

Changes in Clerk's Noticing Procedures

The federal government is currently experiencing financial cutbacks, and, therefore, the Judiciary is pursuing a variety of cost containment measures. The Administrative Office for the U.S. Courts has requested that all courts review their noticing practices in order to reduce Bankruptcy Noticing Center costs. Based on recommendations of the Administrative Office, as well as our own review of the United States Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and the court's Local Bankruptcy Rules, the Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio has determined that the first five notices that will no longer be sent by the Clerk's office are as follows:

1. Notice of Intent to Allow/Pay Claims (Chapter 13)
(May be noticed by chapter 13 trustees)
2. Chapter 13 Trustee's Certification of Final Payment and Case History
(Will be noticed by chapter 13 trustees)
3. Notice and Opportunity for Hearing on Final Report and Applications for Compensation (Chapter 7) (Will be noticed by chapter 7 trustees)
4. Meeting of Creditors and/or Confirmation Hearing Continued (Chapter 13) (Trustee's Report)
(Will be noticed by the party requesting the continuance)
5. Notice to Individual Consumer Debtor
(Notices will continue to be sent by the court via the BNC to pro se consumer debtors.)

General Order No. 17 is being entered to accommodate the changes with respect to Item #3 and Item #4.

The effective date for these changes is April 18, 2013, except for Item #2, which will become effective June 3, 2013.

We also anticipate that further notices will be eliminated in the future.