

June 16, 2017

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS to
LOCAL RULES of BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE
and
LOCAL BANKRUPTCY FORMS
PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington solicits comments, pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9029, on proposed amendments to the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and Local Bankruptcy Forms. The proposed amendments, and redline comparisons, are posted on the court's website, www.wawb.uscourts.gov (in .pdf format) or may be obtained in hard copy from the Clerk (address below - \$5.00 for postage and handling required).

The primary focus of the proposed amendments is the form Chapter 13 plan (Local Bankruptcy Form 13-4). As many of you are aware, a proposed amendment to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3015, which is expected to become effective on December 1, 2017, would require the use of a national form plan. A district can "opt out" of the national form plan by adopting a local form plan that meets the requirements of proposed Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3015.1.

After a prior public comment period regarding whether this district should use the national form plan, the judges of this district determined that our district's current local form plan has served us well, and that this district should "opt out" and continue to use a local form plan. Accordingly, a committee was formed to make modifications to the current local form plan required by proposed Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3015.1 and any other modifications deemed advisable.

In addition to the proposed amendments to the form Chapter 13 plan and related Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1, the committee proposed several other changes to our local rules to make them consistent with changes to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure that are expected to become effective on December 1, 2017. Finally, General Order 2017-1 is being converted into Local Bankruptcy Rule 5004-1.

Comments must be in writing and may be submitted by email to LBRcomments@wawb.uscourts.gov or by mailing to the address below.

Comments are due by July 21, 2017.

Mark L. Hatcher, Clerk
Attn: LBR Comments
United States Bankruptcy Court
700 Stewart Street, Suite 6301
Seattle, WA 98101