

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT**

IN RE:

**INTERIM LOCAL RULE OF BANKRUPTCY
PROCEDURE 2016-2(b) AND REQUIRED USE
OF REVISED APPENDIX E, LOCAL FORM
CHAPTER 13 PLAN**

GENERAL ORDER 2024-02

**GENERAL ORDER ESTABLISHING
INTERIM LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 2016-2(b)**

Pursuant to D. Conn. Bankr. L. R. 2016-2(b) adopted in 2018, unless otherwise ordered by the Court, if an attorney representing a debtor seeks allowance of attorney's fees in an amount of \$4,000.00 or less for work performed prior to confirmation of a Chapter 13 Plan, the filing of a Disclosure of Compensation of Attorney for Debtor, Form B2030 consistent with the requirements of Fed.R.Bankr.P. 2016(b), shall be sufficient and the filing of an itemized application for compensation pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 330 shall be excused. The \$4,000.00 amount is informally referred to as the "no look" fee for a Chapter 13 case.

The Connecticut Bar Association's Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section through its Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee met and conferred with attorneys who participate in the Chapter 13 process including the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee, counsel for Chapter 13 debtors, and counsel for creditors in Chapter 13 cases. The Court then met with the Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee and other members of the bar on June 12, 2024, in New Haven, Connecticut to address Chapter 13 procedures in the District among other topics related to bankruptcy court practice. The Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee, the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee and many members of the bar provided information supporting a recommendation to raise the no look fee to \$6,000.00.

The Court, having considered the merits of an increase in the no look fee, now adopts an interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-2(b), amends Appendix E to the Local Bankruptcy Rules and issues this General Order 2024-02.

ACCORDINGLY, it is hereby

ORDERED: Effective immediately, Interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-2(b) is adopted as follows:

(b) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, if a Chapter 13 debtor's attorney seeks allowance of attorney's fees excluding costs for services rendered before confirmation of a Chapter 13 Plan in an amount equal to or less than the amount stated in Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan, Section 4.3, then the filing of a Disclosure of Compensation of Attorney for Debtor, [Form B2030](#) shall be sufficient for the allowance of the attorney's fees and the filing of an itemized application for compensation pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 330 shall be excused.

And, it is further

ORDERED: Interim Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016(b) shall remain in effect until the Local Bankruptcy Rules are modified consistent with this General Order 2024-02 or until otherwise ordered; and it further

ORDERED: Effective immediately, the most recently revised version of Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan, available on the Court's website shall be used. Chapter 13 Plans filed on or after August 1, 2024, using earlier versions of the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan may be stricken without notice or hearing and not considered. And, it is further

ORDERED: Notwithstanding the provision for a no look fee of \$6,000.00 contained in the most recent version of Appendix E, Local Form Chapter 13 Plan, the \$4,000.00 no look fee contained in the January 4, 2019 version of the Local Form Chapter 13 Plan shall continue to apply in Chapter 13 cases filed prior to the date of this General Order 2024-02, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding judge.

Dated this 15th day of July, 2024, at New Haven, Connecticut.

Ann M. Nevins
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge
District of Connecticut

