

Summary of Amendments of Federal Bankruptcy Rules and Official Form - Effective December 1, 2019

Applies to: All Parties
Case type: All Chapters and Case Types
Amended Rules: 4001, 6007, 9036, and 9037
Official Form: Official Form 122A-1 Chapter 7 Statement of Your Current Monthly Income

Rule 4001(c) Obtaining Credit.

Committee Note

Subdivision (c) of the rule is amended to exclude chapter 13 cases from that subdivision. This amendment does not speak to the underlying substantive issue of whether the Bankruptcy Code requires or permits a chapter 13 debtor not engaged in business to request approval of postpetition credit.

Modified Language

(c) OBTAINING CREDIT.

[\(4\) Inapplicability in a Chapter 13 case. This subdivision \(c\) does not apply in a chapter 13 case.](#)

Rule 6007(b) Abandonment or Disposition of Property.

Committee Note

Subdivision (b) of the rule is amended to specify the parties to be served with the motion and any notice of the motion. The rule also establishes an objection deadline. Both of these changes align subdivision (b) more closely with the procedures set forth in subdivision (a). In addition, the rule clarifies that no further action is necessary to notice or effect the abandonment of property ordered by the court in connection with a motion filed under subdivision (b), unless the court directs otherwise.

Modified Language

(b) MOTION BY PARTY IN INTEREST. A party in interest may file and serve a motion requiring the trustee or debtor in possession to abandon property of the estate. [Unless otherwise directed by the court, the party filing the motion shall serve the motion and any notice of the motion on the trustee or debtor in possession, the United States trustee, all creditors, indenture trustees, and committees elected pursuant to § 705 or appointed pursuant to § 1102 of the Code. A party in interest may file and serve an objection within 14 days of service, or within the time fixed by the court. If a timely objection is made, the court shall set a hearing on notice to the United States trustee and to other entities as the court may direct. If the court grants the motion, the order effects the trustee's or debtor in possession's abandonment without further notice, unless otherwise directed by the court.](#)

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Rule 9036 Notice by Electronic Transmission.

Committee Note

The rule is amended to permit both notice and service by electronic means. The use and reliability of electronic delivery have increased since the rule was first adopted. The amendments recognize the increased utility of electronic delivery, with appropriate safeguards for parties not filing an appearance in the case through the court's electronic-filing system.

The amended rule permits electronic notice or service on a registered user who has appeared in the case by filing with the court's electronic-filing system. A court may choose to allow registration only with the court's permission. But a party who registers will be subject to service by filing with the court's system unless the court provides otherwise. The rule does not make the court responsible for notifying a person who filed a paper with the court's electronic-filing system that an attempted transmission by the court's system failed. But a filer who receives notice that the transmission failed is responsible for making effective service.

With the consent of the person served, electronic service also may be made by means that do not use the court's system. Consent can be limited to service at a prescribed address or in a specified form, and it may be limited by other conditions.

Modified Language

Notice and Service Generally ~~by Electronic Transmission~~

Whenever these rules require or permit sending a notice or serving a paper by mail, the clerk, or some other person as the court or these rules may direct, may send the notice to—or serve the paper on—a registered user by filing it with the court's electronic-filing system. Or it may be sent to any person by other electronic means that the person consented to in writing. In either of these events, service or notice is complete upon filing or sending but is not effective if the filer or sender receives notice that it did not reach the person to be served. This rule does not apply to any pleading or other paper required to be served in accordance with Rule 7004. ~~the clerk or some other person as directed by the court is required to send notice by mail and the entity entitled to receive the notice requests in writing that, instead of notice by mail, all or part of the information required to be contained in the notice be sent by a specified type of electronic transmission, the court may direct the clerk or other person to send the information by such electronic transmission. Notice by electronic means is complete on transmission.~~

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Rule 9037 Privacy Protection for Filings Made with the Court.

Committee Note

Subdivision (h) is new. It prescribes a procedure for the belated redaction of documents that were filed without complying with subdivision (a).

Generally, whenever someone discovers that information entitled to privacy protection under subdivision (a) appears in a document on file with the court—regardless of whether the case in question remains open or has been closed—that entity may file a motion to redact the document. A single motion may relate to more than one unredacted document. The moving party may be, but is not limited to, the original filer of the document. The motion must identify by location on the case docket or claims register each document to be redacted. It should not, however, include the unredacted information itself.

Subsection (h)(1) authorizes the court to alter the prescribed procedure. This might be appropriate, for example, when the movant seeks to redact a large number of documents. In that situation the court by order or local rule might require the movant to file an omnibus motion, initiate a miscellaneous proceeding, or proceed in another manner directed by the court.

Unless the court orders otherwise, the motion must identify the proposed redactions, and the moving party must attach to the motion the proposed redacted document. The attached document must otherwise be identical to the one previously filed. The court, however, may relieve the movant of this requirement in appropriate circumstances, for example when the movant was not the filer of the unredacted document and does not have access to it. Service of the motion and the attachment must be made on all of the following individuals who are not the moving party: debtor, debtor's attorney, trustee, United States trustee, the filer of the unredacted document, and any individual whose personal identifying information is to be redacted.

Modified Language

[\(h\) MOTION TO REDACT A PREVIOUSLY FILED DOCUMENT.](#)

[\(1\) *Content of the Motion; Service.* Unless the court orders otherwise, if an entity seeks to redact from a previously filed document information that is protected under subdivision \(a\), the entity must:](#)

[\(A\) file a motion to redact identifying the proposed redactions;](#)

[\(B\) attach to the motion the proposed redacted document;](#)

[\(C\) include in the motion the docket or proof-of-claim number of the previously filed document; and](#)

[\(D\) serve the motion and attachment on the debtor, debtor's attorney, trustee \(if any\), United States trustee, filer of the unredacted document, and any individual whose personal identifying information is to be redacted.](#)

[\(2\) *Restricting Public Access to the Unredacted Document; Docketing the Redacted Document.* The court must promptly restrict public access to the motion and the unredacted document pending its ruling on the motion. If the court grants it, the court must docket the redacted document. The restrictions on public access to the motion and unredacted document remain in effect until a further court order. If the court denies it, the restrictions must be lifted, unless the court orders otherwise.](#)


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Revised Official Form

Official Form 122A-1 Chapter 7 Statement of Your Current Monthly Income

The instruction on **line 14a** is amended to remind a debtor for whom there is no presumption of abuse that Official Form 122A-2 (Chapter 7 Means Test Calculation) should not be filled out or filed.

14. How do the lines compare?

14a. Line 12b is less than or equal to line 13. On the top of page 1, check box 1, *There is no presumption of abuse.*
Go to Part 3. Do NOT fill out or file Official Form 122A-2. 

14b. Line 12b is more than line 13. On the top of page 1, check box 2, *The presumption of abuse is determined by Form 122A-2.*
Go to Part 3 and fill out Form 122A-2.