

Bankruptcy Practitioners in the Middle District of Georgia,

Subject: Middle District of Georgia Bankruptcy Court Response to COVID-19  
(5<sup>th</sup> Announcement)

Date: April 3, 2020

Since our last announcement on March 27, 2020 we would like to update you on the following:

RESET OF 341 MEETINGS 341 Meetings scheduled for March 17 – April 10 have been reset to scheduled dates selected by the case Trustees. In our March 27 announcement, we noted that each meeting will be set to a specific time slot in 10-minute intervals. For the most part, this was achieved. However, due to technical issues, in some instances, meetings were only able to be reset in the “3 per 30-minute” time block model. We attempted, however, to make sure that attorneys have their meetings grouped in the same 30-minute time block. For meetings set for April 13 through the end of May, we are following the “3 per 30-minute time block” model. This will be the model going forward until in-person meetings are reestablished.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ACCESS TO COURT FACILITIES In response to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp’s Shelter in Place Order issued on April 2, 2020, the Court will go to absolute minimum staffing in the Macon and Columbus offices effective Monday, April 6, 2020. Walk-in customers must follow established protocols in order to file documents at the courthouse until further notice.

COURT NOT ACCEPTING CASH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE The Court is not accepting cash payments until further notice. Payments may be made by money order mailed to the Clerk’s Office. Walk-in customers will be directed to obtain a money order to mail to the court or to request a deferment of fees subject to approval by the Court.

EXTENSION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS #126 AND #129 Administrative Order #126 on Mandatory Telephonic Hearings and #129 on Verification of Papers Temporary Amendment to LBR 5005-4 were amended to extend the through date to April 30, 2020. In keeping with Administrative Order #126, attorneys are reminded that there will be no in-person court in Albany April 14 – 15. All

hearings will be held via teleconference. The amended orders can be found on our court's website.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON SHORTENING RULE 2002(a)(1) NOTICING

REQUIREMENT Administrative Order #132 was issued on March 30, 2020 which, for cause shown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, allows reset dates for meetings of creditors originally scheduled for March 17 to April 10 to be reset to a date on less than 21 days notice.

NEW WEBPAGE We have established a link on our webpage to "Important Information Regarding Court Operations During COVID-19 Outbreak" which is a repository of all COVID-19 related orders and communications.