

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENT 25-02

NOTICE TO THE BAR AND THE PUBLIC REGARDING GENERAL ORDER 25-01 AND REVISED APPENDIX E, LOCAL FORM CHAPTER 13 PLAN AND NEW LOCAL FORM CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE FOR CHAPTER 13 PLANS

To the Public and Bar, Please Be Advised and Take Notice:

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut has issued General Order 25-01 establishing *Interim* Local Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3015-2, *Chapter 13 - Confirmation*. A copy of the Order is attached, but also available on our website at www.ctb.uscourts.gov.

Additionally, the Court has revised Appendix E to the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan, to coincide with provisions of *Interim* Local Rule 3015-2. Of note, the revisions to Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan, include:

- Removal of the certificate of service pages from the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan itself; and
- Addition of a new, stand-alone Local Form Certificate of Service for Chapter 13 Plans and Notices of Hearing.

Effective immediately, the most recently revised version of Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan (9/2025), as available on the Court's website, shall be used. The revised Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan is available for download on the Court's website.

<u>NOTE</u>: The Clerk's Office will issue a deficiency notice for any Chapter 13 Plans filed on or after <u>October 1, 2025</u>, that do not use the revised Local Form Chapter 13 Plan (9/2025). If the deficiency is not cured, the Chapter 13 Plan may not be considered or scheduled for hearing.

Chapter 13 Plans currently pending on the prior version of the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan (5/2025) may proceed in the normal course and be scheduled for a confirmation hearing.

Please contact the Clerk's Office with any questions about this announcement. Thank you.

12-Sept-2025	/s/ Pietro Cicolini
Date	Clerk of Court

ATTACHMENT

GENERAL ORDER 2025-01 ESTABLISHING INTERIM LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 3015-2

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

IN RE:

INTERIM LOCAL RULE OF BANKRUPTCY : PROCEDURE 3015-2(b), (c), and (d) AND : REQUIRED USE OF REVISED APPENDIX E, : LOCAL FORM CHAPTER 13 PLAN AND : LOCAL FORM CHAPTER 13 CERTIFICATE : OF SERVICE :

GENERAL ORDER 2025-1

GENERAL ORDER ESTABLISHING INTERIM LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 3015-2

In May 2025, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut revised Appendix E to the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (Local Form Chapter 13 Plan) to include a section permitting a debtor to elect when property of the estate will vest and to incorporate a certificate of service form as an attachment to the plan itself.

Following the revision, on June 30, 2025, the Court met and conferred with the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee, counsel for Chapter 13 debtors and creditors in Chapter 13 cases, and other members of the bar to address concerns regarding the revised Appendix E. During that meeting, some members of the bar noted their preference for a separate certificate of service process, to permit a debtor to serve the Chapter 13 Plan together with a copy of the Notice of Confirmation Hearing. They noted it is most efficient and cost effective for debtor's counsel to be able to serve a Chapter 13 Plan and the Notice of Confirmation Hearing in one step.

Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3015(d) provides that "[i]f the plan was not included with the notice of a confirmation hearing mailed under Rule 2002, the debtor must serve the plan on the trustee and creditors when it is filed." After considering both

the Federal Rule and local practice, the Court has determined it is appropriate to adopt interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-2(c) and (d) to clarify and modify the responsibility for service of Chapter 13 Plans and Notices of Confirmation Hearings. As part of these revisions, Appendix E to the Local Rules shall be amended to separate the Certificate of Service form from the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan form. Accordingly, Appendix E will consist of two forms: (1) the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan, and (2) the Local Form Chapter 13 Certificate of Service.

Additionally, upon further review of Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-2(b), the Court concludes modifications to the timing of Chapter 13 plan confirmation hearings are necessary. Pursuant to D. Conn. Bankr. L. R. 3015-2(b), adopted in 2018, a confirmation hearing to consider a Chapter 13 Plan was initially scheduled for a date after the expiration of the Proof of Claim Bar Date. This Interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-2(b) modifies the scheduling for Chapter 13 Plan confirmation hearings to be consistent with 11 U.S.C. § 1324(b), unless otherwise ordered.

The Court issues this General Order 2025-1, adopting interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-2, by modifying subsection (b), adding subsections (c) and (d), and amending Appendix E to the Local Bankruptcy Rules.

Accordingly, it is hereby

ORDERED: <u>Effective October 1, 2025</u>, Interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-2(b), (c), and (d) is adopted as follows:

Local Bankr. R. 3015-2 Chapter 13 - Confirmation.

(b) Unless the Court orders otherwise, the hearing on confirmation of the plan may be held not earlier than 20 days and not later than 45 days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors under § 341(a). The Debtor's attorney, or the

Debtor, if not represented by counsel, must appear at the confirmation hearing unless specifically excused by Court order.

(c) Service of Chapter 13 Plan Before Confirmation and Notice of Chapter 13 Plan Confirmation Hearing.

Initial Chapter 13 Plans and Amended Plans Filed When No Hearing is Scheduled.

Upon the filing of the Debtor's initial Chapter 13 Plan or the filing of an amended Chapter 13 Plan at a time when no confirmation hearing is scheduled, a Notice of Chapter 13 Plan Confirmation Hearing shall be issued by the Clerk's Office.

The Debtor or Debtor's counsel shall serve both the Notice of Chapter 13 Plan Confirmation Hearing and the Chapter 13 Plan (or amended Chapter 13 Plan) on all creditors, parties in interest, and the Chapter 13 Trustee.

Within three (3) business days after the issuance of the Notice of Chapter 13 Plan Confirmation Hearing, the Debtor or Debtor's counsel shall file a Certificate of Service evidencing service of the Chapter 13 Plan (or amended Chapter 13 Plan) and the Notice of Chapter 13 Plan Confirmation Hearing using the Local Form Chapter 13 Certificate of Service in Appendix E. The Certificate shall identify each entity served and specify the method of service.

Amended Plans Filed Before a Scheduled Confirmation Hearing.

If a Debtor files an amended Chapter 13 Plan in advance of a confirmation hearing that is already scheduled, the Debtor or Debtor's counsel shall serve a copy of the amended Chapter 13 Plan on all creditors, parties in interest, and the Chapter 13 Trustee, and file a Certificate of Service evidencing service of the amended Chapter 13 Plan using the Local Form Chapter 13 Certificate of Service in Appendix E. The Certificate shall identify each entity served and specify the method of service.

(d) Service of Chapter 13 Plan After Confirmation and Notice of Hearing Regarding Motion to Modify a Confirmed Chapter 13 Plan.

Upon the filing of a motion to modify a confirmed Chapter 13 Plan and a proposed modified Chapter 13 Plan, a Notice of Hearing shall be issued by the Clerk's Office.

The Debtor or Debtor's counsel shall serve both the Notice of Hearing, the motion to modify, and the proposed modified Chapter 13 Plan on all creditors, parties in interest, and the Chapter 13 Trustee.

Within three (3) business days after the issuance of the Notice of Hearing, the Debtor or Debtor's counsel shall file a Certificate of Service evidencing service of the modified Chapter 13 Plan and the Notice of Hearing using the Local Form Chapter 13 Certificate of Service in Appendix E. The Certificate shall identify each entity served and specify the method of service.

And, it is further

ORDERED: Interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-2 shall remain in effect until the Local Bankruptcy Rules are amended consistent with this General Order 2025-1 or until otherwise ordered; and it further

ORDERED: Effective immediately, the most recently revised version of Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan and Local Form Chapter 13 Certificate of Service, available on the Court's website, shall be used. Chapter 13 Plans filed on or after October 1, 2025, using earlier versions of the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan may not be considered or scheduled for hearing.

Dated this 12th day of September, 2025, at New Haven, Connecticut.

