



ECF Court Link

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Eastern District

Of

North Carolina

CM/ECF

Newsletter

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Case Statistics

<i>December, 2016</i>		<i>Year to Date</i>	
<i>Ch. 7</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>Ch. 7</i>	<i>2208</i>
<i>Ch. 11</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Ch. 11</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Ch. 12</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Ch. 12</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Ch. 13</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>Ch. 13</i>	<i>4341</i>
<i>Ch. 9</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Ch. 9</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Ch. 15</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Ch. 15</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>437</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>6613</i>

Greenville Office

Effective Tuesday, January 17, 2017, the Greenville office will no longer maintain a public counter. Greenville will continue to be a staffed divisional office, but only emergency filings will be accepted.

Trustee Transfer

In anticipation of Richard M. Stearns' retirement effective March 31, 2017, the majority of his existing Chapter 13 cases were transferred to Joseph A. Bledsoe, III on January 6th. Debtors in these cases should now be mailing their payments to PO Box 2179, Memphis, TN 38101-2179. Notices and case related inquiries should be sent to PO Box 1618, New Bern, NC 28563.

A number of cases were also transferred to John F. Logan. Debtors in these cases should now be mailing their payments and sending notices/inquiries to PO Box 61039, Raleigh, NC 27661.

Please ensure that you pay close attention to the trustee assigned to each Chapter 13 case, so that the proper trustee is referenced in all pleadings filed with the court.

Relief Under 4001(a)(3)

It is common practice for attorneys to request a waiver of the appeal period pursuant to 4001(a)(3) in the decretal portion of motions filed with the court. However, the court has found that in many cases, there is a failure to set out any specific argument in support of such a request. It is typically accompanied by a statement indicating that, "cause exists for the waiver of 4001(a)(3)", and then the waiver is simply allowed in the proposed order. Please be advised that the Judges will no longer allow these waivers without appropriate cause set out in the motion. Some examples may include: the debtor's proposed surrender of the collateral, lack of insurance, fear of theft, etc.

Responses/Requests for Hearing

Local Rule 9014-1(f) requires that a response or objection filed with the court specifically set out the grounds for the party's position and the specific issues being contested. However, the Judges have found that responses filed with the court often state little more than "the party objects and requests a hearing", or similar language. Please be aware that effective immediately, responses stated in such a way will not be treated as responses, and the relief may be granted by the court without a hearing pursuant to the Local Rule.

Pro Bono Program

The court is always in need of volunteers for its pro bono program. This program was established in order to provide representation free of charge to parties involved in Adversary Proceedings who are unable to employ and compensate an attorney on their own behalf. For more information regarding this worthwhile program, please click [here](#).

Written Opinions Report

Please be aware that you may opt to receive a scheduled report via email for all Written Opinions that are filed in cases before the court. This weekly report includes all Written Opinions entered during the prior week. Please contact Kelly Shum-Drake or Donna Skinner if you would like to be added to the list of recipients for this report.

Certified Mediators

If you are a certified mediator and would like to be added to the list of certified mediators on the court's website, please send an email to Stephanie Butler at the below email address. The email should contain your name, law firm, address, telephone number, email address and through whom you are certified.

Stephanie_Butler@nceb.uscourts.gov

For those certified mediators who are already listed on the court's website, please review your information to ensure that it is accurate and notify Ms. Butler via the above email address if any necessary changes need to be made.

Flood Related Procedures

*A General Order, signed by the judges of this court, was entered on January 6, 2017 with regard to flood procedures in response to Hurricane Matthew. The order extends the provisions of the order previously entered on October 12, 2016. To view the order, please click **[here](#)**.*

Local Rules Amendments

*Pending amendments to the local rules have been published for comment. Details may be obtained by clicking **[here](#)**. Please submit any comments to **stephanie_butler@nceb.uscourts.gov** by January 20, 2017.*

Service Agents

If your office represents a financial institution that has a service agent listed with the court pursuant to 7004(h), please contact that institution to verify that the service agent information that has been provided to the court is accurate.

On a Personal Note

Please join us in welcoming Meghan Pridemore back to the court family! Meghan began serving as law clerk to Judge Humrickhouse on January 11th.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Q. I need to modify the email addresses on my CM/ECF account for receipt of the daily summary emails. Can I update my account on my own?

A. No, attorneys do not currently have access to this feature. Please contact the CM/ECF helpdesk via email with your request, and we will update the account accordingly.

ECF Contacts:

Helpdesk Line: (919)334-3850

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