal property, if an order obtained under § 721 authorizes such payments.

LBR 2015-2. Appointment of Subchapter V Trustee

Unless the court orders otherwise, the debtor must tender to the Subchapter V Trustee the sum of \$1,000 no later than 14 days after the filing of the Notice of Appointment of Subchapter V Trustee. Any party in interest may file a motion to adjust the amount of the deposit. The debtor shall include the deposit in any cash collateral budget. The Subchapter V Trustee must hold these funds in escrow for the purpose of compensation for services rendered and reimbursement for expenses. Payment of compensation and reimbursement to the Subchapter V Trustee from the escrowed funds is subject to allowance and approval by the court under sections 503(b), 330, 331 and 1194 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2016 and LBR 2016-1. Failure of the debtor to tender the required amount within 14 days after the filing of the Notice of Appointment is cause for dismissal of the case.

LBR 2015-6. Mail Redirection

- (a) **Consent of Debtor.** The filing of a petition under title 11 by a debtor engaged in business is deemed to be the debtor's consent to mail redirection by the interim trustee.
- (b) **Objection by Debtor.** If the debtor does not consent to mail redirection, the debtor must file a written objection with the clerk. If the debtor files an objection, the court will promptly set a hearing on notice to the debtor, the trustee, and the United States Trustee. After the filing of the objection, and pending order of court, the redirection shall continue, but the trustee shall hold, and not open, the debtor's mail.

LBR 2015-7. Monthly Operating Reports

- (a) Cases in Which Reports Are Required.** Monthly operating reports shall be filed by the trustee or debtor in possession in the following cases:
 - (1) all cases under chapter 11;
 - (2) chapter 7 cases, where the trustee is operating a business; and
 - (3) chapter 12 and chapter 13 cases, if the court so orders.
- (b) Filing Deadline.** Each required monthly operating report shall be filed not later than the 20th day of the month following the month to which the report pertains. A separate report must be filed for each calendar month, or portion thereof, during which the case is pending, up to and including the month in which an order of confirmation or dismissal is entered.
- (c) Service of Reports.** A copy of each monthly report must be served, not later than the day upon which it is filed with the court, upon the Office of the United States Trustee, the chair and counsel of record of each committee of creditors and each committee of equity security holders appointed in the case, and such other persons or entities as may be ordered by the court. Reports in a chapter 12 or chapter 13 case must be served on the trustee.
- (d) Form and Content of Reports.**
 - (1) Unless the court orders otherwise, monthly operating reports must include an accrual basis profit and loss statement, a balance sheet, and a statement of receipts and disbursements.
 - (2) Any motion to modify this requirement must be served on all parties upon whom the monthly operating report is required to be served.
- (e) Certificate of Counsel.** Each required monthly operating report must be accompanied by a certificate of the debtor's or trustee's attorney that the attorney has reviewed the report and that it has been prepared in compliance with this rule. Counsel's certificate shall not be deemed a representation by counsel that the entries in the report are accurate or that the report has been prepared in compliance with applicable accounting standards and principles.

LBR 2015-8. Debtor's Books and Records

- (a) **Voluntary Cases.** In a case filed pursuant to § 301 or 302, the books and records of the debtor shall be closed on the day immediately preceding the day on which the petition is filed, whether or not a separate estate is created for tax purposes. Prepetition liabilities must be segregated and reported separately from postpetition liabilities.
- (b) **Involuntary Cases.** In a case filed under § 303, the books and records of the debtor shall be closed on the day on which relief is ordered or an interim trustee is appointed, whichever occurs first. Notwithstanding the foregoing, liabilities incurred before the commencement of the case shall be segregated and, in the event relief is granted, reported separately from liabilities incurred after the commencement of the case.

LBR 2015-9. Trustees – Interim Reports

- (a) **Requirement to File.** Unless the trustee has filed a report of no distribution, a trustee appointed in a case under chapter 7 or chapter 11 must file an interim report in each case that has been pending under the same chapter for more than 2 years, and for which a final report has not been filed. Additional interim reports must be filed at least every 6 months thereafter. This requirement is in addition to any reporting requirements set by the United States Trustee.
- (b) **Content of Report.** The trustee may satisfy the reporting requirement of this rule by filing a report substantially conforming to the local form (Trustee's Interim Report), including:
 - (1) a brief description of the status of the case;
 - (2) the trustee's records of time spent administering the case during the reporting period;
 - (3) Form 1 - Individual Estate Property Record and Report; and
 - (4) Form 2 - Cash Receipts and Disbursements Record.

LBR 2016-1. Compensation of Professionals

(a) Application Requirements. Unless these rules provide otherwise, an application for compensation for services or reimbursement of expenses under § 330, 331, or 503(b)(4) must include the following:

- (1)** the information about the applicant and the application, case status, project billing, and actual, necessary expenses as set forth in the *Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330*, contained in:
 - (A)** Appendix A - Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 in (1) larger chapter 11 cases by those seeking compensation who are not attorneys, (2) all chapter 11 cases below the larger case thresholds, and (3) cases under other chapters of the Bankruptcy Code (except that the project billing format is required only if the professional's compensation is anticipated to exceed \$50,000); and
 - (B)** Appendix B - Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 for Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases (including Exhibits A - E).
- (2)** a summary sheet substantially conforming to the local form (**Compensation Summary Sheet**);
- (3)** detailed time records unless the professional is an auctioneer, real estate agent, or other professional whose compensation is based on a commission percentage; and
- (4)** a certification by the applicant that:
 - (A)** the applicant has reviewed the application;
 - (B)** the amounts being requested are billed at rates no less favorable than those customarily employed by the applicant and generally accepted by the applicant's nonbankruptcy clients; and
 - (C)** to the best of the applicant's knowledge, information, and belief, the application conforms to the U.S. Trustee's Guidelines, this rule, and any order of the court, except as specifically noted in the certification.

(b) Client Review of Application. A debtor in possession, trustee, or official committee must exercise reasonable business judgment in monitoring the fees and expenses of the estate's professionals. If a professional's total fees are anticipated to exceed \$20,000 in a case, billing statements must be sent monthly to the client and include a cover letter with

the following statement: "The court requires that a debtor in possession, trustee, or an official committee exercise reasonable business judgment in monitoring the fees and expenses of the estate's professionals. Any objections, concerns, or questions about the services or amounts in this billing statement should be communicated promptly to the professional and may be shared with the Office of the United States Trustee."

(c) **Foreign Currency Amounts.** Amounts requested in an application for compensation must be stated in United States currency. The application may request approval of compensation and expenses in a foreign currency amount as converted to United States dollars in an approximate amount in effect at the time the application is filed, *e.g.* ¥1,500,000 (*approx. US\$13,800*). Unless the court orders otherwise, the actual payment amount may be calculated using the conversion rate in effect at the time of payment.

(d) **Standards for Reasonableness.**

(1) **Compensation for Services.** In addition to the factors identified in the U.S. Trustee's Guidelines, the court generally will apply the following in determining the reasonableness of an application for compensation.

(A) **Multiple Professionals.** Professionals must explain time spent in meetings and conferences or at hearings or depositions with other professionals or paraprofessionals in the same firm. Failure to justify this time may result in the allowance of fees limited to those requested at the lowest billing rate.

(B) **Multiple Cases.** Time claimed for periods of attendance at hearings, meetings of creditors, or other services involving more than one case must be prorated.

(C) **Administrative and Clerical Tasks.** Administrative and clerical services, such as photocopying, scanning, or faxing documents, filing papers with the court, or supervising such tasks performed by another, are not compensable.

(D) **Travel Time.** "Travel time" means time spent while traveling and not actually performing professional services for a client. A reasonable amount of travel time, not to exceed 8 hours per day, may be allowed for actual, necessary travel. If the travel also involves another case or client, the travel time must be prorated.

(E) **Privilege or Excise Taxes on Compensation.** Amounts attributable to privilege or excise taxes, but not income taxes, such as the State of Hawaii General Excise Tax, payable on receipts for compensation may be included in requests for compensation if customarily charged to

nonbankruptcy clients and to the extent that such taxes will actually be paid to a taxing authority.

(2) **Reimbursement for Expenses.** In addition to the factors identified in the U.S. Trustee's Guidelines, the court generally will apply the following in determining the reasonableness of an application for reimbursement for expenses.

(A) **Professional or Paraprofessional Services.** A professional employed under § 327 may not charge as an expense any fee payable to another professional or paraprofessional (e.g., an expert witness) unless the employment of the other professional or paraprofessional has been approved by the court prior to performance of the services.

(B) **Meals.**

(i) **While Traveling.** Reimbursement may be sought for the reasonable cost of meals while away from the island (inside Hawaii) or state (outside Hawaii) of the professional's office or principal place of business.

(ii) **While Working.** Working meals at a restaurant or private club are not reimbursable. Reimbursement may be sought for working meals only where food is catered to the professional's office in the course of a meeting with clients, such as a creditors committee, for the purpose of allowing the meeting to continue through a normal meal period.

(C) **Transportation.** Air travel may be reimbursable using the actual cost or the amount of the economy class fare, whichever is lower. Automotive travel expense is limited to the actual cost of rental of an appropriate vehicle, together with insurance and fuel costs associated with the rental.

(D) **Parking.** The actual cost of parking expenses may be reimbursable except for parking at the applicant's principal place of business and, for applicants whose principal place of business is on the island of Oahu, parking while attending a court hearing or a meeting of creditors.

(E) **Amenities.** Amenities, including, but not limited to, charges for entertainment, alcoholic beverages, newspapers, dry cleaning and laundry, are not reimbursable.

(F) **Privilege or Excise Taxes on Expenses.** Amounts attributable to privilege or excise taxes, but not income taxes, such as the State of Hawaii General Excise Tax, payable on expenses may be included in requests for expenses if customarily charged to nonbankruptcy clients and to the extent that such taxes will actually be paid to a taxing authority.

(G) **Objection Ceilings for In-House Expenses.** The U.S. Trustee's Guidelines provide for the establishment of objection ceilings for in-house expenses that are routinely incurred and for which the actual cost cannot easily be determined. The court generally will apply the following objection ceilings.

(i) **Photocopies:** \$.20 per page.

(ii) **Faxes:** \$.20 per paper page for outgoing and incoming transmissions, except that \$1.00 may be charged for the first paper page of an outgoing transmission.

(e) **Chapter 7 Trustees.** Compensation Request in Final Report. A chapter 7 trustee may seek court approval of a final application for compensation by including the request in the trustee's final report. The trustee may include in a compensation request an amount attributable to liability for privilege or excise taxes, such as the State of Hawaii General Excise Tax, to the extent that the total compensation request does not exceed the statutory limitation of § 326(a).

(f) **Chapter 7 Trustee's Professionals.** A professional employed by a chapter 7 trustee may file an application for final compensation substantially conforming to the local form (**Final Application for Compensation by Professional Employed by Chapter 7 Trustee**) in lieu of an application conforming to the requirements of subdivision (a) of this rule.

(g) **Chapter 13 Debtor's Attorney Fees.**

(1) **Chapter 13 Rights, Responsibilities and Fee Agreement** Allowance of compensation to a debtor's attorney in a chapter 13 case requires the execution and filing of an acknowledgement of the parties' responsibilities and a fee agreement substantially conforming to the local form (**Chapter 13 Rights, Responsibilities and Fee Agreement**).

(2) **Allowance of Compensation.** A chapter 13 debtor's attorney may seek allowance of compensation under § 330(a)(4)(B) by either:

(A) requesting an order approving a "standard fee application" using a form substantially conforming to the local form (**Application for Compensation by Debtor's Attorney in Chapter 13 Case**), or

(B) requesting an award in a plan confirmation order of presumptively reasonable fees described in paragraph (3).

(3) **Chapter 13 Attorney Fee Guidelines.**

(A) **Presumptive Fees.** After notice and opportunity for comment, the court may adopt Chapter 13 Attorney Fee Guidelines that establish

procedures and determine presumptively reasonable fee amounts (“presumptive fees”) for typical and customary services performed by a debtor’s attorney in a chapter 13 case.

(B) **Adjustment of Dollar Amounts.** The guidelines establishing presumptive fees shall be adjusted periodically in the same manner and at the same time as dollar amounts are adjusted under 11 U.S.C. § 104(a) (except that the adjusted dollar amounts will be rounded upward to the nearest \$50), beginning with the adjustment to take effect on April 1, 2025.

(4) **Court Approval of Compensation.** Unless fully earned and withdrawn from a client trust account prior to the filing of the petition, any funds paid to the attorney by or on behalf of the debtor for services in or in connection with the chapter 13 case must remain in a client trust account pending entry of a court order approving the compensation.

(5) **Chapter 13 Case Converted from Another Chapter.** In a case converted to chapter 13, the debtor’s attorney’s request for fees in the chapter 13 case must disclose and take into account any payments for preconversion services.

LBR 2070-1. Estate Administration

Funds of the Estate - Account Identification. The signature card (or if there is none, the depository agreement) for any account containing funds which are the property of a bankruptcy estate must clearly indicate that the depositor or investor is a "debtor in possession" or a trustee in bankruptcy.

LBR 2072-1. Notice to Other Courts

- (a) **Notice of Bankruptcy Petition.** Notice of the filing of a bankruptcy petition in this district must be given to any federal or state court or administrative tribunal in which the debtor is a party to pending litigation or other proceeding. Notice must be given, at the earliest possible date, to the judge to whom the matter is assigned, the clerk of the court where the matter is pending, all counsel of record in the matter, and all parties to the action not represented by counsel. A debtor filing a petition without bankruptcy counsel shall give notice immediately to any attorney representing the debtor in pending litigation or other proceeding. Notice of a bankruptcy petition will not bar any conference in another court held to advise the court and the parties of the status of the bankruptcy case.
- (b) **Party to Give Notice.** In a voluntary case, the notice must be given by the debtor or the debtor's counsel. In an involuntary case, notice must be given by the petitioning creditors or their counsel.
- (c) **Effect of Not Giving Notice.** Failure to give the notice required by subdivision (a) of this rule may constitute cause for annulment of the stay imposed by § 362, 922, 1201, or 1301 and may also result in the imposition of sanctions.
- (d) **Notice of Order for Relief from Stay.** If an order terminating, annulling, modifying, or conditioning the stay imposed by § 362, 922, 1201, or 1301, will permit resumption of litigation or other proceeding, the party obtaining the order for relief from stay must give notice thereof to the parties noted in subdivision (a) of this rule.
- (e) **Notice of Other Order Affecting Litigation.** Notice of an order dismissing or closing a case, granting or denying a discharge, or otherwise affecting the resumption of litigation or any other proceeding, must be given by the debtor or the debtor's counsel to the parties noted in subdivision (a) of this rule. If the debtor or the debtor's counsel fails to give such notice promptly, the notice may be given by any party in interest with knowledge of the order affecting pending litigation or other proceeding.

LBR 2083-1. Chapter 13 – General

- (a) **Debtor's Notice of Conversion to Chapter 7.** A debtor may request an order converting a chapter 13 case, not previously converted from another chapter, to one under chapter 7 by filing and serving on the trustee and United States Trustee a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Notice of Conversion of Case to Chapter 7**). Unless the court directs otherwise, a hearing is not required.
- (b) **Debtor's Motion to Dismiss Case.** A debtor may request an order dismissing a chapter 13 case, not previously converted from another chapter, by filing and serving on the trustee and United States Trustee a motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Motion to Dismiss Chapter 13 Case**). Unless the court directs otherwise, a hearing is not required.
- (c) **Debtor's Motion to Approve Sale of Personal Property.** A chapter 13 debtor may request an order approving a sale of personal property by filing a motion in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c) that identifies the subject property, purchase price, buyer(s), any security interests, and substantive terms of the sale. For property of the estate, notice shall be given to all parties entitled to notice under Bankruptcy Rule 2002 (Bankruptcy Rule 2002(h) applies). For property that is not property of the estate, the court may consider the motion without notice and a hearing if approved by the trustee.
- (d) **Debtor's Motion to Obtain Credit or Incur Debt.** A chapter 13 debtor may seek authority to incur new debt or modify existing debt by submitting a stipulation with the trustee's approval that substantially conforms to the local form (**Stipulated Order Authorizing Debtor to Incur Debt**). Otherwise, court approval may be sought in accordance with LBR 9013-1.
- (e) **Trustee's Motions to Dismiss.**
 - (1) **Notice of Motion.** A motion to dismiss a case under Bankruptcy Rule 1307(c)-(e) requires a 28-day notice of a hearing to the debtor.
 - (2) **Requirement to Meet and Confer.** If the debtor is represented by counsel, the debtor's attorney shall meet and confer remotely or in person with the trustee to resolve the issue prompting the motion to dismiss. Failure of the debtor's attorney to make a good faith effort to meet and confer at least 7 days before the hearing may be cause for sanctions. If the trustee files a declaration that the debtor's attorney failed to meet and confer, the court may reduce by \$250 any allowed attorney fees.

(3) **Conditional Relief.** The ruling on a trustee's motion to dismiss may provide for a delay in entry of a dismissal order to allow the debtor to satisfy the deficiency for which the motion was filed, file a motion to modify the plan, or convert the case to another chapter. If the debtor is provided a deadline to file a motion for some other relief, such as plan modification, and the motion is timely filed and granted, the trustee's motion to dismiss will be deemed withdrawn. If the debtor's motion is denied, the clerk may enter an order granting the trustee's motion to dismiss without further notice or hearing.

(f) **Operation of a Business.**

(1) **Requirement for Reports.** If the debtor is self-employed or operates a business, the trustee may require submission of a report that includes:

- (A) a projection of average monthly income and expenses;
- (B) evidence of appropriate business insurance;
- (C) inventory of goods as well as a list of furniture and equipment as of the date of filing of the petition;
- (D) monthly income and expense statements for at least 6 months preceding the date of filing of the petition, including a statement regarding incurred and unpaid expenses, signed by the debtor under penalty of perjury; and
- (E) any additional financial information specified by the trustee.

(2) **Trustee's Duties.** If business reports are not required under this rule, the trustee is not required to perform any additional duties under § 1302(c) with respect to the debtor's operation of a business.

LBR 2083-2. Chapter 13 – Motions to Approve Sale of Real Property

- (a) Motion.** A chapter 13 debtor may request an order approving a sale of real property by filing a motion that substantially conforms to the local form (**Chapter 13 Debtor's Motion to Approve Sale of Real Property**). The motion must attach the following:
 - (1)** Purchase contract and related documents (counter-offer, addenda, etc.);
 - (2)** Preliminary title report; and
 - (3)** Estimated seller's settlement statement.
- (b) Service.** The motion must be served on the trustee, all holders of a lien against the subject property, and any other party with an interest in the property being sold.
- (c) Notice of Hearing.** Notice of a hearing on the motion shall be given to the trustee, lienholders, and other creditors and parties in interest not less than 28 days in advance of the hearing. The notice must substantially conform to the local form (**Notice of Hearing on Chapter 13 Debtor's Motion to Approve Sale of Real Property**) and summarize the sale details including disposition of the sale proceeds.
- (d) Deadline to Object.** Any objection to the sale shall be timely if filed not less than 7 days before the hearing. Absent a timely objection, the debtor may file the local form (**Declaration and Request for Entry of an Order**).
- (e) Order**
 - (1) Form Order.** If the motion is granted or if there is no timely objection, the movant shall upload in the court's eOrders module a proposed order that substantially conforms to the local form (**Order Granting Chapter 13 Debtor's Motion to Approve Sale of Real Property**).
 - (2) Effect of Order Approving Sale.** Upon entry of an order approving the sale, the trustee shall suspend plan distributions ("suspended distributions") to any lienholder identified in the order whose lien is being paid in full until the earlier of (i) 90 days, or a later date with the trustee's consent, after entry of the order or (ii) the filing of a notice of cancellation of the sale.
- (f) Closing of Sale.**
 - (1) Report of Sale.** Within 14 days after the closing of the sale, the debtor must file a report of sale that attaches the final settlement statement. If the report of sale indicates that a lienholder's claim has been paid in full, the trustee shall make no

further distributions on that claim whether or not the lienholder files a notice of satisfaction of claim. Any suspended distributions will be paid on other claims.

(2) **Cancellation.** If the sale does not close, the debtor must promptly file a notice that substantially conforms to the local form (**Notice of Cancellation of Sale**). Upon the filing of a notice of cancellation, the trustee shall resume plan distributions on claims by lienholders, including suspended distributions that accrued during the suspension period.

LBR 2090-1. Attorneys - Admission to Practice

(a) In General. The local rules of practice of the District Court regarding attorney admission and practice apply in all bankruptcy cases and proceedings, except as provided in LBR 2091-1. These include but are not limited to:

- (1)** LR83.1 Attorneys; Admission to the Bar of this Court; Mandatory Notices for All Parties Concerning Changes of Address;
- (2)** LR83.2 Attorneys; Practice in this Court;
- (3)** LR83.3 Attorneys; Standard of Professional Conduct;
- (4)** LR83.4 Attorneys; Discipline;
- (5)** LR84.1 Supervised Student Practice of Law.

(b) Pro Hac Vice. Attorneys may request permission to appear pro hac vice in a bankruptcy case or proceeding in this court by filing an application substantially conforming to the local form (**Application to Appear Pro Hac Vice**) and submitting the assessment required by the district court. The assessment should be payable to "Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court." An attorney admitted to appear pro hac vice in a bankruptcy case will also be admitted to appear pro hac vice in a case that has been consolidated or is being jointly administered with, or in any adversary proceeding related to, the case in which the application has been granted.

LBR 2091-1. Attorneys - Withdrawal and Substitution

(a) **Withdrawal of Counsel.** Withdrawal of counsel is the termination of an attorney's or law firm's representation of a party in a bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. These rule provisions do not apply when a partner, member, or associate leaves a law firm that will continue to represent the client.

(1) **Bankruptcy Cases.**

(A) **When Motion Required.** An attorney seeking to withdraw as counsel in a bankruptcy case must file a motion for court approval if:

- (i) the attorney represents a debtor;
- (ii) the court approved the attorney's employment by a trustee or committee under § 327 ; or
- (iii) the attorney represents a party in a pending contested matter.

(B) **Form of Motion.** LBR 9013-1(c) governs a motion to withdraw as counsel. The motion must include a statement explaining the reason for withdrawal, unless that would violate the rules of professional conduct, and must indicate whether the client agrees with the withdrawal. If the client is not an individual, the motion must advise the client that an artificial entity may only appear through counsel and that adverse consequences may result if legal representation is not retained promptly.

(C) **Service of Motion.** The withdrawing attorney must serve the motion and a notice of hearing on the client, the debtor, the trustee, the Office of the United States Trustee, any committee appointed in the case, and the parties to any pending contested matter in which the attorney has appeared.

(D) **Notice of Withdrawal.** If a motion for court approval is not required, the withdrawing attorney may give notice of the withdrawal by filing a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Withdrawal of Counsel and Request for Removal from Notice List**). An ECF user may also file a text-only docket entry without attaching the form but during the electronic filing must add the client's name and address to the creditor list if the client wishes to receive general notices about the bankruptcy case.

(2) Adversary Proceedings.

- (A) Court Approval Required.** An attorney seeking to withdraw as counsel for any party in an adversary proceeding must obtain court approval by filing a motion, as described in subparagraph (a)(1)(B) of this rule.
- (B) Service of Motion.** The withdrawing attorney must serve the motion and notice of hearing on the client, all other counsel of record, and all other unrepresented parties in the adversary proceeding.
- (C) Statement of Non-Representation.** An attorney representing a debtor in the bankruptcy case whose services in related adversary proceedings are not included in the attorney-client agreement, and who has not made an appearance in the adversary proceeding, is not required to seek court approval but must promptly file a statement of non-representation in the adversary proceeding and serve it on all counsel of record.

(b) Substitution of Counsel. A substitution of counsel is the contemporaneous replacement of one attorney by another attorney authorized to practice before the court.

(1) In General.

- (A)** The substituting attorney must be admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii.
- (B)** This subdivision (b) does not apply if the party will be left without counsel after the "substitution."
- (C)** If employment of the attorney terminating representation required court approval under § 327, the substitution of counsel will become effective only upon the entry of an order granting an application to employ the substituting attorney.

(2) Bankruptcy Cases. Except as provided in subdivision (b)(1)(C), court approval of the substitution is not required. Substitution of counsel may be accomplished by filing a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Substitution of Counsel in Bankruptcy Case**) containing the signatures of the client and the attorneys involved. The notice must be served on the debtor, trustee, the Office of the United States Trustee, any committee appointed in the case, and parties to any pending contested matter in which the client is involved.

(3) Adversary Proceedings. Notice of substitution in an adversary proceeding

may be accomplished with a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Substitution of Counsel in Adversary Proceeding; Order Approving**) containing the signatures of the client and the attorneys involved. The notice must be served on other counsel of record and unrepresented parties in the adversary proceeding and submitted to the judge for approval.

(c) **Change of Business Address or Firm Affiliation.** Subdivision (e) of LR83.1 applies in adversary and miscellaneous proceedings. In bankruptcy cases, an attorney who changes the attorney's business address or firm affiliation must give notice of the change in each pending case in which the attorney has appeared and has not withdrawn. This notice must be filed within 14 days of the effective date of the change.

(1) **Form and Service of Notice.** The notice requirement may be satisfied by filing a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Attorney's Notice of Change of Address / Attorney's Notice of Change of Firm Affiliation**) or electronically filing a text entry on the case docket, in accordance with procedures established by the clerk. The attorney must serve the notice on all parties not receiving notices of electronic filing under CM/ECF.

(2) **Change of Firm Affiliation.** An attorney who changes firms but will continue to represent the party in a pending case, contested matter, or adversary proceeding must explicitly indicate that information in the notice. An attorney who will no longer be representing the party must include a notice that the attorney is withdrawing representation of that party and must (i) indicate the name of another member of the former firm upon whom service may be made, or (ii) comply with the provisions under LBR 2091-1 regarding withdrawal and substitution of counsel.

(3) **Effect of Noncompliance.** An attorney who fails to give or serve notice as required by this subdivision (c) may not use deficient service as a defense if pleadings were sent timely to the attorney's former address or law firm.

(4) **CM/ECF User Account.** An attorney who is a registered ECF user is responsible for changing, promptly after the effective date of the change, the office, address, and email information in the attorney's user account.

LBR 3001-2. Requests to Pay Administrative Expenses

(a) Applicability. Unless the court orders otherwise, this rule governs all requests for payment of administrative expenses under § 503(a), except for:

- (1) compensation and expenses awarded under § 330(a), and
- (2) administrative expenses incurred in the ordinary course of business to the extent authorized under § 364(a), and
- (3) a trustee's request to pay administrative expenses under LBR 2015-1.

(b) Form of Request.

- (1) **Requests for Interim Payment.** An entity seeking payment for an administrative expense prior to confirmation of a plan or the filing of a trustee's final report must file a motion for allowance and payment of an administrative expense in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c). Payment may be made only upon order of the court allowing the expense and approving an interim payment.
- (2) **Requests for Payment in the Ordinary Course of Distributions.** An entity seeking payment for an administrative expense through distributions under a confirmed plan or by the trustee after the filing of a final report may file a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Payment of Administrative Expense**). Absent a timely objection to plan confirmation or a final report, payment may be made through a distribution under a confirmed plan or as part of the trustee's distribution of estate assets, without entry of a separate order allowing the expense.

(c) Timing of Request. Unless the court otherwise sets a deadline, a request for payment of an administrative expense is timely if filed:

- (1) in a case under chapter 11, 12, or 13, by the later of:
 - (A) 28 days prior to the date of the plan confirmation hearing; or
 - (B) 28 days after the occurrence of the last event giving rise to the expense;
- (2) in a case under chapter 7, by the later of:
 - (A) the deadline for filing a proof of claim;
 - (B) 28 days after the occurrence of the last event giving rise to the expense; or
 - (C) for expenses arising from the use of premises by a trustee or debtor in

possession, 28 days after surrender of the premises by the trustee or debtor in possession.

(d) **Notice.** An entity requesting payment of an administrative expense under this rule must give notice of the request to the trustee or debtor in possession, the Office of the United States Trustee, and, in a chapter 11 case, any committee appointed in the case, or if no committee has been appointed, the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims.

LBR 3002-1. Electronic Filing of Proof of Claim

A proof of claim submitted under Bankruptcy Rule 3002 and documents submitted in compliance with Bankruptcy Rule 3002.1 may be filed electronically using the electronic proof of claim application at the court's website. Documents submitted using this system and in compliance with all instructions and procedural requirements issued by the clerk shall have the same force and effect as if the submitting individual had signed a paper copy of the document.

LBR 3002-2. Extension of Time to File Claim

As provided in Bankruptcy Rule 3002(c)(7), a creditor may request an extension of time to file a proof of claim by filing a motion that substantially conforms to the local form (**Motion to Extend Time to File Proof of Claim**).

LBR 3003-1. Chapter 11 Claims Bar Date

Unless the court orders otherwise, proofs of claim or interest required to be filed in a chapter 11 case under Bankruptcy Rule 3003 must be filed within 90 days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors called under § 341. In a chapter 11 case under subchapter V, a proof of claim is timely filed if it is filed not later than 70 days after the order for relief under that chapter or the date of the order of conversion to a case under subchapter V of chapter 11.

LBR 3004-1. Claims Filed on Behalf of Creditor

- (a) **Notice.** A party filing a proof of claim on behalf of a creditor under Bankruptcy Rules 3004 or 3005 must serve the creditor with a copy of the filed proof of claim, and a notice of the filing substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice Regarding Claim Filed on Behalf of Creditor**). The filing party must promptly file a certificate of service showing when, how, and on whom service was made. If the filing party amends or withdraws the proof of claim, the filing party shall also serve the amended claim or withdrawal of claim on the creditor and file a certificate of service.
- (b) **Amended Claim Filed by Creditor.** When a proof of claim has been filed on behalf of a creditor under Bankruptcy Rule 3004 or 3005, the creditor may file an amended proof of claim within 30 days after service of the notice required under subdivision (a) of this rule. Unless the court orders otherwise, the amended proof of claim filed by the creditor will supersede the proof of claim filed by another entity.

LBR 3007-1. Claims – Objections

- (a) **Matter to be Set for Hearing.** A party filing an objection to a claim must obtain a hearing date and time from the court.
- (b) **Form of Objection.** Parties may object to a claim by filing an objection that substantially conforms to the local form (**Objection to Claim**). If the local form is not used, Official Form 420B (**Notice of Objection to Claim**) must be filed and served together with the objection. The objection must give not less than 30 days' notice of the deadline to respond.
- (c) **Deadline to Respond.** A response is due 7 days before the scheduled hearing. If notice was sufficient and the claimant fails to file a timely response, the court may cancel the hearing and sustain the objection by default. In that event, the objecting party may request an order sustaining the objection by filing a declaration that substantially conforms to the local form (**Declaration and Request for Entry of Order**) and submitting to chambers a proposed order that substantially conforms to the local form (**Order Sustaining Objection to Claim**).
- (d) **Objection Requiring Adversary Proceeding.** An objection to claim that includes a demand for relief of a kind specified in Bankruptcy Rule 7001 shall be converted to an adversary proceeding. Unless the court orders otherwise, the claimant will be considered the plaintiff and the objecting party will be considered the defendant.
- (e) **Attorney Fees.** Any request for an award of attorney fees and costs for prosecuting or opposing an objection to claim requires a separate motion, filed and served in the manner provided for service of a summons and complaint by Bankruptcy Rule 7004 and LBR 7004-1.

LBR 3010-1. Dividends – Small

- (a) **Chapter 7 Cases.** The trustee in a chapter 7 case may pay dividends in amounts less than \$5.
- (b) **Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 Cases.** The trustee in a chapter 12 or chapter 13 case may distribute payments in amounts less than \$15.

LBR 3011-1. Unclaimed Funds

- (a) **Form of Application.** A party seeking a disbursement of unclaimed funds that have been deposited with the clerk must file an application substantially conforming to the local form (**Application for Unclaimed Funds**). The application and supporting documentation must be submitted on paper for filing with the court.
- (b) **Supporting Documentation.**
 - (1) **Application by Owner of Record (Original Payee).** The person to whom the unclaimed funds were payable according to the court's records when they were deposited with the clerk is the "Owner of Record". The party filing the application is the "applicant".
 - (A) **Individual Owner of Record.** If the applicant is an individual who is the Owner of Record and whose name has changed since the funds were deposited with the court, the applicant must submit documentation of the name change.
 - (B) **Non-Individual Owner of Record.** If the applicant is a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other business or governmental entity that is the Owner of Record, the applicant must submit documentation showing that the individual signing the application has authority to do so on behalf of the applicant, such as articles of incorporation, board meeting minutes, or other documentation.
 - (2) **Application by Successor to Owner of Record.**
 - (A) **Successor to Individual Owner of Record.**
 - (i) **Assignment.** If the applicant is the assignee of an Owner of Record, the applicant must submit a copy of the assignment containing the notarized signature of the assignor.
 - (ii) **Deceased Owner's Estate.** If the applicant is a personal representative of a deceased Owner of Record's estate, the applicant must submit a certified copy of a letter of administration or other document authorizing the representative to file the application on behalf of the decedent's estate.
 - (B) **Successor to Non-Individual Owner of Record.** If the applicant is a successor in interest to a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other business or governmental entity that is the Owner of Record, the applicant must submit documentation of the transfer,

assignment, purchase, merger, acquisition, or succession by other means, together with documentation showing authority for the signing representative to file the application on behalf of the applicant.

- (C) **Signatures.** In addition to the notarized signatures required on the application form, the individual signing the application must provide a copy of a valid photo identification issued by a government agency, such as a driver's license or a passport.
- (D) **Taxpayer Information.** The applicant must provide a W-9 or alternate form that provides the applicant's taxpayer information.
- (E) **Privacy Protection.** The clerk shall file under seal the supporting documentation to restrict public access to any personally identifiable information protected by statute, regulation, or rule.

(c) **Competing Applications.** If there are competing applications for the same unclaimed funds, the court will usually make payment to the Owner of Record rather than to an applicant who claims to be a successor in interest or representative of the Owner of Record. If more than one applicant claims to be the Owner of Record's legal representative, the earliest application generally will be given priority. The court may request further documentation or schedule a hearing in these situations.

(d) **Service on United States Attorney.** The applicant must serve a copy of the application on the Office of the United States Attorney, District of Hawaii, and must file a signed certificate of service showing that the application with any supporting documentation was served on the United States Attorney. The certificate should also include any other parties served.

LBR 3015-1. Chapter 13 Plan

- (a) **Form Plan.** Unless the court orders otherwise, a plan filed in a chapter 13 case must substantially conform to the local form plan (**Chapter 13 Plan**). The form plan's text and order of presenting information may not be altered. The debtor may propose additional or different plan provisions only by setting them out in the "Nonstandard Plan Provisions" section of the plan.
- (b) **Dismissal Upon Failure to File Plan.** If a plan is not filed with a chapter 13 petition or prior to an order converting the case to chapter 13, the clerk is authorized to issue an order to satisfy the deficiency. The order may include a notice that failure to file the plan within 14 days may result in dismissal of the case without further notice, unless on or before the deadline the court enters an order extending the time to file the plan. An order dismissing the case under this provision may include a 180-day bar to refiling a subsequent petition as authorized by § 109(g)(1).
- (c) **Extension of Time to File Plan.** A debtor may request an extension of time to file a plan by filing and serving on the trustee and United States Trustee a motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Motion to Extend Time to File Case Opening Documents**). Consideration of the motion may be expedited if the motion includes the trustee's signature indicating that there is no objection to the request.
- (d) **Motion to Reconsider Dismissal.** A debtor whose case has been dismissed for failure to file a plan may request the court to reconsider the order dismissing the case by filing a proposed plan and a motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Motion to Reconsider Order Dismissing Case**).
- (e) **Request to Value Collateral to Determine Amount of Secured Claim.**
 - (1) **Secured Claim of a Non-Governmental Unit.** If the plan includes a request to value the collateral of a non-governmental unit under § 506(a), the plan must include an addendum that substantially conforms to the local form (**Attachment A: Addendum to Section 4.5**). Any supporting documents, such as appraisals, declarations, exhibits, and memoranda, shall be identified appropriately and appended to the addendum. Each addendum is limited to a single piece of real or personal property unless all interests being determined are secured by the same aggregate of collateral. Otherwise, requests involving different collateral must be made in additional, separate addenda.

(2) **Secured Claim of a Governmental Unit.** A request for valuation under Bankruptcy Rule 3012(c) to determine the amount of a secured claim held by a governmental unit must be made using a motion that substantially conforms to the local form (**Attachment A: Addendum to Section 4.5**). The determination sought in a motion involving a claim by a governmental unit must be consistent with any determination involving nongovernmental creditors' claims secured by the same collateral. The motion must be filed and served at the same time the related plan is filed and served. The governmental unit may object to a motion to value collateral by filing a single pleading objecting to the motion and confirmation of the related plan. Such objections must be filed not later than the deadline to file an objection to plan confirmation.

(f) **Request to Avoid a Lien.** If the plan includes a request to avoid a lien under § 522(f), the plan must include an addendum that substantially conforms to the local form (**Attachment B: Addendum to Section 4.7**). Any supporting documents, such as appraisals, declarations, exhibits, and memoranda, shall be identified appropriately and appended to the attachment. Additional requests to avoid liens must be made in additional, separate addenda.

(g) **Service of Plan.**

(1) **Debtor required to serve plan.** The debtor shall serve the plan and any amended plan on the trustee and all creditors and parties in interest when it is filed with the court. After 70 days following commencement or conversion of the case, service of an amended plan may be limited to those creditors who have filed proofs of claim.

(2) **Manner of Service.** The debtor shall serve the plan in the same manner as required for giving notice under Bankruptcy Rule 2002 of the time fixed for filing objections to confirmation of the plan. If the plan includes a request to avoid a lien or to determine the value of the collateral of a non-governmental unit, the plan and addenda must be served on each affected creditor in the manner provided for service of a summons and complaint by Bankruptcy Rule 7004 and LBR 7004-1.

(3) **Certificate of service.**

(A) **Local form.** The debtor shall promptly file a certificate of service. If the plan includes an Attachment A or an Attachment B, the certificate shall substantially conform to the local form (**Certificate of Service - Chapter 13 Plan**).

(B) **Timeliness.** The debtor shall serve the plan and file a certificate of

service at least 28 days before the date of the confirmation hearing.

(4) **Consequences of deficient service.** If the debtor fails to meet the timeliness of service requirements under this rule, the court may not schedule a confirmation hearing, or may cancel or continue the confirmation hearing, deny confirmation without a hearing, issue an order to show cause why the case should not be dismissed or converted for unreasonable delay prejudicial to creditors, or grant any other appropriate sanctions or other relief.

(h) **Interest Rate Paid on Certain Claims.**

(1) **Standard Interest Rate.** The clerk will set and publish a standard interest rate applicable to plan distributions on secured claims governed by § 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii). This rate may be used to determine the present value of a secured claim to be paid in deferred payments over time unless a lower interest rate is specified in the proof of claim. This does not bar a debtor or creditor from proposing a different interest rate.

(2) **Interest Rate Calculation.** The standard interest rate shall be set semiannually for the periods beginning January 1 and July 1 for cases commenced or converted to chapter 13 in those periods. The standard interest rate shall be the national prime rate of interest published in the Wall Street Journal on the first business day of those periods, plus 1.5%. This rate shall apply in cases commenced under or converted to chapter 13 during those respective periods and will remain in effect for the duration of the plan.

LBR 3015-2. Chapter 13 - Plan Amendment and Modification

(a) Amendment of Plan Before Confirmation.

- (1) **Amended Plan.** The debtor may file an amended chapter 13 plan any time before confirmation by filing and serving on all creditors a plan substantially conforming to the local form plan (**H113**). The debtor must check the box labeled "Amended" and indicate the date and time of the hearing on confirmation of the amended plan.
- (2) **Requests for Valuation and Avoidance of a Lien.** An amended plan that includes a request for valuation of collateral (Attachment A) or avoidance of a lien (Attachment B) must be served on a secured creditor as required by Bankruptcy Rule 7004 even if the particular request has not been amended.
- (3) **Objections.**
 - (A) **Prior Objection Deemed Moot.** An objection to a chapter 13 plan becomes moot upon the filing of an amended plan. If a party remains opposed to confirmation of an amended plan, the party must file a new objection.
 - (B) **Deadline to Object.** An objection to an amended plan must be filed not later than the time specified in LBR 3015-3(a).
- (4) **Amendments Stated Orally at Confirmation Hearing.** The trustee may request that the court confirm a chapter 13 plan with amendments stated orally at the confirmation hearing if the amendments do not prejudice any creditor.

(b) Modification of Plan after Confirmation.

- (1) **Debtor's Motion.**
 - (A) **Form of Motion and Notice.** The debtor may request modification of a confirmed plan by filing a motion and notice of hearing substantially conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Motion to Modify Confirmed Plan; Notice of Hearing**). A copy of the entire plan as modified need not be filed so long as the motion describes with specificity the proposed modifications to the plan then in effect.
 - (B) **Service.** A debtor's motion and notice must be served promptly on the trustee and:
 - (i) all creditors and parties in interest; or
 - (ii) if the motion is filed after the deadline to file a proof of claim,

only those parties who have filed a proof of claim.

(C) **Objections.** An objection to a debtor's motion to modify a confirmed Chapter 13 plan must be filed not later than 7 days before the motion's hearing date.

(2) **Motion by Trustee or Creditor.** A motion to modify a confirmed chapter 13 plan brought by a party other than the debtor, including the trustee's motion to extend the plan's duration, must be made pursuant to LBR 9013-1(c), except that a response to the motion must be filed not later than 7 days before the hearing date. The trustee may request a plan extension up to 60 months after the time the first payment was due under the confirmed plan by filing a motion and notice of hearing substantially conforming to the local form (**Trustee's Motion to Extend Plan; Notice of Hearing**). The trustee is not required to file a certificate of service if the clerk serves the trustee's motion and notice using the court's transmission facilities.

LBR 3015-3. Chapter 13 – Confirmation

- (a) **Objection to Confirmation.** A party objecting to confirmation of a chapter 13 plan or a plan motion must file an objection by the later of:
 - (1) 7 days before the date of the confirmation hearing or continued confirmation hearing, and
 - (2) 21 days after the date of filing of the plan, amended plan, or plan motion.
- (b) **Lack of Objections.** In the absence of any timely filed objections to confirmation and any plan motions, the court may cancel the confirmation hearing, confirm the plan, and determine any plan motions.
- (c) **Confirmation Orders.** Unless the court directs otherwise, the trustee will prepare a confirmation order substantially conforming to the local form (**Order Confirming Chapter 13 Plan**), attaching the plan as an exhibit, and any order deciding a plan motion (**Order Granting Motion to Avoid Lien or Order Granting Motion to Value Collateral**). The trustee may delegate the responsibility to prepare an order to the debtor or the debtor's attorney.
- (d) **Procedure Upon Denial of Plan Confirmation.**
 - (1) **Action Required Within 14 days.** An order denying plan confirmation shall provide that the case shall be dismissed unless, within 14 days after the entry of the order denying confirmation, the debtor:
 - (A) files an amended plan and any plan motions, or
 - (B) converts the case to a case under another chapter.
- (e) **Multiple Denials of Confirmation.** If two or more plans have been denied confirmation in a case, the trustee may include in an objection to any subsequent plan a motion to dismiss the case for prejudicial delay to creditors. Separate notice of the request for dismissal is not required.

LBR 3017-1. Disclosure Statement – Approval

- (a) **Motion and Notice Required.** A plan proponent seeking approval of a disclosure statement related to a chapter 11 plan must file a motion for approval with the disclosure statement attached as an exhibit. Except as provided in LBR 3017-2, the moving party must immediately obtain a hearing date and promptly give at least 28 days' notice of the hearing to all parties in interest.
- (b) **Form of Notice.** Unless the court orders otherwise, the notice of the hearing on a motion to approve a disclosure statement must substantially conform to the local form (**Notice of Hearing on Disclosure Statement**).
- (c) **Objections.** A party objecting to approval of the disclosure statement must file a written objection not later than 7 days before the hearing date. The objection should specify why the disclosure statement (rather than the proposed plan) is objectionable. The court generally will not entertain arguments about plan confirmation at the disclosure statement hearing.
- (d) **Intention to Proceed.** Not later than 3 days prior to the hearing (and any continued hearing), the plan proponent shall advise the court by telephone or e-mail whether the proponent intends to go forward with the hearing.
- (e) **Duty to Confer.** If an objection to the proposed disclosure statement is filed, the plan proponent and the objecting party must confer in a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute.
- (f) **Request for Continuance.** A plan proponent desiring a continuance of the hearing on a disclosure statement shall appear at the scheduled hearing to request a continuance.
- (g) **Adequate Information.** A plan proponent may establish that the proposed disclosure statement contains adequate information through offer of proof, declaration, or, if the court so requires, live testimony. In all cases, a witness competent to testify must be present. The plan proponent is not required to file briefs or memoranda.
- (h) **Confirmation Hearing.** At the conclusion of the disclosure statement hearing, counsel for the plan proponent shall be prepared to advise the court of the amount of court time the confirmation hearing will require. If a contested confirmation hearing is anticipated, the

court will entertain requests that scheduling procedures be established concerning the filing of briefs, exchange and marking of exhibits, disclosure of witnesses and discovery.

- (i) **Order Approving Disclosure Statement.** If the disclosure statement is approved at the hearing, the plan proponent must promptly prepare and submit for signing an order that substantially conforms to **Order Approving Disclosure Statement and Fixing Time for Filing Acceptances or Rejections of Plan, Combined with Notice Thereof** (Official Form 313). The proposed order must attach the approved disclosure statement as an exhibit.

LBR 3017-2. Disclosure Statement – Small Business Case

In a small business case governed by § 1125(f), a plan proponent may file an ex parte motion to seek (i) approval of a disclosure statement submitted using a court-approved standard form, (ii) conditional approval of a disclosure statement subject to final approval after notice and a hearing, or (iii) a determination that the plan itself provides adequate information and that a separate disclosure statement is not necessary. Any disclosure statement for which conditional or final approval is sought must be attached as an exhibit to the motion.

LBR 3018-1. Ballots – Voting on Plans

- (a) **Service.** The plan proponent must file a certificate identifying the parties served a ballot (**Official Form 314**) to accept or reject a chapter 11 plan. The certificate of service may be combined with the certificate showing service of the disclosure statement and plan.
- (b) **Ballots to be Returned to Plan Proponent.** Completed ballots must be returned to the plan proponent or its agent, not the court.
- (c) **Ballot Report.** Not later than 7 days before the confirmation hearing, the plan proponent must file a ballot tabulation report that:
 - (1) shows the percentages of acceptances and rejections for each impaired class, in number and dollar amount;
 - (2) identifies any unimpaired classes with an explanation why such classes are unimpaired under § 1124;
 - (3) identifies any ballots received after the voting deadline set by the court and whether such ballots are included in the tabulation; and
 - (4) attaches all ballots as exhibits (unless there is an unusually large number of ballots).

LBR 3020-1. Chapter 11 – Confirmation

- (a) **Service of Disclosure Statement and Plan.** The plan proponent must file a certificate identifying the parties served the disclosure statement and plan. The certificate of service must be filed promptly after service was made.
- (b) **Objections to Confirmation.** Unless the court otherwise orders, objections to confirmation of the plan must be filed not later than 7 days prior to the confirmation hearing.
- (c) **Duty to Confer.** The plan proponent and any party objecting to confirmation must make a good faith effort to confer prior to the confirmation hearing regarding disputed issues and the conduct of the confirmation hearing.
- (d) **Status Report.** Not later than 3 days prior to the hearing (and any continued hearing), the plan proponent must advise the court whether the proponent intends to go forward with the hearing.
- (e) **Request for Continuance.** A plan proponent wishing to continue the confirmation hearing must appear at the scheduled hearing to make the request.
- (f) **Confirmation Requirements.** If the plan has been accepted by the requisite majorities and no objections to confirmation have been filed, the plan proponent may establish that the plan meets the applicable requirements of chapter 11 by offer of proof, declaration, or, if the court so requires, live testimony. In all cases, a witness competent to testify must be present.

LBR 3022-1. Chapter 11 - Final Decree

After the entry of a plan confirmation order, the debtor in possession or trustee in a chapter 11 case may request entry of a final decree by filing and serving on the United States Trustee, any committee appointed in the case, or if no committee was appointed, the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims, an application for a final decree closing the case and discharging the trustee, if one has been appointed. If no objection is filed within 30 days after the date of filing of the application, the clerk may enter a final decree without further notice or hearing.

LBR 3070-1. Chapter 13 – Payments

(a) **Plan Payments to Trustee.**

- (1) **Form of Payment.** Plan payments must be made in a form acceptable to the trustee.
- (2) **Wage Orders.** The debtor may request an order directing the debtor's employer to make plan payments directly to the trustee (a "wage order") by submitting an application substantially conforming to the local form (**Application for Order to Employer to Pay Funds to Trustee; Order**). The trustee may request that the court issue a wage order if the debtor fails to make timely plan payments. The debtor may request an order vacating a wage order by submitting an ex parte motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Motion to Vacate Order to Employer to Pay Funds to Trustee; Order**).

(b) **Pre-Confirmation Lease Payments.** Pre-confirmation payments due under personal property leases governed by § 1326(a)(1)(B) may be made directly by the debtor to the lessor only if the plan so provides or if no plan provision addresses payment of the debtor's lease obligation. If the plan provides for payment of the lease obligation by the trustee, the debtor must make the payment as part of the total payment to the trustee, and the trustee will pay the lessor, both before and after confirmation, upon the filing of a proof of claim by the lessor.

(c) **Pre-Confirmation Adequate Protection Payments.** Pre-confirmation adequate protection payments governed by § 1326(a)(1)(C) may be made directly by the debtor to the secured creditor only if the debtor's plan so provides or if no plan provision addresses payment of the adequate protection. If the plan provides for payment of the secured claim by the trustee, the debtor must make the adequate protection payment as part of the total payment to the trustee, and the trustee will pay the secured creditor, both before and after confirmation, upon the filing of a proof of claim by the creditor.

LBR 3070-2. Chapter 13 – Distributions

(a) Need to File Claim.

- (1) Need to File Proof of Claim.** A creditor must file a timely proof of claim (Official Form 410) in order to receive distributions under the plan.
- (2) Need to File Administrative Claim.** A debtor's attorney must file a request for payment of an administrative expense for compensation and reimbursement of expenses to be paid through plan distributions. The request may be made by filing in the claims register a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Payment of Administrative Expense: Compensation for Debtor's Attorney in Chapter 13 Case**).

(b) Arrearage Portion of Secured Claim. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 3002(a), the holder of a secured claim must file a timely proof of claim in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3002(c) in order to receive plan distributions for a prepetition arrearage or default. If the plan provides for payment of an "arrearage," the trustee shall make a distribution according to the amount stated on the proof of claim as "Amount of arrearage and other charges at time case filed included in secured claim," unless the court orders otherwise. The trustee will make no distribution on the secured portion of a claim that states the amount of the arrearage is \$0.00, none, or the like, or if the arrearage amount is left blank.

(c) Untimely Claims. The court may consider a stipulation to allow an untimely claim without notice to other creditors if executed by the debtor and the trustee.

(d) Trustee's Notice of Claims Filed. The trustee must file and serve on the debtor a notice of claims filed. The trustee shall give notice that distributions on these claims are being made as noted on the list according to the provisions of the confirmed plan unless an objection to a claim is filed or the court orders otherwise. The trustee shall serve the notice of claims filed by the later of (i) 28 days after the latest claims deadline stated in Bankruptcy Rule 3002(c), and (ii) 60 days after the entry of the plan confirmation order.

(e) Determination of Claimant's Address for Distribution. The trustee shall make distributions in accordance with the name and address of the claimant stated on the proof of claim, subject to any amendment, assignment, transfer, change of address, or any other information filed with the court as part of the individual case record. The

trustee shall not make a distribution to a claimant or address other than that stated on the proof of claim unless the notice of a change is filed with the court. A claimant may give notice of an address change by filing a form substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Change of Address (Proof of Claim)**).

(f) **Claims Amended, Assigned or Transferred After the Deadline to File a Claim.** If a claim is amended, assigned, or transferred after the deadline to file a claim under Bankruptcy Rule 3002, the creditor amending the claim, the assignee, or the transferee must file promptly with the court the document amending, assigning or transferring the claim.

(g) **Distribution on Disputed Claim.** To suspend distribution on a disputed claim, the debtor must file and serve an objection to claim on the claimant not later than 28 days after the filing of the trustee's notice of claims filed. The objection must comply with procedures stated elsewhere in these rules. Pending a determination of an objection, the trustee shall cease making a distribution on the disputed claim. If the objection is overruled, at the request of the claimant or the trustee, the court may make provision for payment of any dividends not paid while the objection was pending. Nothing in these rules prevents the debtor, the trustee, or other party in interest from objecting to a claim after the deadline specified in this paragraph. However, unless the court orders otherwise, an objection that is untimely under this subdivision and that is sustained shall not result in a refund of amounts already paid on the disputed claim.

(h) **Relief from Stay.**

(1) **Order Granting Relief from Stay.** If an order granting relief from the automatic or codebtor stay unconditionally permits the secured creditor to foreclose on or repossess its collateral, the trustee shall cease making payments as soon as practicable to all creditors whose claims are based entirely on a secured interest in the collateral being foreclosed on or repossessed.

(2) **Stipulation or Order Regarding Relief from Stay.** If a stipulated order on relief from stay or other order provides that an arrearage in postpetition payments will be added to the prepetition debt amount paid through the plan, the creditor must file an amended claim to show the adjusted total amount due.

(i) **Payment of Debtor's Attorney Fees.**

(1) **In General.**

(A) **Duty to Hold Funds in Client Trust Account Until Earned.** In compliance with applicable nonbankruptcy law and rules, a debtor's attorney must

deposit in a client trust account any payments made by or on behalf of the debtor. Before the petition is filed, an attorney may transfer any fees earned by that date from the trust account to the attorney's operating account. An attorney may not make any such transfers after the petition date without court approval.

- (B) "Unpaid Compensation" means any unpaid compensation or reimbursement that has been allowed by a court order, less any funds held in a client trust account for the debtor, as of the date that the trustee calculates the relevant distribution.
- (C) "Available Funds" means all funds received by the trustee as payments under the confirmed plan that have cleared as of the date that the trustee calculates the monthly distribution amounts.

(2) **Prior to Plan Confirmation.**

- (A) **No Distribution for Unpaid Compensation Before Plan Confirmation.** Unless the court orders otherwise, the trustee shall make no distribution from Available Funds for unpaid compensation prior to entry of a plan confirmation order, whether allowed as presumptive fees under the Chapter 13 Attorney Fee Guidelines or on a standard fee application under Rule 2016-1(a).
- (B) **Payment of Presumptive Fees in Cases Dismissed or Converted Before Confirmation.** In a case that is dismissed or converted prior to confirmation in which the debtor's attorney has opted for presumptive fees under the Chapter 13 Attorney Fee Guidelines, the attorney may seek a distribution from plan payments held by the trustee or in the attorney's client trust account by filing, not later than 14 days after the dismissal or conversion, a fee application supported by time records. In accordance with § 1326(a)(2), the trustee is authorized to retain sufficient funds to pay a potential fee application as an administrative expense under § 503(b) before refunding funds to the debtor.

(3) **After Plan Confirmation.**

- (A) **Initial Distribution.** Unless the confirmed plan provides otherwise, the initial distribution for Unpaid Compensation shall be paid from Available Funds before each payment to creditors under the plan.
- (B) **Distributions for Additional Fee Awards.** Unless the court orders otherwise and to the extent there are Available Funds, awards for additional fees during the case shall be paid monthly in an amount specified in the fee application at the same time of each payment to

holders of secured claims. If the attorney holds funds on deposit in the client trust account, the attorney may pay its fees from these funds with court approval. If there are no allowed secured claims, the fee award shall be paid in full before any payment to other creditors.

- (4) **Upon Completion of Plan.** If the debtor has completed payments under the plan and there are no Available Funds to distribute for any unpaid compensation, the trustee shall file a final report and account in due course.
- (5) **Form of Request for Payment.** A request for payment of compensation as an administrative expense shall be made by filing in the claims register a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Payment of Administrative Expense: Compensation for Debtor's Attorney in Chapter 13 Case**). The request must attach a copy of the order allowing the compensation if the fee award was made on a standard fee application.

LBR 4001-1. Automatic Stay; Codebtor Stay - Relief From

(a) Motion and Supporting Documents.

- (1) **Motion.** A motion requesting relief from the automatic stay imposed by § 362(a) must state the basis under § 362(d) for the relief being sought. Except for related relief from a codebtor stay under § 1201(a) or 1301(a), the motion may not include requests for other relief.
- (2) **Cover Sheet.** The motion must attach a cover sheet substantially conforming to the local form (**Cover Sheet - Motion for Relief from Stay**) summarizing the factual basis for the request.
- (3) **Declaration.** A motion for relief from the automatic stay or codebtor stay must be accompanied by admissible evidence supporting the factual basis for the motion.
- (4) **Account Statement.**
 - (A) **When Statement Required.** If the motion alleges that the debtor has defaulted in making payments to the moving party, the motion must include an account statement and an admissible declaration attesting to the statement's accuracy. The statement must cover the entire period during which the moving party contends that the debtor has been in default. The statement and declaration must be written in language comprehensible to a lay person, and must include the following information:
 - (i) a description of the accrued and unpaid obligations, including the nature of the obligation (e.g., principal and interest, escrow, etc.) and the date on which it accrued;
 - (ii) the amount of any payments during the period of the statement; and
 - (iii) the date of receipt and posting of each such payment.
 - (B) **When Statement Not Required.** An account statement is not required if the debtor has indicated in the Chapter 7 Individual Debtor's Statement of Intention or in a Chapter 13 plan that the property which is the subject of the motion will be surrendered to the moving party.

(b) Hearing.

- (1) **Preliminary Hearing.** Unless the court orders otherwise, a motion for relief from the automatic or codebtor stay will be scheduled for a preliminary hearing in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c). The moving party must contact the courtroom

deputy prior to filing the motion in order to obtain a hearing date that meets the requirements of § 362(e). Failure to obtain a hearing date in compliance with this rule will be deemed to be the moving party's consent to extend the automatic stay beyond thirty days, pending the conclusion of a final hearing and determination under § 362(d).

(2) **Continuance of Hearing.** A preliminary hearing may be continued or consolidated with a final hearing if the moving party, the debtor, and all other parties responding to the motion agree to the continuance or consolidation and the extension of the 30-day period for the entry of an order under § 362(e). The parties do not need to appear at the initially scheduled hearing if the moving party contacts the courtroom deputy, represents that all parties consent to the change, obtains a new hearing date and time, and promptly files and serves a notice of the continued preliminary hearing or the final hearing.

(3) **Oral Testimony.** Unless the court orders otherwise, no oral testimony will be received by the court at any hearing on a motion for relief from the automatic or codebtor stay.

(c) **Notice.**

(1) **Form of Notice.** The moving party must file and serve a notice of hearing substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Hearing**), which provides explicit notice of the deadline to file an opposition statement and that the court may grant the relief without a hearing in the absence of a timely filed opposition statement.

(2) **Separate Document.** The notice must be filed as a separate docket entry.

(d) **Service.** The moving party must serve, promptly after filing, a copy of the motion and the notice on:

- (1) the debtor;
- (2) the debtor's attorney;
- (3) any trustee appointed in the case;
- (4) any committee appointed in the case under § 705 or 1102, or its attorney, or, if no committee of unsecured creditors has been appointed in a chapter 11 case, the creditors included on the list filed pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007(d);
- (5) if the motion seeks to enforce a lien, all other parties, known to the moving party, who claim an ownership or security interest in the same collateral;
- (6) if the motion concerns a codebtor stay, the codebtor; and
- (7) if the motion concerns the commencement or continuation of a judicial, administrative, or other action or proceeding, all parties to the action or

proceeding.

(e) Opposition Statement and Reply.

- (1) Deadlines to file and serve an opposition or reply regarding a motion requesting relief only from the automatic stay under § 362:
 - (A) opposition or other responsive statement: 14 days before the hearing date;
 - (B) reply by moving party: 7 days before hearing date;
- (2) Deadlines to file and serve an opposition or reply regarding a motion including a request for relief from the codebtor stay under § 1201 or 1301:
 - (A) opposition or other responsive statement: the later of (i) 20 days after the filing of the motion or (ii) 7 days before the hearing date;
 - (B) reply by moving party: 3 days before hearing date.

(f) Order Granting Relief.

- (1) **Relief Granted by Default.** If no timely opposition has been filed, the moving party may request the entry of an order by filing a declaration substantially conforming to the local form (**Declaration and Request for Entry of Order**). The section regarding the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003 must be completed.
- (2) **Form of Order.** The moving party may obtain the relief requested by submitting a proposed order substantially conforming to the local form order (**Order Granting Relief from Stay**). If the form order is not used, the proposed order must include the following provisions unless the court directs otherwise:
 - (A) No deficiency judgment or other money judgment may be entered against the debtor unless and until the bankruptcy court enters an order
 - (i) denying the debtor a discharge;
 - (ii) determining that the debt owed to the moving party is not dischargeable;
 - (iii) dismissing the case prior to the entry of a discharge; or
 - (iv) expressly authorizing the entry of such a judgment;
 - (B) If the subject property is sold and the proceeds exceed the amount of the secured claim(s), the moving party must turn over the surplus proceeds to the trustee;
 - (C) The secured portion of any proof of claim filed by the moving party with respect to the subject property is deemed withdrawn and the moving party may seek collection of any unsecured deficiency amount

only by filing a proof of claim under § 501, or by amending a previously filed proof of claim;

(D) The order will remain effective despite the conversion of the case to one under another chapter;

(E) The order is limited to granting relief from the automatic stay and/or the codebtor stay under the Bankruptcy Code and does not determine any issues concerning any rights, claims, remedies, or defenses of the moving party, the debtor, or any other party; and

(F) In a chapter 13 case, as soon as practicable after the trustee receives notice of this order, the trustee shall cease making distributions on all claims secured by the property described above except for funds then being held by trustee for distribution.

(3) Special Provisions. The order may include the following special provisions only if the motion specifically requested such relief and provided an adequate factual and legal basis therefore:

(A) inapplicability of the stay provided under Bankruptcy Rule 4001(a)(3);

(B) "in rem" relief, where the order is binding with respect to the subject property in another bankruptcy case that has been or may be filed;

(C) retroactive relief or annulment of the stay; and

(D) with respect to relief from the codebtor stay under § 1201 or 1301, a provision for a deficiency judgment against a codebtor without further order of the court.

(g) **Stipulations.** The court will consider granting relief from the automatic or codebtor stay, without the filing of a motion, upon submission of a stipulation for the relief if signed by the debtor, the party seeking relief, the trustee, and any party in interest, including a codebtor. In a chapter 11 case where no trustee has been appointed, the stipulation must be signed by the members of the unsecured creditors committee or its attorney. In a chapter 11 case where no trustee or unsecured creditors committee has been appointed, notice of not less than 21 days of the stipulation and an opportunity to object must be given to the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims.

LBR 4001-2. Cash Collateral and Postpetition Financing

- (a) **Scope of Rule.** This rule applies to all requests for authority to use cash collateral and all requests for authority to incur debt in cases under chapter 7, chapter 11, and chapter 12 ("Financing Motions").
- (b) **Contents of Motion.** All Financing Motions must include a budget covering the time period during which the order will remain in effect.
- (c) **Effect of Noncompliance.** The court may deem unenforceable any provision not described, explained, or identified as required by Bankruptcy Rule 4001(c)(1)(B).
- (d) **Interim Relief.** Absent extraordinary circumstances, the court will not approve an interim order on a Financing Motion that contains any of the provisions described in Bankruptcy Rule 4001(c)(1)(B).

LBR 4001-4. Rent Deposit

(a) **Deposit with Initial Statement About an Eviction.** The clerk shall not accept a deposit of rent under § 362(l)(1)(B) unless all the following requirements are met.

- (1) The debtor must file an **Initial Statement About an Eviction Judgment Against You (Official Form 101A)** with the petition at the commencement of the case.
- (2) The debtor must attach to the Initial Statement a copy of the judgment for possession or eviction that was entered prior to the filing of the bankruptcy petition.
- (3) The Initial Statement must be signed by the debtor(s), contain the landlord's name and mailing address, and have the boxes checked which certify that:
 - (A) under applicable state or nonbankruptcy law, the debtor has the right to stay in the residence by paying the landlord the entire delinquent amount; and
 - (B) the debtor is depositing the rent that would be due during the 30 days after filing the bankruptcy petition.
- (4) The rent deposit must be in the form of a certified or cashier's check or money order, payable to the landlord.

(b) **Service of Initial Statement on Landlord.** The debtor must mail a copy of the Initial Statement on the landlord by and file a certificate of service.

(c) **Statement About Payment of an Eviction Judgment.** Upon payment in accordance with § 362(l)(1)(B)(2) of the entire amount owed as stated in the eviction judgment, the debtor must:

- (1) certify full payment of the judgment amount in a **Statement About Payment of an Eviction Judgment Against You (Official Form 101B)**, filed within 30 days after filing the bankruptcy petition;
- (2) file a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Deadline to Object to Certification Regarding Rent Payment**), providing the landlord notice of a 14-day objection deadline; and
- (3) file a certificate of service on the landlord for the Statement About Payment of an Eviction Judgment and the Notice of Deadline to Object.

(d) **Non-Compliance.** Failure to comply with the certification requirements in the relevant statutory provisions and this rule will result in the clerk's transmittal to the landlord of a certified copy of the docket indicating the absence of the debtor's certifications and a

notice regarding applicability of the automatic stay provision of § 362(b)(22).

LBR 4001-5. Automatic Stay - Extending or Imposing Stay; Confirming No Stay in Effect

(a) **Motions to Extend or to Impose Stay.**

- (1) **Motion Required.** A party requesting an order to extend the automatic stay under § 362(c)(3)(B), or to impose the stay under § 362(c)(4)(B), must file a motion.
- (2) **Contents.** The motion must state whether relief is sought with respect to all creditors or only specified creditors, who must be identified by name. The motion must set forth facts, supported by declarations as appropriate, showing that the filing of the present case is in good faith as to the creditors to be stayed and describing the circumstances that led to dismissal of any prior case(s) by the debtor.
- (3) **Notice of Hearing.**
 - (A) **Motion to Extend Stay.** A party seeking to extend the stay under § 362(c)(3)(B) must obtain a hearing date that is not later than 30 days after the date of filing of the petition. A request to shorten time is not required if the motion is filed and served not less than 14 days before the hearing date. The motion must include a notice that any response to the motion must be filed and served on the moving party not less than 7 days before the hearing date. The moving party is not required to file a reply but may do so not less than 3 days before the hearing date. Absent a timely response, LBR 9013-1(c)(3) applies.
 - (B) **Motion to Impose Stay.** A motion to impose the stay is governed by LBR 9013-1(c) and, if shortening of time is sought, by LBR 9006-1(b).

(b) **Motions to Confirm Termination or Absence of Stay.**

- (1) **Motion Required.** Unless the court orders otherwise, a party requesting an order to confirm that the automatic stay has been terminated or is not in effect under § 362(h)(1) or (j) must file a motion.
- (2) **Contents.**
 - (A) **Motions Under 11 U.S.C. § 362(h)(1).** A motion to confirm termination of the automatic stay filed under § 362(h)(1) must set forth facts, supported by declarations as appropriate, describing the personal property that is the subject of the motion and the actions taken by the debtor and the moving party with respect to the debtor's statement of

intention filed pursuant to § 521(a)(2), and any proposed reaffirmation under § 524(c). A copy of the debtor's statement of intention must be attached as an exhibit to the motion.

(B) **Motions Under 11 U.S.C. § 362(j).** A motion to confirm the termination or absence of a stay under § 362(j) must set forth facts, supported by declarations as appropriate, regarding the dismissal or closing of any prior cases, the time any discharge was granted or denied, and any other facts pertinent to the motion.

(3) **Notice and Hearing.** Motions to confirm the termination or absence of a stay are governed by LBR 9013-1(c) and, if shortening of time is sought, by LBR [9006-1](#)(b).

(c) **Service.** A motion and notice governed by this rule must be served on the debtor, the debtor's attorney, any creditors or parties in interest affected by the motion, the United States Trustee, and any trustee or committee appointed in the case.

LBR 4003-1. Exemptions

- (a) **Itemization.** The exemption list in Schedule C - Property Claimed as Exempt must itemize, describe, and separately value each item claimed as exempt, except for household goods with an aggregate value not exceeding \$500.
- (b) **Amendment of Schedule C.**
 - (1) **Amendment not Supplemental.** An amended Schedule C - Property Claimed as Exempt should replace in its entirety, not supplement, the originally filed schedule. Unless an amended Schedule C is clearly marked as supplemental, the debtor is deemed to have withdrawn any claims of exemption made in the originally filed schedule.
 - (2) **Service.** The debtor must serve a copy of any amendment to Schedule C on all creditors, and promptly file a certificate of service to show compliance.
- (c) **Objection to Claim of Exemption.** A party may object to a debtor's claim of exemption by filing and serving on the debtor, the debtor's attorney, and the trustee an objection and notice of hearing in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c).
- (d) **Extending Deadline to Object.** A party may request an extension of the deadline to object to a debtor's claim of exemption by filing and serving on the debtor, the debtor's attorney, and the trustee a motion and notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Motion to Extend Time to File Objection to Exemptions; Notice of Hearing**).
- (e) **Order Setting Apart Exempt Property.** If no objection to a claim of exemption in a chapter 7 case has been made within the time provided in Bankruptcy Rule 4003(b), the court may, at any time, without a hearing and without reopening the case, enter an order approving claimed exemptions and setting apart exempt property as claimed.

LBR 4004-3. Discharge of Individual Debtor

(a) Chapter 7.

- (1) **Eligibility for Discharge.** In a case commenced on or after October 17, 2005, the court may grant a discharge to an individual chapter 7 debtor who is otherwise eligible to receive a discharge, unless a statement is filed alleging that § 727(a)(12) applies to the debtor. Such a statement must be filed no later than the deadline to file a complaint objecting to the debtor's discharge stated in Bankruptcy Rule 4004(a) or other time set by the court.
- (2) **Notice to Creditors.** The clerk will include notice of this rule in the notice given under Bankruptcy Rule 2002(a)(1) to the parties identified in the debtor's creditor matrix.

(b) Chapter 11.

- (1) **Discharge After Completion of All Plan Payments.** Upon completion of all payments due under a confirmed plan, a debtor in a chapter 11 case who is an individual must file and serve on all creditors a certification and notice of completion of plan payments substantially conforming to the local form (**Chapter 11 Individual Debtor's Certification of Eligibility for Discharge; Notice of Deadline to Object**). The certification must include a statement that § 1141(d)(5)(C) does not apply to the debtor. Any objection to the certification and the granting of a discharge must be filed within 30 days after the date of filing of the certification and notice.
- (2) **When Motion Required.** A debtor in a chapter 11 case who is an individual may request the granting of a discharge without completion of all payments under the plan, as provided under § 1141(d)(5)(A) and (B), by filing and serving on all creditors a motion in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c).

(c) Chapter 12 and Chapter 13.

- (1) **Discharge After Completion of Plan Payments.** Upon completion of all payments due under a confirmed plan, a chapter 12 or chapter 13 debtor in a case commenced on or after October 17, 2005, must file with the court a certification of eligibility for a discharge substantially conforming to Form 2830 (**Chapter 13 Debtor's Certifications Regarding Domestic Support Obligations and Section 522(q)**). If the certification indicates that the debtor is eligible for a discharge with respect to § 1228(a) and (f) or § 1328(a) and (h), the clerk will serve on all creditors a notice that any objection to the certification and the granting of a

discharge must be filed within 30 days after the date of the notice. If a debtor fails to file the certification under this rule by 30 days after the date of filing of the trustee's final report and account, the clerk may close the case without the granting of a discharge.

(2) **When Motion Required.** A debtor in a chapter 12 or chapter 13 case may request the granting of a discharge without completion of all payments under the plan, as provided under § 1228(b) or § 1328(b), by filing and serving on all creditors a motion in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c). Unless the court orders otherwise, the granting of a discharge under this provision remains subject to the requirements to file a certification of eligibility under paragraph (1) and, in a chapter 13 case, to have completed an instructional course concerning personal financial management.

LBR 4008-1. Reaffirmation

- (a) **Reaffirmation Agreement Deficiency.** If a reaffirmation agreement is not accompanied by the **Reaffirmation Agreement Cover Sheet (Official Form 427)** required under Bankruptcy Rule 4008(a), or if the cover sheet or the reaffirmation agreement is incomplete, the court may not consider a reaffirmation agreement for approval, or may find, without a hearing, that a presumption of undue hardship has not been rebutted to the satisfaction of the court. The cover sheet is incomplete if it does not contain the debtor's income and expenses as stated in the reaffirmation agreement and as stated in schedules I and J, together with an explanation of any differences between these amounts.
- (b) **Extension of Deadline to File Reaffirmation Agreement.** A debtor's request to defer entry of a discharge and to extend the time to file a reaffirmation agreement by filing a motion conforming to the local form (**Debtor's Motion to Defer Entry of Discharge and Enlarge Time to File Reaffirmation Agreement**), generally will be considered ex parte. A motion for such relief by a party other than the debtor must comply with LBR 9013-1(c).

LBR 5001-2. Clerk - Location

- (a) **Address of Clerk's Office.** The clerk's office is located in Honolulu, Hawaii. The mailing address is: United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Hawaii, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 250, Honolulu, HI 96813.
- (b) **Website.** Local rules, forms, court calendars, and other information are available through the Internet at <http://www.hib.uscourts.gov>.
- (c) **CM/ECF and PACER.** Documents may be filed and viewed through the Internet by using the federal judiciary's Case Management/Electronic Case Files ("CM/ECF") and Public Access to Court Electronic Records ("PACER") systems at <https://ecf.hib.uscourts.gov>. CM/ECF and PACER accounts are required for access.

LBR 5005-1. Filing Papers - Requirements

- (a) **Filing.** Documents to be filed in a bankruptcy case or proceeding must be filed with the clerk of the bankruptcy court.
- (b) **Caption Requirements.** In addition to the information generally required by these rules, a party filing a document with the clerk must include the following in the document's caption:
 - (1) the chapter of the Bankruptcy Code under which the case is currently pending; and
 - (2) if the document is the subject of a hearing or trial,
 - (A) the date and time of the hearing or trial, and
 - (B) the name of the presiding judge.
- (c) **Defective Pleadings and Papers.**
 - (1) The clerk may reject without filing a petition that is submitted:
 - (A) by a person who may not file a voluntary petition pursuant to an order of this court or any other federal court;
 - (B) in paper form without the original signature of the debtor, and, if any, the joint debtor and the attorney for the debtor(s); or
 - (C) without a creditor list.
 - (2) The clerk may reject without filing any document, including a petition, that is submitted:
 - (A) without the fee required to be paid at the time of filing by 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a) or (b), in a manner acceptable to the clerk;
 - (B) in paper form without the original signature of the individual submitting the document;
 - (C) without the verification or declaration required under Bankruptcy Rule 1008; or
 - (D) for filing in a closed or non-existent case in this court, unless the document's purpose is to commence or reopen a case.
 - (3) The clerk shall give prompt notice to the party whose document has been rejected for filing, including a specific description of the deficiency.
 - (4) Any party affected by the rejection of a document may file a motion for judicial action within 7 days after the date of the clerk's rejection notice. The moving party must serve notice of a motion for such review on all parties affected by the document subject to the motion. If judicial review results in a determination that

the rejection was improper, the document will be deemed filed as of a date and time set by the court.

LBR 5005-2. Filing Papers - Number of Copies

- (a) **Documents for Filing.** Any party filing a document in paper form must submit to the clerk one copy of the document with an original signature. Upon request, the clerk will affix the date and time of filing stamp on a reasonable amount of additional copies.
- (b) **Copy for Chambers.** A paper copy of a filed document should only be submitted to the judge's chambers if:
 - (1) requested by the clerk or chambers staff; or
 - (2) the document is filed:
 - (A) 5 days or fewer before the hearing or trial to which the document pertains; or
 - (B) after the applicable deadline. (This provision does not excuse or permit the untimely filing of a document and the court may disregard any such document.)

LBR 5005-4. Electronic Filing

(a) **Scope of Electronic Filing.** Documents may be filed, signed, verified and served by electronic means, in accordance with procedures promulgated by the court. Except as prescribed by local rule, order, or other procedure, the court has assigned all cases and proceedings to the CM/ECF system. Unless otherwise expressly provided in these rules or in exceptional circumstances preventing a filer from filing electronically, all documents required to be filed with the court in connection with a case or proceeding must be electronically filed. Documents and audio files may be accessed online in the federal judiciary's PACER system.

(b) **CM/ECF Eligibility, Registration, Passwords.**

- (1) **Eligibility.** An individual entitled to file documents with the court electronically is referred to as an ECF User. All attorneys permitted to practice before the federal courts in the District of Hawaii are eligible to be ECF Users. The clerk may authorize other individuals to be ECF Users with full or limited participation in the CM/ECF system, including an unrepresented individual.
- (2) **Registration.** An individual eligible to be an ECF User must request electronic filing privileges through the individual's PACER account. The request will constitute consent to receive service and notice by electronic means to the full extent permitted under the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and a waiver of the right to receive service and notice on paper. An ECF User may withdraw from participation in the CM/ECF system in accordance with procedures prescribed by the clerk.
- (3) **Login and Passwords.** Use of the ECF User's PACER login and password constitutes the signature of that individual, as provided further in this rule.
- (4) **Filing Agents.** An individual authorized by an ECF User to electronically file documents in the name of the ECF User is referred to as a Filing Agent. The clerk may require that an individual who files on behalf of an ECF User be formally designated as a Filing Agent. Use of the Filing Agent's PACER login and password has the same effect as use of the ECF User's login and password. The ECF User can remove a Filing Agent from the main account. If the agency relationship is terminated, the ECF User as soon as practicable must remove the Filing Agent from the main account or notify the clerk to deactivate the Filing Agent's login and password to prevent any unauthorized filing.
- (5) **Pro Se Filers.** An individual in an existing bankruptcy case or proceeding who is not represented by an attorney may request limited electronic filing privileges in

accordance with procedures prescribed by the clerk. Authorization will be limited to a specific existing case and access will be terminated when the case or proceeding is closed. By submitting the request, the individual is consenting to service of documents via the notices of electronic filing sent through the court's CM/ECF system.

(c) Consequences of Electronic Filing.

- (1) Entry on the Docket.** Electronic transmission of a document to the CM/ECF system consistent with these rules, together with the transmission of a Notice of Electronic Filing from the court, constitutes filing of the document for all purposes of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the local rules of this court, and constitutes entry of the document on the docket kept by the clerk under Bankruptcy Rule 5003.
- (2) Official Record.**
 - (A) Document electronically filed.** When a document has been filed electronically, the official record is the electronic recording of the document as stored by the court, and the filing party is bound by the document as filed. A document filed electronically is deemed filed at the date and time stated in the Notice of Electronic Filing from the court.
 - (B) Document submitted in paper form.** When a document submitted in paper form has had its image electronically recorded, the official record is the electronic recording of the document as stored by the court, and the filing party is bound by the document as so filed. A document submitted in paper form is deemed filed at the earlier of (i) the date and time stated on the Notice of Electronic Filing from the court or (ii) the date and time stamp affixed by the clerk. The clerk is not required to retain any paper document after making an electronic recording thereof consistent with the technical standards, if any, established by the Judicial Conference of the United States and the requirements, if any, prescribed by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.
- (3) Deadlines.** Filing a document electronically does not alter the filing deadline for that document. Filing must be completed by 11:59 p.m. Hawaiian Standard Time as recorded by the court's CM/ECF server in order to be considered timely filed that day.
- (4) Virtual Documents.** The court may create certain text-only entries on the docket for selection by an ECF User that consist entirely of the text contained in the

docket entry and for which there is no separate electronically recorded image. Such virtual documents are fully effective despite the absence of a document image linked to the entry.

(d) Entry of Court-Issued Documents.

- (1) In General.** All orders, decrees, judgments, and proceedings of the court will be filed in accordance with these rules, which will constitute entry on the docket kept by the clerk under Bankruptcy Rules 5003 and 9021. Any order or other court-issued document filed electronically without the original signature of a judge or clerk, including a document that is a virtual document or a text-only docket entry, has the same force and effect as if the judge or clerk had signed a paper copy of the order and it had been entered on the docket in a non-electronic manner.
- (2) Summons.** The clerk may sign, seal, and issue a summons electronically. A summons in an adversary proceeding and a summons to an alleged debtor in an involuntary case containing the name of the clerk, the image of the seal of the court, and the identification of the court may be made available for downloading from the court's website. Such a summons, once completed in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 4, dated on or after the date of the filing of a complaint or an involuntary petition, and filed with the court by an ECF User, shall be deemed to be a valid summons signed, sealed, and issued by the clerk.

(e) Attachments and Exhibits - Excerpts. Attachments and exhibits should contain only those excerpts of the referenced material that are directly germane to the matter under consideration by the court. Excerpted material must be clearly and prominently identified as such. A party filing excerpts of a document under this rule does so without prejudice to the right to file timely additional excerpts or the complete document. A responding party may file timely additional excerpts or the complete document that the party believes to be directly germane to the subject matter.

(f) Signatures.

- (1) ECF User.** A filing made through a person's electronic filing account and authorized by that person, together with that person's name on a signature block constitutes the signature of the ECF User for all purposes, including those under Bankruptcy Rule 9011 and 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and has the same force and effect as if the ECF User had affixed his or her signature on a paper copy of the document being filed.
- (2) Debtor.** At the time a bankruptcy petition and accompanying schedules and

statements, including amendments thereof, are filed electronically, the ECF User must be in possession of the completed paper copies signed by the debtor. The declarations or certifications required of a debtor in these documents must be made by (i) submitting a paper copy of a declaration substantially conforming to the local form (**Declaration re: Electronic Filing**) with the signature of each individual or joint debtor, or the signature of an authorized individual on behalf of a debtor that is an artificial entity; or (ii) filing a digital copy of the originally signed and dated declaration. The Declaration re: Electronic Filing must be filed within 7 days after the date of electronic filing of the subject document.

(3) **Retention of Originally Signed Documents.** The signed copies of a bankruptcy petition and accompanying papers, and any amendments thereof, required to be verified under Bankruptcy Rule 1008 and any declaration made by any party under penalty of perjury in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746 must be retained by the ECF User until one year after the date that the case or proceeding is closed. The court, on its own motion or on the request of a party in interest, may require the production of any originally signed and dated document or its digital image.

(4) **Sanctions.** Failure to comply with the provisions of this rule regarding signatures and retention of originally signed documents may result in dismissal of a case or proceeding and the striking of documents without further notice or hearing, and the imposition of monetary and other sanctions on the ECF User and Filing Agent.

(5) **Authorized Signature Methods.** For documents filed electronically, the following signature methods on the digital image are .

- (A) An original “wet ink” signature,
- (B) A digital signature generated by a court-approved software application that creates a secure electronic signature that uniquely identifies the signer and ensures the authenticity of the signature, and
- (C) A signature using the “/s/” of the ECF User filing the document or the “/s/” and printed name of a third party who has consented to use of this signature method.

Paper documents submitted for filing must contain an original “wet ink” signature. The court may adopt further requirements regarding signatures through issuance of administrative procedures.

(g) **Service and Notice by Electronic Means.** Electronic transmission through the CM/ECF system of a notice of electronic filing and, unless the document is virtual or a text-only docket entry, a link to the image of the document that has been filed constitutes service and notice of the entry of that document in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9022 and

Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(E).

(h) Filing Prevented by Technical Failures.

- (1) Definition.** A technical failure means that the court's CM/ECF server, without notice, is unavailable to ECF Users for electronic filing. It does not include incidents where the court's server is not accessible due to a failure of the filer's software or hardware, or the filer's Internet connection.
- (2) Relief from Technical Failure.** An ECF User who is unable to effect a filing due to a technical failure should document the incident and report it to the clerk as soon as practicable. If a filing is made untimely as the result of a technical failure, an ECF User may seek appropriate relief from the court.

(i) Hyperlinks.

- (1) Link Within Same Document.** An electronically filed document may contain a hyperlink to another portion of the same document.
- (2) Link to External Source.** An electronically filed document may contain a hyperlink to a location on the Internet that contains a source document for a citation. However, hyperlinks are simply a convenient means for accessing reference material and may not replace standard citation format. Complete standard citations must be included in the document text. Neither a hyperlink, nor any site to which it refers, may be considered part of the record. The court accepts no responsibility for accessibility to or the functionality of any hyperlink or its content.

LBR 5009-1. Order Declaring Lien Satisfied

- (a) **Form of Motion.** In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 5009(d), a chapter 12 or chapter 13 debtor may request entry of an order declaring a lien satisfied under the terms of a confirmed plan by filing and serving a motion that substantially conforms to the local form (**Motion for Order Declaring Lien Satisfied**).
- (b) **Service.** The motion must be served on the holder of the claim in the manner provided for service of a summons and complaint by Bankruptcy Rule 7004 and LBR 7004-1.
- (c) **Hearing and Deadline to Respond.** The motion is governed by LBR 9013-1(c).

LBR 5011-1. Withdrawal of Reference

- (a) **Motion - Where Filed.** A motion to withdraw the reference of a case or proceeding must be filed with the clerk of the bankruptcy court. Upon filing, the clerk will transmit a copy of the motion to the clerk of the district court.
- (b) **Automatic Stay.** Nothing in this rule shall modify any stay imposed by § 362(a), 922, 1201(a), or 1301(a).

LBR 5073-1. Photography, Recording Devices & Broadcasting

- (a) **Prohibition.** Unless the court orders otherwise, taking a photograph, making an audio or video recording, or broadcasting by radio, television, or otherwise in the courtroom during or in connection with any hearing, trial, or other proceeding is prohibited. If a court proceeding is recorded for a specific purpose in accordance with the policy of the Judicial Conference of the United States, the dissemination of any recorded courtroom transmission by any means, for any purpose, by or to any person, without a court order authorizing such dissemination, is prohibited.
- (b) **Exception.** Subdivision (a) does not apply to audio recordings of proceedings made by court staff for the purpose of making the official record. The presiding judge may authorize public access to such audio recordings on PACER. A party objecting to access to an audio recording being made available on PACER must file an objection no later than the time of the hearing or trial and bring it to the attention of the judge at the commencement of the proceeding.
- (c) **Electronic Devices Policy.** Visitors to the courtroom and office space of the United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Hawaii, 1132 Bishop Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, are (unless the court directs otherwise) allowed to carry and use various electronic devices as stated below.
 - (1) Visitors may bring into the office space and courtroom electronic devices, such as cellular phones, smartphones, laptop computers, tablet computers, or similar functioning devices having wireless communications capability. All devices are subject to a security inspection.
 - (2) Except while inside the courtroom, visitors may use such devices to make telephone calls and to transmit and receive data communications, such as email or text messages, or to access the Internet.
 - (3) In the courtroom, visitors may use such devices to take notes, transmit and receive data communications, and access the Internet, but not for telephone calls. Telephone ring tones and other sounds produced by devices must be disabled while in the courtroom. Only quiet keyboards may be used in the courtroom.
 - (4) As provided elsewhere in this rule, photography, audio and video recording, and broadcasting are prohibited in the courtroom and office space at all times.
 - (5) The presiding judge may prohibit or further restrict use of such devices by all persons prior to or during a proceeding when necessary to protect the rights of

the parties or to assure the orderly conduct of the proceedings. This policy does not supersede the witness exclusion rule.

(6) A visitor who fails to adhere to this policy or to the presiding judge's directions may be removed from the courtroom or office space or subjected to other sanctions.

LBR 5077-1. Transcripts and Recordings

- (a) **Requests for Transcripts and Recordings.**
 - (1) **Transcripts.** A transcript of a court proceeding may be ordered by filing a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Transcript**).
 - (2) **Audio Recordings.** An audio recording of a proceeding may be ordered by filing a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Audio Recording of Hearing**).
- (b) **Delivery of Transcript to Clerk.** The transcriber may deliver a certified copy of a transcript to the clerk in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 753 by filing such a copy electronically in the court's CM/ECF system.
- (c) **Restricted Access Period.** Unless the court orders otherwise, a transcript will not be made electronically available to the general public via the Internet until at least 90 days after the date the transcript is filed. During the 90-day restricted access period, a printed copy of the transcript may be obtained directly from the transcriber. After the 90-day period, the transcript will be available for printing for a fee at public computer terminals in the Clerk's Office and may be viewed for a fee through the Internet using the federal judiciary's Public Access to Court Electronic Records ("PACER"). The transcript may be viewed at public computer terminals in the Clerk's Office at any time without a fee.
- (d) **Notice of Filing.** Upon the electronic filing of a transcript, the clerk will serve a notice of filing of transcript on each party noted in the transcript as making an appearance.
- (e) **Responsibility to Review.** Each party attending the hearing is responsible for reviewing the transcript for compliance with Bankruptcy Rule 9037(a). A party is responsible for reviewing the following:
 - (1) opening and closing statements made on the party's behalf;
 - (2) statements of the party;
 - (3) the testimony of any witnesses called by the party; and
 - (4) any other portion of the transcript as ordered by the court.
- (f) **Request for Redaction.**
 - (1) **Personal Data Identifiers.** A party may request redaction of the information described in Bankruptcy Rule 9037(a) by filing a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Redaction of Personal Data Identifiers**) not later

than 21 days after the date of filing of the transcript.

(2) **Other Information.** A party may request redaction of additional private or sensitive information by filing a motion not later than 21 days after the date of filing of the transcript.

(g) **Redaction by Transcriber.** If a request for redaction is timely filed under paragraph (f)(1) of this rule, the transcriber must file a redacted version of the transcript not later than 28 days after the date of filing of the original transcript. If a motion is timely filed under paragraph (f)(2) of this rule, the transcriber must file a redacted version of the transcript not later than 14 days after the court grants the motion. The court may extend or shorten these time periods. If a redacted version is filed, only the redacted version will be available via the Internet. The original unredacted transcript will remain available for viewing at public computer terminals in the Clerk's Office.

(h) **Use of Transcript as Exhibit.** A party attaching a copy of a transcript or a portion thereof as an exhibit to another filing at any time must ensure that all personal information protected under Bankruptcy Rule 9037 is redacted.

(i) **Limitations.** Nothing in this rule:

- (1) creates a private right of action or a claim against the United States or any of its employees;
- (2) changes any other rules, policies, or procedures with respect to the sealing or redaction of court records for any other purpose; or
- (3) affects or limits the right of any party, or any other person or entity, to request production of a transcript on an expedited basis.

LBR 5081-1. Fees - Form of Payment

(a) **Form of Payment.** Cash is not accepted for payment of fees required under 28 U.S.C. § 1930 and the Appendix to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 (Bankruptcy Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule). The following methods of payment are accepted.

- (1) cashier's or certified check;
- (2) money order;
- (3) if using Pay.gov, the federal government's online bill payment system: debit card, ACH (electronic payment from a bank account), or PayPal;
- (4) if the payor is an attorney admitted to practice in the District of Hawaii, a check imprinted with the name of the attorney's law firm or a client trust account; or
- (5) credit card if the payment is made in connection with filing a document online by a registered CM/ECF user.

(b) **Rejection for Unacceptable Form of Payment.** When a statutory fee is required for the filing of a document, the clerk may reject the submission of any document that is not accompanied by payment in an acceptable form under this rule.

LBR 6004-1. Sale of Estate Property

(a) Sales Free and Clear of Liens.

(1) **Motion Required.** A party may obtain an order authorizing the sale of estate property free and clear of liens or other interests by filing and serving it on the trustee, the United States Trustee, any party claiming an interest in the subject property or directly affected by the proposed sale, and all parties entitled to notice under Bankruptcy Rule 2002 (Bankruptcy Rule 2002(h) applies to all chapter 7, 12, and 13 cases). Unless the court orders otherwise, the motion must provide that liens and other interests will attach to the proceeds of the sale. The motion must attach a cover sheet substantially conforming to the local form (**Cover Sheet - Motion to Sell Property**), must identify the name and address of each lienholder and any other party whose property rights are affected by the proposed sale, and must identify on the cover sheet the basis for compliance with § 363(f). In addition to the information on the cover sheet, the motion must include, immediately below the caption, the statement: "THIS MOTION AFFECTS THE PROPERTY RIGHTS OF..." with the name of each holder of a lien or other interest whose property rights are affected.

(2) **Supporting Documents.**

- (A) **Memorandum of Law.** The motion must be supported by a memorandum of law explaining compliance with § 363(f).
- (B) **Declaration.** The motion must be accompanied by admissible evidence supporting the factual basis for the motion and showing satisfaction of one or more conditions under § 363(f). The evidence must include a copy of a current title report, a current Uniform Commercial Code financing statement, or other report on the status of the title to the real or personal property and identification of any security interests in the subject property.
- (C) **Notice.** Unless the court orders otherwise, the moving party must obtain a hearing date and give notice to all creditors in accordance with LBR 9013-1(c). The notice of the hearing must contain a description of the property, identification of the purchasing party, and the material terms of the sale (including any provision for overbidding at the hearing).

(b) Sales Subject to Liens. A party seeking to sell estate property subject to one or more liens which will not be discharged from the proceeds of the sale at closing must obtain an order

approving the sale. Subdivision (c) of this rule applies to such a sale.

- (c) **Other Sales Outside the Ordinary Course of Business.** If the subject property is not being sold free and clear of liens or other interests, or is being sold subject to one or more liens which will not be discharged from the sale proceeds at closing, the trustee or debtor in possession may obtain an order approving the sale by filing a notice of the proposed sale substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Proposed Use, Sale, or Lease of Property**). The notice must be served on the debtor, any committee appointed in the case, the United States trustee, all creditors, and any parties with an interest in the property or directly affected by the proposed sale.
- (d) **Trustee's Sale of Property Under \$2,500.** When all of the nonexempt property of the estate has an aggregate gross value less than \$2,500, the clerk may give a general notice of intent to sell such property other than in the ordinary course by including such notice in the notice of need to file a proof of claim, or other notice, without further notice or a hearing. An objection to this procedure must be filed not later than 21 days after the date of filing of such notice.
- (e) **Trustee's Sale of Personal Property on Leased Premises.** A motion by a trustee or debtor in possession to sell personal property of the estate located on leased premises may be heard on 7 days' notice without an order shortening time.
- (f) **Special Provisions.**
 - (1) **Good Faith Finding.** A party seeking approval of a sale or lease of property as being made in good faith under § 363(m) must make the specific allegation of good faith in a motion governed by this rule and provide supporting evidence.
 - (2) **14-Day Stay After Entry of Order.** A party seeking a provision in the order approving sale which waives the stay provided for in Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h) must include a specific request for this provision in the motion and the notice.

LBR 6006-1. Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases

(a) Notice of Motion Regarding Assumption, Rejection, Assignment, or Performance of Obligations. In addition to the notice required by Bankruptcy Rule 6006(c), notice of a motion or stipulation to assume, reject, or assign an executory contract or unexpired lease, including an extension of time to do so, or to compel performance of an obligation under a contract or lease must be served upon:

- (1)** those entities known to the movant to be entitled to receive notice of a default, termination, or assignment of the contract or lease under the terms of the contract or lease itself or under the terms of any related contract with the debtor; and
- (2)** in a chapter 9 or chapter 11 case, the chair and counsel of record of each committee of creditors and each committee of equity security holders appointed pursuant to § 1102 or, if no committee has been appointed, the creditors that hold the 20 largest unsecured claims.

(b) Expedited Rejection. Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of this rule, a chapter 7 trustee may move to reject an unexpired lease of nonresidential real property where the debtor is the tenant on 24 hours' notice given only to the other party to the lease. Such motions generally will be considered by the court without a hearing.

LBR 6070-1. Tax Information Filed with Court

- (a) **In General.** An individual debtor's tax return may be filed with the court only if the filing is required under § 521(f). The term tax return includes a transcript of a tax return, if the debtor elects to file a transcript rather than the complete tax return. This rule only applies to tax information which is filed with the court. It does not affect the right of a trustee, the Office of the United States Trustee, or a party in interest to request that the debtor provide tax information directly to the requesting party.
- (b) **Confidentiality of Tax Information.** An individual debtor's tax return information that is filed with the court under § 521 is confidential. Persons other than judicial officers and court employees may not view such tax information without a court order. Public access to such tax information is limited to viewing a docket entry that may include the name of the taxpayer, the type of tax information (e.g., 2009 Form 1040), and the tax period.
- (c) **Docketing of Tax Information.** When electronically filing tax information provided under § 521, the filer must use the specific docketing event prescribed by the clerk to safeguard the confidentiality of the tax information. Failure to use the correct docketing event may result in the transmission and display of confidential tax information to persons who are not entitled to view such information and may result in sanctions imposed on the filing party.
- (d) **Redaction of Personal Identifiers.** Prior to filing any tax information with the court, the filing party must redact all personal identifiers as required under Bankruptcy Rule 9037. Court employees are not responsible for making any redactions of personal identifying information.
- (e) **Obtaining Access to Tax Information on File.** A party in interest other than a party identified in § 107(c)(3) may seek access to the tax information filed under § 521 by filing a motion. The motion must be served on the debtor and the debtor's attorney and must:
 - (1) describe the moving party's status in the case;
 - (2) describe the specific tax information sought;
 - (3) state that the information cannot be obtained by the moving party from any other sources; and
 - (4) show a need for the tax information.
- (f) **Order Granting Access to Tax Information.** For good cause, the court may enter an order

granting a party access to specific tax information. The order must include language advising the moving party that the tax information is confidential and that any disclosure, dissemination, or improper use of the information may result in sanctions.

LBR 6071-1. Property of the Estate

An entity exercising control over a financial account, safe deposit box, or other property which may be property of the estate may request instructions from the court by filing an application substantially conforming to the local form (**Application for Instructions Regarding Property; Notice of Deadline to Request Hearing; Certificate of Service**). The application must be served on the debtor, the trustee, and any other party known to claim an interest in the property. If the party seeking instructions under this rule is an artificial entity, the entity may file the request without being represented by counsel.

LBR 7001-2. Effect of Dismissal of Bankruptcy Case on Pending Adversary Proceeding

Whenever a case is dismissed, the court may, without notice or hearing, dismiss without prejudice any adversary proceeding filed in connection with that case, and remand any proceedings that have been removed to the bankruptcy court in connection with that case.

LBR 7003-1. Cover Sheet

Every complaint initiating an adversary proceeding must be accompanied by a cover sheet substantially conforming to the Director's Procedural Form (**Adversary Proceeding Cover Sheet**).

LBR 7016-1. Pretrial Procedures

(a) **Counsel's Duty of Diligence.** Counsel for parties and self-represented parties in an adversary proceeding must diligently take all steps necessary to bring the action to trial.

(b) **Scheduling Conference.**

(1) **Conference Date and Time.** Upon the filing of a complaint, the plaintiff must obtain a scheduling conference date and time from the court.

(2) **Scheduling Conference Statement.** Not later than 7 days before the scheduling conference, each party must file with the court and serve on all other parties a scheduling conference statement addressing the following subjects:

(A) A short statement of the nature of the case;

(B) A statement of jurisdiction with cited authority for jurisdiction and a short description of the facts conferring venue, and a statement whether the pleader does or does not consent to entry of final orders or judgment by the bankruptcy court;

(C) Whether a jury trial has been demanded;

(D) A statement addressing the appropriateness, extent, and timing of disclosures pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 that are not covered by the report(s) filed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f);

(E) A list of discovery completed, discovery in progress, motions pending, and hearing dates;

(F) A statement addressing the appropriateness of any of the special procedures or other matters specified in Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(c) that are not covered by the joint report filed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f);

(G) A statement identifying any related case, including pending cases as well as cases that have been adjudicated or have otherwise been terminated, in any state or federal court; and

(H) Additional matters at the option of counsel.

(3) **Attendance.** All parties receiving notice of the scheduling conference must attend and be prepared to discuss the items listed under paragraph (2) of this rule and the following:

(A) Service of process on parties not yet served;

(B) Jurisdiction and venue;

(C) Anticipated motions; including Daubert motions, and deadlines as to the filing and hearing of motions;

(D) Appropriateness and timing of motions for dismissal or for summary

judgment under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 or 56;

(E) Deadlines to join other parties and to amend pleading;

(F) Anticipated or remaining discovery, including discovery cutoff;

(G) The control and scheduling of discovery, including orders affecting disclosures and discovery pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26-37;

(H) Further proceedings, including setting dates for pretrial and trial;

(I) Appropriateness of special procedures, such as consolidation of actions for discovery or pretrial;

(J) Modification of the standard pretrial procedures specified by this rule on account of the relative simplicity or complexity of the action or proceeding;

(K) Prospects for settlement, including participation in the court's mediation program or any other alternative dispute resolution process; and

(L) Any other matters that may be conducive to the just, efficient, and economical determination of the action or proceeding, including any of the matters specified in Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(c).

LBR 7017-1. Trial and Post-Trial Briefs

- (a) **Format.** Trial and post-trial briefs shall comply with the format requirements of LBR 9004-1.
- (b) **Length.** In computing the length limit, headings, footnotes, and quotations count toward the word limit of a brief, but the following items do not: case caption, table of contents, table of authorities, exhibits, declarations, certificates of counsel, signatures, and certificate of service. Only the pertinent portions on exhibits should be attached to a brief.
 - (1) **Principal Brief.** A party's principal brief must not exceed 30 pages. The length of a principal brief is acceptable if it contains a certificate that it contains no more than 13,000 words, or no more than 1,300 lines of text.
 - (2) **Reply Brief.** A party's reply brief must not exceed 15 pages. The length of a reply brief is acceptable if it contains a certificate that it contains no more than half the word or line limit specified in paragraph (1) of this rule.
 - (3) **Table of Contents; Table of Authorities.** Briefs exceeding 10 pages must include a table of contents and a table of authorities cited.

LBR 7026-1. Conference of the Parties

- (a) **Conference Timing.** The conference of the parties required under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) must be held not later than 21 days before the scheduling conference.
- (b) **Discovery Plan.** The parties must make a good faith attempt to agree to a discovery plan at the conference of the parties. The discovery plan should cover the items listed in **Local Form H52 - Report of the Parties' Planning Meeting.** The plaintiff is responsible for preparing a report outlining a proposed discovery plan. In lieu of filing a written report, the parties may report orally on their discovery plan at the scheduling conference.

LBR 7026-2. Responses to Discovery Requests

- (a) Discovery requests served pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 33, 34, and 36 shall be in a form providing sufficient space to respond following each request.
- (b) Responses to discovery requests pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 33, 34, and 36 shall set forth the interrogatory or request in full before the response. Each objection shall be followed by a statement of the reasons therefor. Boilerplate and generalized objections are not permitted.
- (c) A motion to compel discovery shall set forth only the pertinent interrogatories, requests for production, or requests for admissions, and answers or objections.
- (d) When a claim of privilege is made in response to any discovery request pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 33, 34, or 36, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the materials or information claimed to be privileged shall be identified with reasons stated for the particular privilege claimed. No generalized claim of privilege shall be allowed. An assertion of privilege or work product should, on a schedule agreed to by the parties or ordered by the court, contain the following for each document, communication, or piece of information withheld:
 - (1) Date of the creation of the document;
 - (2) Author;
 - (3) Primary addressee(s) and the relationship of that person(s) to the client and/or author of the document;
 - (4) Secondary addressee(s) and the relationship of that person(s) to the client and/or author of the document;
 - (5) Type of document;
 - (6) Client (party asserting the privilege);
 - (7) Subject matter of the document or privileged communication;
 - (8) Basis for the legal claim of privilege, work product, or other objection to production; and
 - (9) Document identifier (e.g., Bates number).
- (e) **Depositions - Completion of Discovery.** For the purpose of determining compliance with discovery deadlines, a deposition is completed when the examination of the witness is finished (even if the deposition has not yet been transcribed), and interrogatories, requests for production of documents and things, and requests for admissions are completed when the response thereto is due in accordance with the request and applicable rule.

LBR 7030-1. Depositions; Original Transcripts

- (a) **Original Document.** Counsel responsible for the preservation and storage of the original transcript, tape, or other means of preservation of any deposition must produce the original transcript, tape, or other means of preservation of such deposition upon request by the court or any party if needed for court proceedings.
- (b) **Germane Portion.** Only the portion of a deposition that is directly germane to the matter under consideration by the court should be offered as an exhibit in support of a motion, objection, or response thereto.

LBR 7037-1. Enforcement of Discovery Requirements; Sanctions

- (a) **Conference Required.** The court will not entertain any motion pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 through 37, including any request for expedited discovery assistance pursuant to subdivision (c), unless counsel have previously conferred, either in person or by telephone, concerning all disputed issues (including the requirement that discovery be proportional to the needs of the case), in a good faith effort to limit the disputed issues and, if possible, eliminate the necessity for a motion or expedited discovery assistance. Electronic or letter communications are not a substitute for the conference. The court may also direct that before moving for an order relating to discovery, the movant must request a status conference with the court.
- (b) **Certificate of Compliance.** When filing any motion with respect to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 through 37, or a letter brief in accordance with subdivision (c) of this rule, counsel for the movant shall certify compliance with this rule.
- (c) **Expedited Discovery Assistance.**
 - (1) Counsel may seek resolution of disputed discovery issues expeditiously and economically. This expedited procedure is intended to afford a swift but full opportunity for the parties to present their positions through abbreviated, simultaneous briefing and, when appropriate, a conference. Counsel desiring such assistance shall contact opposing counsel to arrange a mutually agreeable deadline for the submission of letter briefs. Should counsel be unable to agree upon a deadline, counsel may contact the courtroom deputy who will assign a deadline for letter briefs. Counsel who obtains a deadline from the courtroom deputy shall notify opposing counsel of the assigned deadline.
 - (2) Letter briefs by all parties shall be filed and served on opposing counsel by the deadline. The letter brief shall contain all relevant information, including confirmation of the deadline for submission of letter briefs; dates of discovery cut-off and trial; and a discussion of the dispute. If a party opposes the use of this expedited procedure, such opposition should be included in the letter brief. Unless ordered by the court, the letter briefs shall be 5 pages or less, inclusive of all exhibits.

LBR 7041-1. Dismissal of a Complaint Objecting to the Debtor's Discharge

- (a) **Order Required.** An order is required for dismissal of a complaint objecting to the debtor's discharge, whether it is a voluntary dismissal by the plaintiff or upon the parties' stipulation or settlement agreement.
- (b) **Notice.** Unless the court orders otherwise, notice of a plaintiff's request or the parties' stipulation or settlement agreement for dismissal of any claim objecting to discharge must be filed in both the adversary proceeding and the underlying bankruptcy case. Notice to the trustee, United States trustee, creditors, and other parties in interest is sufficient upon transmission of the CM/ECF notice of electronic filing. The notice must include the following information.
 - (1) **Statutory Basis Asserted in Objection to Discharge.** The notice must identify the adversary proceeding and briefly describe the provision relied on in the objection to discharge, e.g., "11 U.S.C. § 727(a)(4) - debtor knowingly and fraudulently made a false oath or account."
 - (2) **Disclosure of Consideration.** The notice must disclose any consideration, monetary or otherwise, received or to be received by the plaintiff in connection with dismissal of any claim objecting to discharge, as well as the source of the consideration. If there is no consideration, the notice must explicitly state that.
 - (3) **Opportunity to Object.** The notice must advise that absent an objection filed within 14 days after the date the notice is filed, the court may enter an order dismissing the objection to discharge without further notice or hearing.

LBR 7054-1. Adversary Proceedings - Taxation of Costs

A party may seek a taxation of costs, other than attorney fees, by filing a proposed bill of costs that substantially conforms to Form 2360 – Bill of Costs. The other provisions of LR54.1 apply.

LBR 7054-2. Adversary Proceedings and Contested Matters - Attorney Fees

- (a) **Entitlement.** A party seeking an award of attorney's fees must file a motion for an order awarding attorney's fees and related non-taxable expenses.
- (b) **Applicability of Local Rule 54.2 of the District Court.** Unless the court orders otherwise, LR 54.2 - Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Related Non-Taxable Expenses applies, except that (i) LR54.2(i) does not apply and (ii) LBR 9013-1(c) governs the time periods for scheduling a hearing on the motion and filing responses and reply memoranda.

LBR 7055-1. Default

- (a) **Request for Entry of Default.** A party seeking entry of default must file a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Entry of Default and Declaration in Support**). The declaration must identify the applicable provision authorizing service under Bankruptcy Rule 7004 or Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 and, if served in a place not within any judicial district of the United States, the specific authority for service under the Hague Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents or other method of service.
- (b) **Judgment for Plaintiff.** Unless the court orders otherwise, a plaintiff entitled to a judgment by default in an adversary proceeding, for a claim other than a sum certain pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(b)(2), may obtain a judgment only by written motion and upon establishment of a prima facie case at a hearing, with notice of not less than 28 days to the defendant. The motion must be served on the defendant and, if represented by counsel, the defendant's attorney. Entry of default by the clerk must be made prior to or concurrently with the filing of the motion.

LBR 7056-1. Summary Judgment

- (a) **Motion Requirements.** A motion for summary judgment must be accompanied by a supporting memorandum and separate concise statement detailing each material fact as to which the moving party contends is undisputed and essential for the court's determination of the motion.
- (b) **Focus of the Concise Statement.** The separate concise statement shall assert only the material facts that are necessary for the court to determine the issues presented in the motion. Each factual assertion shall be a single sentence, followed by a citation to a particular affidavit, deposition, or other document that supports the assertion. Documents referenced in the concise statement may be filed in their entirety only if a party concludes that the full context would be helpful to the court. Each citation shall particularly identify the page and portion of the page of the document referenced. The document referred to shall have relevant portions highlighted or otherwise emphasized. The parties may extract and highlight the relevant portions of each referenced document but shall ensure that enough of a document is attached to put the matter in context. If a party determines that an entire deposition transcript should be submitted, the party should consider whether a miniscript would be preferable to a full-size transcript. If an entire miniscript is submitted, the index of terms appearing in the transcript must be included, if it exists. When multiple pages from a single document are submitted, the pages shall be grouped in a single exhibit.
- (c) **Length.** The concise statement in support of or in opposition to a motion for summary judgment shall not exceed 5 pages, unless it contains no more than 1,500 words. When a concise statement is submitted pursuant to the foregoing word limit, the number of words shall be computed in accordance with LBR 9013-2, and the concise statement shall include the certificate provided for in that rule.
- (d) **Format.** A separate concise statement may utilize a single-space format for the presentation of the facts and evidentiary support only when set out in parallel columns, but a column format is not required.
- (e) **Concise Statements: Opposition and Reply.** Any party who opposes the motion shall file and serve with the opposing documents a separate document containing a single concise statement that admits or disputes each fact set forth in the movant's concise statement. The opposing party shall, if appropriate, admit in part and deny in part a fact asserted by

the movant, stating specifically what is admitted and what is denied. The opposing party shall also assert, in a separate section of its concise statement, any additional facts the party believes the court should consider, set forth in the same manner as in the movant's concise statement, as described in subdivision (b) of this rule. If such additional facts are advanced in the opposing party's concise statement, the movant shall file, together with its reply brief, a further concise statement that responds only to those additional facts. The movant should proceed in the same manner if the opposing party offers such additional facts in support of a counter-motion for summary judgment under LBR 9013-1.

- (f) **Scope of Judicial Review.** When resolving motions for summary judgment, the court shall have no independent duty to search and consider any part of the court record not otherwise referenced in the separate concise statements of the parties. Further, the court shall have no independent duty to review exhibits in their entirety, but rather will review only those portions of the exhibits specifically identified in the concise statements.
- (g) **Admission of Material Facts.** For purposes of a motion for summary judgment, material facts set forth in the moving party's concise statement will be deemed admitted unless controverted by a separate concise statement of the opposing party.
- (h) **Declarations to be Attached to Concise Statement.** Affidavits and Declarations. Affidavits or declarations setting forth facts and/or authenticating exhibits, as well as exhibits themselves, shall only be attached to the concise statement. Supplemental affidavits and declarations may only be submitted with leave of court.
- (i) **Summary Judgment to Nonmoving Party.** If a party moves for summary judgment and the record establishes as a matter of law that another party is entitled to summary judgment against the movant, the court, in the court's discretion, may enter summary judgment against the movant after providing that party with oral or written notice and an opportunity to be heard.
- (j) **Filing Deadlines.** A motion for summary judgment must be filed so as to be heard early enough so it is heard, after regular notice, not later than 28 days before the trial date. Deadlines for filing opposition statements and reply memoranda are governed by LBR 9013-1(c).

LBR 7067-1. Registry Fund

(a) Procedure for Deposit into Court's Registry Fund.

- (1) **Motion.** A motion must include (A) the amount of money to be deposited, (B) the name and address of each entity that may have a claim to the money, and (C) the name and address of any attorney for such entity.
- (2) **Order.** No money shall be sent to the Court for deposit in the Court's registry prior to entry of an authorizing court order.
- (3) **Deposit.** Upon entry of the order, the depositor must deliver a money order, cashier's check, or certified check payable to "Clerk, U. S. Bankruptcy Court" in the amount of the deposit. All monies ordered to be paid to the Court in any pending or adjudicated case shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States in the name and to the credit of this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2041 through depositories designated by the Treasury to accept such deposit on its behalf.

(b) Investment of Registry Funds.

- (1) Funds on deposit with the Court are to be placed in the Court Registry Investment System ("CRIS"), an interest-bearing account administered by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts under 28 U.S.C. § 2045.
- (2) Interpleader funds deposited under 28 U.S.C. § 1335 meet the IRS definition of a "Disputed Ownership Fund" (DOF), a taxable entity that requires tax administration. Interpleader funds must be deposited in the DOF established within the CRIS and administered by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, which shall be responsible for meeting all DOF tax administration requirements.
- (3) The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts is designated as custodian for CRIS. The Director or the Director's designee shall perform the duties of custodian. Funds held in the CRIS remain subject to the control and jurisdiction of the Court.
- (4) Money from each case deposited in the CRIS shall be "pooled" together with those on deposit with Treasury to the credit of other courts in the CRIS and used to purchase Government Account Series securities through the Bureau of Public Debt, which will be held at Treasury, in an account in the name and to the credit of the Director of Administrative Office of the United States Courts. The pooled funds will be invested in accordance with the principals of the CRIS Investment Policy as approved by the Registry Monitoring Group.

- (5) An account for each case will be established in the CRIS Liquidity Fund titled in the name of the case giving rise to the investment in the fund. Income generated from fund investments will be distributed to each case based on the ratio of each account's principal and earnings to the aggregate principal and income total in the fund after the CRIS fee has been applied. Reports showing the interest earned and the principal amounts contributed in each case will be prepared and distributed to each court participating in the CRIS and made available to litigants and/or their counsel.
- (6) For each interpleader case, an account shall be established in the CRIS Disputed Ownership Fund, titled in the name of the case giving rise to the deposit invested in the fund. Income generated from fund investments will be distributed to each case after the DOF fee has been applied and tax withholdings have been deducted from the fund. Reports showing the interest earned and the principal amounts contributed in each case will be available through the FedInvest/CMS application for each court participating in the CRIS and made available to litigants and/or their counsel. On appointment of an administrator authorized to incur expenses on behalf of the DOF in a case, the case DOF funds should be transferred to another investment account as directed by court order.

(c) Deduction of Fees.

- (1) The custodian is authorized and directed by this Rule to deduct the CRIS fee of an annualized 10 basis points on assets on deposit for all CRIS funds, excluding the case funds held in the DOF, for the management of investments in the CRIS. According to the Court's Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, the CRIS fee is assessed from interest earnings to the pool before a pro rata distribution of earnings is made to court cases.
- (2) The custodian is authorized and directed by this Rule to deduct the DOF fee of an annualized 20 basis points on assets on deposit in the DOF for management of investments and tax administration. According to the Court's Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, the DOF fee is assessed from interest earnings to the pool before a pro rata distribution of earnings is made to court cases. The custodian is further authorized and directed by this Rule to withhold and pay federal taxes due on behalf of the DOF.

(d) Procedure for Withdrawing Deposited Funds.

- (1) Monies will be disbursed by the clerk from the registry fund only under an order that includes the following:
 - (A) The name and address of each entity receiving the funds, and the name and address of any attorney for the entity.

- (B) With respect to each entity who is to receive a disbursement, the amount of principal and the percentage of any accrued interest to be paid.
- (C) The total amount of funds to be withdrawn if less than the total amount in the account.

(2) **Payment by Clerk.** After entry of an order authorizing disbursement of registry fund monies, counsel for the person(s) receiving any accrued interest must complete the AO 213, Vendor Information/TIN Certification form, or alternative required form, and forward the form to the court's financial administrator. After expiration of the time to file a notice of appeal, deposited funds will be disbursed by check payable to each entity entitled to the funds in care of any attorney of record for the payee.

LBR 7067-2. Bonds

- (a) **Bond or Security.** The court, on motion or of its own initiative, may order any party to file an original bond or additional security for costs in such an amount and so conditioned as the court by its order may designate.
- (b) **Qualifications of Surety.** Subject to approval of the court and in compliance with the policy of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (Guide to Judiciary Policy), bonds must be supported by acceptable corporate sureties, individual sureties, assets acceptable as security, or irrevocable letters of credit.
 - (1) **Acceptable Corporate Sureties.** Any corporate surety offered for a bond furnished to the judiciary must appear on the list contained in Treasury Department Circular 570 (Companies Holding Certificates of Authority as Acceptable Sureties on Federal Bonds and as Acceptable Reinsuring Companies).
 - (2) **Individual Sureties.** On a case by case basis, the court may accept individual sureties.
 - (3) **Assets Acceptable as Security.** The only assets acceptable in place of a surety bond are:
 - (A) United States bonds or notes with a maturity date less than 5 years from the date of the contract, together with an agreement authorizing collection or sale in the event of default. The par value of the bonds or notes must be at least equal to the penal amount of the bond.
 - (B) A certified check, cashier's check, bank draft, postal money order, or currency. The deposit must be at least equal to the penal amount of the surety bond and payable to "Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court".
 - (C) A bond secured by an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (ILC) in an amount equal to the penal sum required to be secured. A separate ILC is required for each bond.

LBR 8001-1. Notice of Appeal

(a) **Separate Notice Requirement.** A party appealing more than one judgment or order must file a separate notice of appeal for each judgment or order being appealed.

(b) **Fees.**

(1) **Notice of Appeal Fee.** Every notice of appeal or cross appeal must be accompanied by the fee required by 28 U.S.C. § 1930(c), unless the appellant is granted in forma pauperis status or a separate request for a waiver under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(f)(2).

(2) **Filing Fee.** Every notice of appeal or cross appeal must be accompanied by the filing fee prescribed in the Appendix to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 unless the appellant or cross appellant is:

- (A) the United States;
- (B) a child support creditor or its representative, if the form specified in § 304(g) of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994 (**Form B281 - Appearance of Child Support Creditor or Representative**) is filed with the court;
- (C) filing a contemporaneous motion for leave to appeal, in which case the filing fee will become due only upon entry of an order granting the motion;
- (D) a trustee or debtor in possession and there is no estate from which the fee can be paid;
- (E) a debtor whose fee for filing a chapter 7 petition was waived under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(f)(1) and is granted a separate request for a waiver under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(f)(2); or
- (F) filing a request for in forma pauperis status by submitting an application to proceed without prepaying fees or costs, which will be transmitted to the clerk of the district court for disposition.

(3) **Fee for Direct Appeal.** If a direct appeal or cross appeal to the court of appeals is authorized, an additional fee prescribed in the Appendix to 28 U.S.C. § 1930 is due upon the filing of a notice of the authorization.

LBR 9003-2. Confidentiality

Court staff, including clerks, law clerks, judicial assistants, and court security officers, may not disclose to any person information related to any case or proceeding that is not part of the public record without specific authorization of a judge.

LBR 9003-5. Gratuities

No person may directly or indirectly give or offer to give, nor may any judge, employee, trustee, or anyone appointed by the court or by any judge for any purpose accept on such individual's behalf or on behalf of the court any gift or gratuity, regardless of value, directly or indirectly related to services performed by or for the court.

LBR 9004-1. Papers - Requirements of Form

- (a) **Paper Documents.** All paper documents submitted for filing must meet the following requirements.
 - (1) **Paper quality.** The document must be on white paper of a quality acceptable to the clerk for scanning and storing the document as an electronic image.
 - (2) **Dimensions.** Documents exceeding 8.5 by 11 inches in size may be rejected by the clerk; documents exceeding these dimensions must be reduced by the filing party prior to submission to the court.
 - (3) **Fasteners.** Documents should not be fastened using staples, paper clips, prongs, covers, or any blue backing; binder clips are preferred to allow proper scanning.
 - (4) **Tabs.** Documents may not include tabs; exhibits should be separated using a separate page with the identification of the exhibit number or letter printed on the page.
 - (5) **One-sided.** Documents that are double-sided must be copied by the filing party to make one-sided pages prior to submission to the clerk.
- (b) **Formatting.** Except for exhibits and court-approved forms, all documents for filing must meet the following requirements.
 - (1) **Font style.** All memoranda, including footnotes, shall utilize 14-point type.
 - (2) **Line Spacing.** The text of the document must be double-spaced, except for identification of counsel, title of the case, quotations, footnotes, and exhibits.
 - (3) **Margins.** Margins must be 1 inch from the edge of the document.

LBR 9006-1. Time Periods

(a) **State Holidays Used in Computing Time Periods.** The state holidays used in computing time periods under Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a)(6)(C) include:

- (1) the twenty-sixth day in March, Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole Day;
- (2) the Friday preceding Easter Sunday, Good Friday;
- (3) the eleventh day in June, King Kamehameha Day;
- (4) the third Friday in August, Statehood Day; and
- (5) any day designated by proclamation by the governor of the State of Hawaii as a holiday.

(b) **Enlarging or Shortening Time.**

- (1) **In General.** Unless prohibited by statute or by federal rule, the court may enlarge or shorten the time to perform any act or to file any paper on its own motion or the motion of a party.
- (2) **Hearings.** A party may seek to shorten the time to give notice of a hearing by filing an ex parte motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Motion to Enlarge or Shorten Time**) and must include the following information:
 - (A) a declaration explaining the reason(s) why the time should be reduced, and describing the parties with whom the moving party has communicated or has attempted to communicate concerning the request, and any positions taken by such parties;
 - (B) proposed deadlines to file and to serve any responsive and reply memoranda; and
 - (C) a statement specifying to whom, how, and when the moving party proposes to give notice of the hearing and associated deadlines.
- (3) **Continuances.** A request to continue a trial or hearing or reschedule briefing and other deadlines requires a motion. The motion must be accompanied by a declaration describing the movant's communications with all other parties regarding the request and their positions on the motion. Continuing a trial or hearing requires extraordinary circumstances. The pendency of settlement negotiations or the desire to conduct additional discovery do not constitute extraordinary circumstances.

(c) **Court Approval Required to Modify Deadlines.** Deadlines to file an answer, response, reply, and other deadlines set by rule or court order may not be modified without court approval. Any stipulation to modify such a deadline must be submitted to the court for

approval at least 3 days before the scheduled deadline. The stipulation may be submitted to chambers in the same manner as other proposed orders.

LBR 9009-1. Forms

The clerk may issue local forms for use under the Bankruptcy Code, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and the Local Bankruptcy Rules. References in these rules to use of a form substantially conforming to a prescribed local form means that the filer must provide the information requested in the local form.

LBR 9011-1. Attorneys - Duties

- (a) **Representation in a Bankruptcy Case.** Notwithstanding any employment, retainer, or attorney-client agreement, an attorney who files a bankruptcy petition in bankruptcy on behalf of a debtor, or who subsequently enters an appearance on behalf of a debtor other than as special counsel under § 327(e), will be counsel of record and must provide representation in all matters arising during the administration of the case until the case is closed or dismissed, unless the court approves the attorney's withdrawal or substitution.
- (b) **Representation in an Adversary Proceeding.** An attorney representing a debtor in a bankruptcy case may, by agreement with the debtor, exclude representation of the debtor in an adversary proceeding by indicating such non-representation in the attorney's compensation disclosure statement required under Bankruptcy Rule 2016(b). If an attorney will not be representing the debtor in an adversary proceeding, the attorney must file and serve on the other parties a notice of non-representation.
- (c) **Pro Bono Limited Scope Representation.** An attorney may limit the scope of representation of a debtor in a bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding if:
 - (1) The attorney is appointed a pro bono counsel in accordance with a court sponsored program, or
 - (2) The attorney files a statement that specified short-term limited legal services are being provided without compensation under the auspices of a program sponsored by a nonprofit organization, and are governed by Rule 6.5(a) of the Hawaii Rules of Professional Conduct.

LBR 9011-2. Pro Se Parties

Individuals may appear *pro se*, under such conditions as the court may impose, must notify the clerk in writing of their names, their mailing and residence addresses, and their telephone numbers, and must keep the clerk and opposing parties and counsel informed by proper written notice of changes in the addresses or telephone numbers or both.

LBR 9013-1. Motion Practice

(a) In General.

- (1) **Applicability.** For purposes of this rule, a motion is a written request for an order, whether denominated as a motion, application, objection, notice, or otherwise. This rule applies to any motion unless another local rule or court-issued form specifically provides for a different procedure.
- (2) **Moving Party's Burden.** The motion must state the legal basis for the relief requested and must include admissible evidence to support the factual basis of the motion.
- (3) **Authority to Enter Final Order.** In a motion filed in a contested matter under Bankruptcy Rule 9014, the moving party must raise in that motion any objection or challenge to the bankruptcy court's authority to enter a final order on the motion. In a response to a motion filed under Bankruptcy Rule 9014, the responding party must raise in that response any objection or challenge to the bankruptcy court's authority to enter a final order on the motion. Failure to raise an objection or challenge to the bankruptcy court's authority as provided in this rule will be deemed consent to the bankruptcy court's entry of a final order on the motion.

(b) Ex Parte Motions.

- (1) An ex parte motion is a motion presented to the court with no notice to any other party and which the court may consider without a hearing.
- (2) The court will grant an ex parte motion only if applicable statutes and rules permit the court to dispense with notice and hearing, and (i) the relief requested will have no material adverse effect on the rights of any other party or (ii) an emergency situation, not created by the moving party's own acts or omissions, makes it impossible to give notice without inflicting irreparable harm on the moving party.
- (3) In addition to satisfying the requirements applicable to any motion, an ex parte motion must (i) state the legal basis and include admissible evidence of the facts which the moving party contends permit the court to act without notice or hearing, (ii) establish that the requirements of subdivision (b)(2) of this rule are satisfied, (iii) state specific reasons why the court should proceed without notice or hearing, and (iv) describe any efforts made to confer with the party or parties affected by the motion and whether or not any of them oppose the motion.
- (4) Examples of motions properly brought on an ex parte basis include (i) a motion

to approve the retention or professionals where the Office of the U.S. Trustee does not object to the retention, (ii) a motion to reopen a case, (iii) a motion to shorten time for notice or hearing or to limit notice, and (iv) a motion for an extension of time to file a response or reply.

(c) Motions that Must Be Set for Hearing.

- (1)** Unless the court directs otherwise by way of a local rule, order, or court-issued form, a party filing a motion must obtain a hearing date from the courtroom deputy and give notice to all parties entitled to notice not later than 28 days before the hearing. The notice must substantially conform to the local form (**Notice of Hearing**).
- (2)** All responses to the motion must be filed and served on the moving party not less than 14 days before the hearing date. The moving party is not required to file a reply but may do so not less than 7 days before the hearing date. No surreply or further briefing is permitted without leave of court. The court may disregard any untimely or impermissible memorandum or impose other appropriate sanctions.
- (3)** If no one files a timely response to the motion, the moving party may file a declaration substantially conforming to the local form (**Declaration and Request for Entry of Order**) and submit a proposed order granting the motion. The court may either cancel the hearing and enter the order or direct that the hearing be held. The moving party may request that a matter remain on calendar even if no objection is filed by filing such a request not later than the deadline for filing a response to the motion.
- (4)** The court generally will not cancel the hearing on:
 - (A)** dispositive motions in adversary proceedings;
 - (B)** motions governed by Bankruptcy Rule 4001(b) or (c);
 - (C)** motions to convert or dismiss, except for motions by a debtor and motions by the Office of the United States Trustee under § 1112(e); and
 - (D)** motions in chapter 11 cases, including motions to appoint a trustee or examiner, approval of disclosure statements, and confirmation of plans, but not including motions seeking purely procedural relief or approval of stipulations.

(d) Counter motions.

- (1)** **In General.** A respondent may file, together with the response to the motion, a counter motion raising only the same specific issues, claims, or defenses presented in the original motion. The counter motion may be scheduled and

noticed for hearing on the same date as the original motion only by obtaining the approval of the courtroom deputy.

(2) **Response to Countermotion.** A party's response to a countermotion may be included with that party's reply memorandum in support of the original motion.

(3) **Reply Memorandum in Support of Countermotion.** The party filing the countermotion may file a reply memorandum in support of the countermotion not later than 3 days before the hearing.

(4) **Limitations on Memoranda.** Memoranda including counter motions and combined with a reply to another motion are subject to the limitations stated in LBR 9013-2.

(5) **Objection to Countermotion's Subject Matter.** The moving party may file an ex parte objection to the court's consideration of any issue, claim, or defense being raised in a countermotion which was not the subject of the original motion. The court may dispose of the objection by overruling the objection, continuing the hearing on the motion and countermotion, or scheduling the countermotion's offending subject matter for a separate hearing.

(e) **Joinder.** A party filing a joinder, rather than an independent motion, cross motion, or countermotion, is not entitled to an order granting the relief requested in the motion in favor of the joining party unless:

(1) filing fee is associated with the underlying motion;

(2) the joinder would have been timely if it had been filed as an independent motion; and

(3) any party against whom relief is sought receives the same quality of notice, has the same opportunity to object, and suffers no other burden or prejudice by virtue of the fact that the joining party filed a joinder rather than an independent motion.

(f) **Enlarging or Shortening Time.** The time periods specified under this rule may be enlarged or shortened pursuant to LBR 9006(b).

LBR 9013-2. Briefs and Memoranda of Law

(a) Length of Briefs and Memoranda.

- (1) **Supporting or Responsive Brief.** A supporting or responsive brief or memorandum, as the terms are defined in LBR 9013-1, may not exceed 25 pages in length unless the filing party certifies that it contains no more than 6,250 words.
- (2) **Reply Brief.** A reply brief or memorandum may not exceed 15 pages in length unless the filing party certifies that it contains no more than 3,750 words.
- (3) **Word Limits.** Headings, footnotes, and quotations count toward the word limits. The case caption, table of contents, table of authorities, exhibits, declarations, and certificates of counsel do not count toward the page or word limits.
- (4) **Certificate of Compliance.** A brief or memorandum submitted under the word and line limits permitted by this rule must include a certificate by the filing party that the document complies with the applicable word limits. The person preparing the certificate may rely on the word or line count of the word-processing system used to produce the document. The certificate must state either the number of words in the document.

(b) Table of Contents. Briefs and memoranda exceeding 10 pages must include a table of contents and a table of authorities cited.

(c) Affidavits and Declarations. Factual allegations made in support of or in response to any motion must be supported by affidavits or declarations. Affidavits and declarations may contain only facts, must conform to the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(e) and 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and must avoid conclusions and argument. Any statement made upon information or belief must specify the basis therefor. The court may disregard affidavits and declarations not in compliance with this rule.

(d) Uncited Authorities. If, after briefing on a motion is complete under the rules, a party intends to rely on authorities not previously offered to the court, that party may promptly file a Notice of Supplemental Authorities. The Notice of Supplemental Authorities shall list the additional authorities, including pinpoint citations, on which the party intends to rely and include a short parenthetical describing the proposition of law for which each authority is cited. No further analysis or argument is permitted. Absent extenuating circumstances, the court will not consider the submission of any supplemental authority that was available at the time of the filing of the party's last brief.

LBR 9013-3. Certificate of Service

(a) **When Required.** A person serving documents on a party must immediately file a certificate of service unless (i) Bankruptcy Rule 7005 (applying Civil Rule 5) governs the service and filing of the document and (ii) all parties to be served are registered ECF users who receive CM/ECF Notices of Electronic Filing (NEFs). If the service list includes non-ECF Users, the person serving the document must file a comprehensive list of all parties served. The certificate may attach a copy of the NEF as an exhibit to indicate the parties served electronically.

(b) **Required Information.** Unless the court directs otherwise, a certificate of service of a document must identify:

- (1) the document(s) served;
- (2) the date that service was made;
- (3) the name of the person served and the person's:
 - (A) mailing or street address if served by mail or hand delivery;
 - (B) email address if served electronically; or
 - (C) fax number if served by fax transmission;
- (4) the name of the client if service was made on a party's attorney; and
- (5) the method of service (personal, hand delivery, first class mail, the court's electronic transmission facilities, or other delivery method consented to in writing).

(c) **Written Consent to Electronic Service.** If service is made by electronic means (other than the court's CM/ECF system) or by fax transmission, the certificate of service must include a statement that the party being served has consented in writing to the particular method of service.

(d) **Separate Docket Entry.** A party filing a certificate of service for pleadings in contested matters and adversary proceedings must file it as a separate docket entry or clearly identify it in the docket entry as an attachment.

LBR 9013-5. Amended Pleadings

Any party filing or moving to file an amended pleading must reproduce the entire pleading as amended and may not incorporate any part of a prior pleading by reference, except with leave of court.

LBR 9014-1. Contested Matters - Applicability of Rules

Unless the court directs otherwise, the following local bankruptcy rules for adversary proceedings apply to contested matters in bankruptcy cases: 7030-1, 7067-1, and 7067-2.

LBR 9014-2. Contested Matters - Attendance of Witnesses

No Testimony at Initial Hearing. Unless the court orders otherwise, the court will not hear testimony at the initial hearing in a contested matter. The court may decide matters of law at the initial hearing. If there is a genuine issue of material fact in a contested matter, the initial hearing will serve as a scheduling conference for setting an evidentiary hearing, at which the court will hear testimony. The court may dispense with the initial hearing and proceed directly to an evidentiary hearing. The court may do so on its own motion, pursuant to a stipulation of all parties to the contested matter, or upon motion of any party to the contested matter (with such notice to the parties as the court deems appropriate).

LBR 9018-1. Sealing and Redaction of Documents

- (a) **Scope of Rule.** This rule governs the filing of documents considered to be secret, confidential, scandalous, or defamatory under Bankruptcy Rule 9018, which are not subject to the provisions for protection of personal identifiers of Bankruptcy Rule 9037. This rule addresses situations where the subject information to be sealed is required by a statute, rule, or Official Form or will be made available to the judge but inaccessible on the public record. This rule may be supplemented by requirements contained in specific procedures issued by the clerk and posted at the court's website.
- (b) **Motion Required.** No document may be sealed without court approval. A stipulation or blanket protective order that allows a party to designate matters to be filed under seal will not suffice to allow filing a document or other matter under seal. A motion to seal must describe the item to be sealed, as well as specify the applicable standard for sealing the information and discuss how that standard is met. The motion itself should not contain or attach any confidential information. Any document containing confidential information proposed to be sealed must be a separately captioned document to be the subject of a separate entry on the docket.
- (c) **Objection.** No later than 7 days after the filing of a motion to seal, any party who contends that any information is not entitled to confidential treatment may file an objection.
- (d) **Denial of Motion.** If the motion to seal is denied, the clerk will destroy or return to the moving party any paper document asserted to be confidential. If already filed electronically by the moving party, the subject document will remain on the docket but restricted from public access and the information will not be considered by the court.
- (e) **Filing of Redacted Version of Sealed Document.** Every document approved for the sealing of certain information must have a corresponding redacted version filed on the docket. If an entire document is approved for sealing, a cover sheet with case caption and title of document must be filed on the docket.
- (f) **Submission of Documents to be Sealed.** Unless the court orders otherwise, documents approved for sealing will be electronically filed and their images stored in the CM/ECF system, with access to the sealed documents limited to court staff.

(g) **Unsealing.** For good cause, the court may order the unsealing of a document at any time.

LBR 9019-1. Settlements

- (a) **When Motion Required.** Except as provided in subdivision (b), a party may seek court approval of a settlement or stipulation by filing a motion pursuant to LBR 9013-1(c) and serving it on the trustee, the United States Trustee, and all parties entitled to notice under Bankruptcy Rule 2002 (Bankruptcy Rule 2002(h) applies to all chapter 7, 12, and 13 cases). If the motion concerns settlement of an adversary proceeding, the motion and notice must be entered on the docket in the bankruptcy case.
- (b) **Stipulations.**
 - (1) **Procedural and Other Matters.** A party may seek approval of a stipulation regarding procedures, deadlines, discovery, and other similar matters by submitting an order pursuant to LBR 9072-1(i), without filing a motion.
 - (2) **Stipulated Judgments and Dismissals in Adversary Proceedings.**
 - (A) **In General.** A stipulated judgment or dismissal regarding the dischargeability of a particular debt under § 523, or other claims in an adversary proceeding which do not affect the estate, may be submitted for approval by the court with notice limited to parties to the adversary proceeding.
 - (B) **Stipulated Judgment Dismissing Objection to Discharge.** Dismissal of a claim objecting to discharge under § 727 is governed by LBR 7041-1.

LBR 9019-2. Alternative Dispute Resolution

- (a) **Purpose and Scope.** To facilitate the voluntary resolution of adversary proceedings and contested matters, the court may establish a Bankruptcy Alternative Dispute Resolution ("BDR") program. This rule does not preclude parties from participating in any other alternative dispute resolution ("ADR") program.
- (b) **Duty to Consider BDR.** Parties to adversary proceedings and contested matters have a duty to consider BDR and other ADR processes to resolve their dispute.
- (c) **Program Administration.**
 - (1) **Bankruptcy Mediation Committee.** The court may establish a Bankruptcy Mediation Committee ("Committee") to make recommendations for administration of a BDR program and procedures for the selection, training and evaluation of individuals to serve on a Mediator Panel.
 - (2) **BDR Administrator.** The court may appoint a BDR Administrator to administer the BDR program. The responsibilities of the BDR Administrator include:
 - (A) acting as primary liaison between the court and the Committee on matters of policy, program design and evaluation, education, training and administration;
 - (B) educating litigants, lawyers, judges and court staff about the BDR program and procedures;
 - (C) ensuring that appropriate systems are maintained for recruiting, screening and training mediators; and
 - (D) maintaining records for evaluating the BDR program.
 - (3) **Bankruptcy Mediator Panel.** The court shall publish and maintain a list of qualified individuals approved by the court to serve as members of a Bankruptcy Mediator Panel ("Panel").
 - (A) **Application to Serve on Panel.** An individual wishing to serve on the Panel shall be may apply by submitting to the court an application substantially conforming to the local form (**Application for Appointment to Bankruptcy Mediator Panel**). The court may request a recommendation by the Committee.
 - (B) **Qualifications.** To qualify for service on the Panel, an applicant must be willing to serve as a mediator for one 4-hour BDR conference per calendar quarter, subject only to unavailability due to conflicts, personal or professional commitments, or other matters which would make such

service burdensome. An applicant who is an attorney must certify that the applicant is and has been a member in good standing of the bar of any state or the District of Columbia for at least 5 years and is a member in good standing of the bar of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii. A non-attorney applicant must submit a statement of professional qualifications, experience, training and other information demonstrating why, in the applicant's opinion, the applicant is qualified to serve as a mediator.

- (C) **Training.** A Panel member may be required to complete court-approved training prior to serving in any mediation under this program.
- (D) **Compensation.** No fees may be charged for telephonic conferences and preparation time prior to the first BDR conference, and for the first 4 hours of BDR conference time. If the matter is not resolved after the first 4 hours of conference time, the mediator is authorized to request compensation at the mediator's regular hourly rate. If there is no agreement as to compensation of the mediator and if compensation is not waived by the mediator, the BDR process will be deemed concluded. If a debtor in possession or trustee, on behalf of the bankruptcy estate, and not individually, is a party, compensation of the mediator is subject to §§ 327 and 330.
- (E) **Immunity of Mediators.** All persons serving as mediators under this rule shall be deemed to be performing quasi-judicial functions and shall be entitled to all of the privileges, immunities and protections that the applicable law accords to persons serving in such capacity.

(d) Assignment to BDR and Appointment of Mediator.

- (1) **Request for BDR.** Parties may request the assignment of a dispute to the BDR program by filing with the court a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Request for Assignment to BDR Program**). The request must be signed by all parties to the disputed matter. The request should include the names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers and email addresses of all counsel representing parties and any pro se party. The parties may indicate a preference for appointment of a particular mediator.
- (2) **Conflict Check.** Upon the filing of a request for assignment to BDR, the court may contact Panel members to conduct a check for possible conflicts and scheduling availability. A Panel member contacted by the court for service as a mediator must promptly make an inquiry that is reasonable under the circumstances to determine whether there are any known facts that a reasonable person would

consider likely to affect the impartiality of the mediator, including a financial or personal interest in the outcome of the mediation and any existing or past relationship with a party or foreseeable participant in the mediation.

(3) **Order of Assignment.** Upon selection of a mediator, the court will enter an order assigning the dispute to the BDR program and appointing the mediator. The order may provide for a stay of discovery or the extension of certain deadlines, but any trial or hearing on a dispositive motion will remain on calendar. A party who objects to an individual's appointment as mediator based on a possible conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety should promptly bring the matter to the attention of the mediator and the BDR Administrator.

(4) **Authority of Mediator.** Upon assignment to the BDR program, all procedures within the mediation including, but not limited to, deadlines and the form and content of any submissions, will be determined by the mediator. However, nothing in these guidelines reduces the bankruptcy judge's power and responsibility to maintain overall management control of the case or proceeding before, during, and after the assignment of a matter to the BDR program.

(e) **BDR Conference.**

(1) **Initial Telephone Conference.** As soon as practicable after notification of appointment, the mediator will conduct an initial telephone conference with the parties to obtain preliminary information as to the nature of the disputed matter, the expectations of the parties, a mutually agreeable time and place for a formal BDR conference, and any further information which will facilitate BDR.

(2) **BDR Conference.** As soon as is practicable after the initial telephone conference, the mediator will give notice to the parties of the time and place of the BDR conference. During regular court hours, the court's facilities may be used if available.

(3) **BDR Statement.** Unless modified by the mediator, not later than 14 days after the date of the order assigning the matter to the BDR program, each party must submit directly to the mediator and serve on all other parties, a written BDR statement. A BDR statement may not be filed with the court and the court shall not have access to them. Such statement may not exceed 15 pages, not including any exhibits and attachments. The BDR statement may include any pertinent information, but must:

(A) identify the person, in addition to counsel, who will attend the

conference as representative of the party, and who must have decision making authority;

(B) describe briefly the substance of the dispute;

(C) address whether there are legal or factual issues whose early resolution might appreciably reduce the scope of the dispute or contribute significantly to settlement;

(D) identify and describe the status of any related litigation, past or present, in any state or federal court;

(E) identify the discovery that could contribute most to equipping the parties for meaningful discussions;

(F) set forth the history of past settlement discussions, including disclosure of prior and any presently outstanding offers and demands;

(G) make an estimate of the cost and time to be expended for further discovery, pretrial motions, expert witnesses and trial;

(H) indicate presently scheduled dates for further status conferences, pretrial conferences, trial or otherwise; and

(I) attach any documents out of which the dispute has arisen, or those which would materially advance the purposes of BDR.

(4) **Ex Parte Statement to Mediator Only.** By agreement of the parties and with consent of the mediator, each party may submit directly to the mediator, for the mediator's eyes only, a separate written statement describing any additional interests, considerations or matters that the party would like the mediator to understand before the BDR conference begins. Such ex parte statements to the mediator may not be filed with the court and the court shall not have access to them.

(5) **Attendance at BDR Conference.** Lead counsel and clients, or client's representatives with full settlement authority, shall attend, in person, all BDR conferences scheduled by the mediator, unless excused by the mediator. A governmental entity satisfies the attendance requirement if its lead counsel is in attendance and has been delegated full settlement authority or has reasonable access to the person who has full settlement authority. In the event that the mediator determines it appropriate, the mediator shall have reasonable access to the person who has full settlement authority with appropriate accommodation given to the person's competing public duties. Unexcused failure to attend the BDR conference shall be reported to the court and may result in sanctions.

(6) **Conduct of BDR Conference.** The BDR conference shall proceed informally. Rules of evidence shall not apply. There shall be no formal examination or

cross-examination of witnesses. As appropriate, the mediator may:

- (A) permit each party, through counsel or otherwise, to make an oral presentation of the party's position;
- (B) help the parties to identify areas of agreement and, where feasible, formulate stipulations;
- (C) assess the relative strengths and weaknesses of the parties' contentions and evidence, and explain as carefully as possible the reasoning of the mediator that supports these assessments;
- (D) assist the parties in settling the dispute, including meeting with the parties separately and privately;
- (E) estimate, where feasible, the likelihood of liability and the dollar range of damages;
- (F) help the parties devise a plan for sharing important information or conducting key discovery that will equip them as expeditiously as possible to participate in meaningful settlement discussions or to posture the case for disposition by other means; and
- (G) determine whether some follow-up to the BDR conference would contribute to the settlement or other disposition.

(f) Conclusion of Mediation.

- (1) **Mediator's Report Upon Completion.** Within 7 days after the completion of the BDR conference, the mediator shall file and serve a Mediator Report substantially conforming to the local form (**Mediator Report**). The report should state that BDR has been concluded and describe whether:
 - (A) the parties reached a resolution of their differences and a copy of an agreement is attached or a stipulated order or judgment will be submitted to the court, and/or the complaint will be dismissed, or the underlying motion withdrawn, or
 - (B) the parties did not fully resolve their differences and the matter is being returned to the court for further disposition.
- (2) **Mediator's Statement of Hours.** For record-keeping and evaluation purposes, the mediator shall submit to the BDR Administrator, but not file with the court, a statement of hours expended by the mediator in the particular matter, with time separated between preparation and time actually spent in the BDR conference or conferences. If more than 4 hours were expended in BDR conference time, the mediator shall report any compensation charged.

(g) Confidentiality.

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by this rule or applicable law, any and all communications made in connection with any mediation under this rule are subject to Fed. R. Evid. 408.
- (2) Mediators and parties may not communicate with the court about the substance of any position, offer or other matter in the mediation without the consent of all parties, unless such disclosure is required to enforce a settlement agreement or to provide evidence in an attorney disciplinary proceeding, but only to the extent required to accomplish that purpose.

LBR 9019-3. Loan Modification Program

Loan Modification Program. After public comment, the clerk may establish a Loan Modification Program (LMP) to facilitate the processing of requests to modify mortgages involving the debtor's residential real property. The program may provide for:

- (a) The designation of one or more LMP providers to maintain an online portal for the communication and exchange of information in a confidential setting;
- (b) the voluntary use of court-approved mediators or facilitators to assist in the process;
- (c) mandatory procedures and forms for use by participants; and
- (d) the setting of maximum fees to be charged by the LMP provider, mediator, and debtor's attorney.

LBR 9021-1. Judgments and Orders - Entry

- (a) **Request for Entry of Order Upon Default.** In the absence of a timely filed response to a motion or application, a party may request the entry of an order by filing a request substantially conforming to the local form (**Declaration and Request for Entry of Order**).
- (b) **Authority of Court.** No provision for an objection period or anything else in these rules limits the court's authority to enter a judgment or order at any time.

LBR 9022-1. Judgment and Orders - Notice

- (a) **Notice of Entry.** The clerk will give notice of the entry of a judgment or order to the contesting parties in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9022(a). "Contesting parties" means:
 - (1) all parties in an adversary proceeding; and
 - (2) parties who filed a written response or made an oral objection at a hearing to a motion or other request for relief in a contested matter.
- (b) **Notice List.** To assist the clerk in giving notice of the entry of a judgment or order, the party submitting a proposed judgment or order must attach a notice list with the name and address of each party entitled to notice under subdivision (a) of this rule who will not receive or has not consented to receive notice through the court's electronic transmission facilities.
- (c) **Service of Copy of Order.** Unless the court directs otherwise, the party obtaining relief is responsible for serving a copy of the judgment or order on parties adversely affected by the judgment or order. The clerk is responsible only for giving notice that the judgment or order has been entered on the court's docket.

LBR 9024-1. Motions for Reconsideration

- (a) **Motion.** A motion for reconsideration of a final judgment or order is governed by Bankruptcy Rule 9023 or 9024, as applicable. A motion for reconsideration of an interlocutory order must be filed no later than 14 days after the entry of the order. The party requesting reconsideration must serve a copy of the motion on all parties who filed a pleading in the underlying matter.
- (b) **Disposition.** The court may, in its discretion, request responses from other parties, hold a hearing, or dispose of motions for reconsideration without waiting for responses from other parties or holding a hearing. Any party wishing to file a response absent a request from the court should do so as soon as possible after the motion is filed.

LBR 9037-1. Privacy Protection of Personally Identifiable Information

- (a) **Motion to Redact.** If a document in the public record contains unredacted personally identifiable information protected under Bankruptcy Rule 9037 or other authority, a party may request that the court restrict remote electronic access to the document by filing a motion substantially conforming to the local form (**Motion to Redact**). The motion may be filed in a closed case. The filing fee may be waived if the filer is the individual or represents the individual whose personal information is the subject of the motion.
- (b) **Service of Motion.** The moving party must serve a copy of the motion on the debtor, any individual whose personal identifiers have been exposed, the filer of the unredacted document, the trustee, and the United States Trustee. A certificate of service shall identify any minor served only by the minor's initials.
- (c) **Submission of Redacted Document.** If the moving party is the party who originally filed the subject document, that party must file a redacted version of the document for the public record. If no changes are made to the previously filed document except for redactions, the redacted version should be attached to the local form (**Submission of Redacted Version of Previously Filed Document**).

LBR 9070-1. Exhibits

- (a) **Custody of Exhibits.** Unless otherwise ordered by the court, from the commencement of the trial or hearing and until the entry of a final judgment or order (or, in a noncore proceeding, the court's proposed findings and recommended judgment), (i) the clerk of court shall retain custody of all exhibits of a documentary nature, including electronically stored information, and (ii) the attorney or party offering any other material in evidence shall retain custody of the same.
- (b) **Disposition of Exhibits.** At the conclusion of the time period described in subdivision (a), the clerk shall return to the party who produced them all original exhibits, depositions, and transcripts. The court in its discretion may return or destroy the additional copies of the exhibits upon conclusion of the proceeding. On request, a party or attorney with custody of any exhibits has the responsibility to produce such exhibits to this court or an appellate court and shall grant the reasonable request of any party to examine or reproduce such for use in the proceeding.

LBR 9072-1. Orders - Proposed

- (a) **Scope.** The term "order" in this rule refers to any order, judgment, findings and conclusions, or other written decision or explanation of a ruling of the court.
- (b) **Responsibility to Draft Order.** Unless the court directs otherwise, the prevailing party is responsible for drafting a proposed order for submission to the judge.
- (c) **Format and Content.** Unless the proposed order is prepared using a court-issued form order, the following apply.
 - (1) **Space for Judge's Signature on First Page.** The top 3 inches of the proposed order's first page must be blank to accommodate placement of the judge's electronic signature.
 - (2) **Hearing Information.** If the underlying matter was the subject of a hearing, the date and time of the hearing and the name of the judge hearing the matter must appear on the caption page.
 - (3) **Related Docket Entry.** If known at the time of drafting, the number of the docket entry of any related motion or application must appear on the caption page.
 - (4) **Findings and Conclusions Stated on the Record.** If the judge indicates at the hearing that the findings and conclusions of the court are being stated on the record, the proposed order may state the following as the basis for the ruling: "For the reasons stated on the record, pursuant to Rule 7052 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure..."
 - (5) **Adequate Description of Relief Granted.** The text of the proposed order must provide an adequate description of the specific relief being granted, rather than a mere recitation that the motion has been granted.
 - (6) **Reference to Another Document.** If the order approves another document such as a plan, disclosure statement, or agreement, a copy of the subject document must be attached as an exhibit.
 - (7) **Notice List.** The notice list required by LBR 9022-1(b) should be attached to the proposed order as a separate page.
 - (8) **End of Order.** The text "END OF ORDER" in bold, upper case letters and centered on the page, must be placed at the end of the order.
 - (9) **Identification of Drafting Party.** The drafting party's name, address, telephone number, fax number, and email address must be placed at the end of the order, immediately below the "END OF ORDER" notation. If prepared by counsel, the representation must be stated, e.g., "Attorney for Debtor."

(d) Preparation and Approval of Proposed Order.

- (1) When Approval as to Form Not Required.** Unless the court directs that other parties approve the order as to form, the drafting party must submit the proposed order to the court within 7 days after the announcement of the court's ruling.
- (2) When Approval as to Form Required.** If the court directs that certain parties approve the order as to form, the drafting party must circulate the proposed order for approval within 7 days after the announcement of the court's ruling and submit the proposed order promptly to the court after all approvals have been given or waived. If one or more of the parties objects to the form of order, the drafting party must promptly submit the proposed order to the court as provided in paragraph (e)(2) below and provide notice of the submission to the other parties.
- (3) Opportunity to Object to Form of Order.** If the court has provided the opportunity for other parties to object to the form of order, an objecting party may submit, in the manner provided in paragraph (e)(2) below, a statement of objections and an alternate form of order within 7 days after the date of the drafting party's notice of submission of the proposed order. Thereafter, the court may take such action as is appropriate in the circumstances.
- (4) Use of /s/.** An attorney's electronic submission of a proposed order with the signatures of other individuals using the "/s/" convention is that attorney's representation to the court that the signatory has explicitly authorized the affixing of his or her signature to the document. An attorney's electronic submission of a proposed order is that attorney's representation to the court that the attorney has complied with the applicable provisions of this rule.
- (5) Reservation of Court's Discretion.** Nothing in this rule limits the court's discretion to dispense with the approval as to form of a proposed order, to shorten or lengthen the time periods stated in this rule, or to enter an order at any time.

(e) Electronic Submission of Proposed Order

- (1) CM/ECF Order Upload.** Unless paragraph (2) applies, a proposed order should be submitted to the court in PDF format using the Order Upload module in CM/ECF.
- (2) Submission by Email.** If (i) a party submits proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, (ii) a party entitled to approve the form of an order has failed or refused to do so timely, (iii) the party wishes to present with the proposed order a letter or other document (such as a redlined version of the order), or (iv) the

court so directs, the drafting party shall submit the proposed order by email to orders@hib.uscourts.gov as a word processing file. Objections to proposed orders and alternate forms of order shall be submitted in the same manner. The email transmission must be copied to other parties who appeared at the hearing who have email addresses in the record. The email subject line or body of the message must clearly state:

- (A) The number of the case or proceeding;
- (B) The name of the debtor(s) or the short title of the action, e.g., Able v. Baker;
- (C) A brief description of the order's subject matter, e.g., Order Granting Relief from Stay; and
- (D) If all parties directed to approve the form of order have not given their approval the form of order, the names of the parties and their counsel who have withheld approval.

(f) **Proposed Order to be Submitted Separately from Motion.** A proposed order must be submitted separately from a motion or other document filed with the court. A proposed order attached to a filed document is treated only as an exhibit and will not be reviewed for action by the judge.

(g) **Stipulated Orders.** A stipulation submitted with a line or space for the judge to sign "Approved and So Ordered" will not be filed and entered on the docket until after being signed by the judge. If the underlying matter may be affected by a filing deadline, the stipulation should be filed separately prior to submitting a proposed order attaching a copy of the stipulation as an exhibit.

(h) **Amended Orders.** If an order has been entered that contains a typographical or other error that is not substantive, an amended order may be submitted without filing a motion to alter or amend the existing order. In this situation, the amended order being submitted must concisely describe either in the first paragraph or in a footnote on the first page the correction that is the purpose of the amendment. Any amendment that is substantive in nature must be sought by way of an appropriate motion.

(i) **Conformed Copies.** If the party submitting the order wishes additional conformed copies, the clerk will conform a reasonable amount of additional copies. If stamped, addressed envelopes are provided, the clerk will mail the copies of the order to the addressees. Otherwise, the conformed copies will be available in the Clerk's Office for 30 days.

LBR 9073-1. Hearings – Notice

Separate Docket Entry Required. Unless the court directs otherwise, notice of a hearing on a motion or other matter must be filed separately on the docket, using a notice substantially conforming to the local form (**Notice of Hearing**). All notices must include a concise description of the relief sought.

LBR 9074-1. Remote Appearances

- (a) **Trials and Evidentiary Hearings.** Unless the court orders otherwise, participants (counsel, parties, and witnesses) shall appear in person in the courtroom. However, the court will consider remote audio or video participation for individuals not physically located on the Island of Oahu or for other good cause. Requests for remote participation must be filed no later than 28 days before the trial or hearing and include a statement that the individual has the technical means to participate remotely and will be available for a pretrial test of the connection. Objections to an individual's remote participation must be filed within 7 days after the request is filed. Remote access (audio or video) to any proceedings involving witness testimony is limited to the parties. Remote connection information will be provided only to the participants.
- (b) **Non-Evidentiary Hearings.** Unless the court directs otherwise, parties and their counsel in proceedings without live testimony have the option to appear in person in the courtroom or to participate via a remote audio connection. No court approval is required. Public audio access is permitted in all matters other than trials and evidentiary hearings unless the court directs otherwise. Remote connection information shall be posted on the court website and shall be provided in any notice of the hearing. For good cause, a party may request a remote video appearance by filing a motion at least 14 days prior to the hearing. If granted, any public access to the video hearing would be limited to audio.

END OF LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES