

*UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
District of Connecticut*

Gary M. Gfeller  
Clerk of Court

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**To:** Members of the Bar and Public

**CLERK'S  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
13-01**

**From:** Gary M. Gfeller

**Date:** February 21, 2013

**Re:** Digital Audio Recordings of Court Hearings and Trials  
available on March 18, 2013

Recent enhancements to the Case Management /Electronic Case Filing system (CM/ECF) and with the approval of the Judicial Conference of the United States have made it possible for the court to make Digital Audio Recordings available on the case docket through the Public Access to Court Electronic Records System (PACER) for a fee of \$2.40.

**Effective March 18, 2013**, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut will post digital audio recordings of all court hearings and trials held.

The court's goal is to make use of digital audio recording technology for the benefit of the bar and the public. The prompt availability of digital audio recordings offers a significant cost and time savings to attorneys who have appeared at a hearing or trial.

A recording of a court hearing or trial will appear on the case docket as a PDF document with an MP3 file embedded and will be available through PACER generally by the next business day.

Parties seeking to restrict public access to any digital audio recording of a hearing or trial shall file an application showing cause for restriction at least one day prior to the commencement of the hearing. The application should be on notice to all attorneys involved in the hearing, the case trustee, and the office of the U.S. Trustee. The burden shall be on the moving party to demonstrate grounds for restricting access under 11 U.S.C. §107.

Counsel should avoid introducing personal identifying information into the record when questioning witnesses or making other statements in court. In the event that personal information is disclosed in a hearing, upon oral motion for cause, at the conclusion of the hearing, the court will consider refraining from posting the auto recording to the docket. The court on its own discretion, may decide not to post any recording.

The digital audio recordings are being made available through PACER for the convenience of the parties and in interest of broadening access to public court proceedings. The official record

of any court hearing remains to be the written transcript. Instructions for obtaining a written transcript can be found on the court's website at [www.ctb.uscourts.gov](http://www.ctb.uscourts.gov) .

I invite you to contact me with any comments, observations and suggestions you may have for improving implementation of this new technology at any time and especially during the initial phase. My telephone number can be found in the top right corner of this document.