

United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Alabama
Quarterly Bankruptcy Section Meeting
August 11, 2020

1. Alex Garrett, Section Chair
2. Judges Callaway and Oldshue
 - Courthouse move report
 - Video hearings
 - Case filings report
 - January-March filings normal, then down 41% April-July (average 250 cases/month) versus 2019 (average 425 cases/month). Filings down nationally as well.
 - CARES Act chapter 13 plan extensions—schedules I&J no longer required
 - LLC or corporation listed as d/b/a on petition—will be struck
 - Revised order submission docket entry (14 day provision, clerk’s office will not hold case open beyond that)
 - Chapter 13 motions to borrow—amended I&J required
 - Chapter 13 sale motions—closing statement now required per AO 2020-7 (attached)
 - Extension of wet signature waiver per AO’s 2020-4 and 2020-9 (attached)
 - Employment of professionals in chapters 7 & 11—no rate changes without court approval (new order form on website, copy attached)
 - Extensions of time to file schedules—only one will be granted, show cause hearing set in order.
 - Case summaries—will be sent out by email periodically (probably every couple of months)
 - CLE credit info
3. Andrea Redmon, Clerk of Court
4. Mark Zimlich, Bankruptcy Administrator
5. Danny O’Brien, chapter 13 trustee
6. Consumer and business committees – chairs Stephen Klimjack and Danielle Mashburn-Myrick.
7. Open the floor

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

IN RE:)
)
Order Temporarily Suspending) Administrative Order No. 2020-4
Requirement to Obtain Original)
Signatures from Debtors for Electronic)
Filings)

ORDER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN
ORIGINAL SIGNATURES FROM DEBTORS FOR ELECTRONIC FILINGS

This order is issued in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the United States and the State of Alabama. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic.

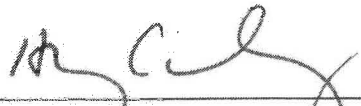
On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") advises that individuals should engage in "social distancing" to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

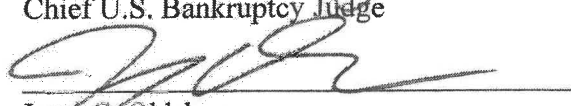
In addition, there are individuals who may be in isolation because they are sick or have been exposed to someone who has or is suspected to have COVID-19. Accordingly, to reduce the need for personal contact, there is good cause to suspend temporarily and conditionally the requirement that an attorney obtain a debtor's original, physical signature for an electronic filing; now therefore,

For all documents requiring a debtor's signature, the court temporarily suspends the requirement that an attorney secure the debtor's original, physical signature prior to electronically filing such documents on the condition that, prior to filing, the attorney has either (a) obtained the debtor's digital signature via any commercially available digital signed software that provides signature authentication and maintains a copy of the digitally signed documents(s) in the debtor's case file; or (b) obtains express written permission (including electronic mail) from the debtor to affix the debtor's signature to the document(s), and maintains a hard copy thereof in the file

This order shall terminate and expire on May 31, 2020 unless extended by further order of the court.

Dated: March 23, 2020


Henry A. Callaway
Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge


Jerry C. Oldshue
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge


IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

IN RE:)
)
Extension of "Wet Signature" Suspension) Administrative Order No. 2020-9
)

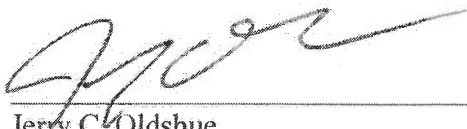
EXTENSION OF "WET SIGNATURE" SUSPENSION

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the suspension of the "wet signature" requirement as set out in Administrative Order 2020-4 is hereby extended on the same terms until further order of the court.

Dated: 7/27/20



Henry A. Callaway
Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge



Jerry C. Oldshue
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

IN RE:)
)
Sales of Real Estate by Chapter 13) Administrative Order No. 2020-7
Debtors)
)

SALES OF REAL ESTATE BY CHAPTER 13 DEBTORS

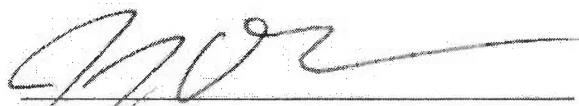
Unless otherwise ordered by the court, a chapter 13 debtor seeking approval to sell real estate during the pendency of his or her case must file the following items a sufficient time before the hearing to allow review by the court, chapter 13 trustee, and other interested parties:

- a. A proposed settlement statement, closing statement, or closing disclosure, and
- b. Any recent appraisal or other valuation of the property debtor proposes to sell.

Dated: 5/26/20



Henry A. Callaway
Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge



Jerry C. Oldshue
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA**

In re:

,

Debtor.

Case No.

Chapter

ORDER AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL

This matter came before the Court (date) on the (Trustee's/Debtor's) Application to Employ _____ as _____ (the "Application")(Doc. ____). Proper notice of the hearing was given and appearances were noted by _____. Upon consideration of the Application, Contract and Declaration of Disinterestedness filed in support thereof, indicating that _____ is duly qualified and does not represent or hold any interest adverse to the Estate, the Court finds good and reasonable grounds for the issuance of this Order. Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED as follows:

1. The (Debtor/Trustee) is authorized to employ _____ as specified in the Application subject to terms of this Order.
2. Compensation shall be allowed as follows: (insert specific fee information consistent with the Application or amount allowed by the Court at the hearing i.e. "at the hourly rate of X" or "upon a contingency basis of Y%".) Any additional fees, whether by an increase in hourly rate or percentage, if applicable, must be approved by the Court in advance.
3. This Order only pertains to the professional(s) specifically named herein and any other professionals sought to be employed by the (Trustee/Debtor) must be approved in

advance.

4. All professional compensation and expenses are subject to final approval of the Court.
5. The Court reserves the right to review, amend or disallow any and all professional compensation and expenses as it deems appropriate.