UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

LOCAL GENERAL ORDER NO. 4*

In all cases filed under Chapter 13 of the Bankruptcy Code, compensation for debtor's counsel shall not exceed $3,000.00. No other fees shall be paid to Debtor(s)' counsel without prior Court approval except costs related to the filing of a petition. Said costs shall be disclosed in the Debtor(s)' petition and are subject to review by the Court.

Debtor's counsel shall obtain the signature of the debtor on all initial fee applications in Chapter 13 proceedings and shall indicate the amount of the fee and the method of payment. Any retainer collected by an attorney prior to the filing of the Chapter 13 petition shall be disclosed in the fee petition and the retainer shall be deducted from the fee awarded by the Court. The fee petition shall further disclose any fees and expenses charged or collected for any pre-petition legal work performed by the counsel for the debtor within one year prior to filing bankruptcy. Unless said pre-petition legal work is clearly delineated as unrelated to the Chapter 13, the Chapter 13 Trustee shall deduct any such disclosed pre-petition fees and expenses from the fees awarded in Chapter 13. The Chapter 13 Trustee shall pay, if funds are available, 50% of the attorney's fees on the first distribution, with the balance paid over the next five months in equal installments of 10% each.

This order shall be effective for cases filed on or after August 1, 2006.

Dated: April 20, 2009

William S. Shulman
WILLIAM S. SHULMAN
CHIEF U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Margaret A. Mahoney
MARGARET A. MAHONEY
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

*Ratified and renumbered