

Below is the Order of the Court.



Brian D. Lynch
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge
(Dated as of Entered on Docket date above)

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**

In re:

REMOVING THE CHAPTER 13
TRUSTEE'S AUTHORITY TO PAY FILING
FEE INSTALLMENTS THROUGH THE
CHAPTER 13 PLAN

General Order No. 2017-2

Local Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 1006-1(b)(2) authorizes the chapter 13 trustee to “pay the balance of the filing fee owing in a chapter 13 case in which the debtor has been authorized to pay the filing fee in installments from plan payments made prior to confirmation of the plan.” The filing fee balance is the filing fee amount less the required initial installment payment. The ability to pay chapter 13 filing fees from the debtor’s pre-confirmation plan payments is not available in most other bankruptcy courts.

In spring, 2017, in conjunction with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and the District Court for the W.D. of Washington, the Bankruptcy Court is implementing a new national financial software system. This new software does not support the accounting and CM/ECF compatibility required to process installment payments made through the chapter trustee’s office. Accordingly, it is necessary to revoke the chapter 13 trustee’s authority to make filing fee payments from the debtor’s pre-confirmation plan payments.

