

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Olympic Towers  
300 Pearl Street, Suite 250  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**DOCKETED**

In re

**BLANKET REQUESTS FOR SERVICE  
OF BANKRUPTCY NOTICES**

TO: Creditors and parties who have filed with the Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court a blanket (not case specific) request for service of bankruptcy notices.

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF PROCEDURE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD**

This notice is being sent because your organization has on file with the Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court a blanket request for service of bankruptcy notices to a specified address whenever your organization is listed as a creditor in a bankruptcy case.

The Clerk's Office has been reviewing its noticing practices and determined that it is not practicable for deputy clerks to review each and every mailing matrix or list of creditors in every bankruptcy case to determine whether or not to add your organization to the mailing list for that particular case. The automated system utilized in the bankruptcy court is case specific and creditor records are maintained separately for each individual bankruptcy case. The volume of cases and creditors is such that a significant burden is placed upon the Clerk's Office to continue to accommodate blanket requests for service of bankruptcy notices. In addition, consolidations and name similarities make the guaranteeing of accuracy cost prohibitive. The listing of creditors and parties who have filed blanket requests for service currently numbers eighty-three.

In accordance with the applicable Bankruptcy Rules and Code, the Clerk's Office will rely upon the address provided by the debtor for service of notices upon parties in its bankruptcy case. The service address will be updated by the Clerk's Office in the relevant bankruptcy case upon the receipt of a case-specific request for service by letter, the filing of a notice of appearance, or by the filing of a proof of claim wherein the address differs from that which was provided by the debtor. The Clerk's Office will continue to maintain a listing of blanket requests for service and make said list available to the public so that attorneys and parties preparing mailing matrices may refer to said list to include any applicable addresses for mailing purposes.

Creditors and parties may wish to consider using alternative information gathering technologies such as Public Access to Court Electronic Records [PACER] or the National Case/Party Index. In addition, you may wish to consider receiving bankruptcy notices through electronic means. The *Electronic Bankruptcy Noticing (EBN)* is a new service which functions like a sophisticated e-mail system. The EBN system has the potential to eliminate the production and mailing of a substantial number of paper notices. EBN provides enhanced public service while reducing the Judiciary's and creditors' costs. Attached are the *PACER handout, National Case/Party Index handout, Trading Partner Implementation Guide, Electronic Bankruptcy Noticing Questions and Answers* and *Electronic Bankruptcy Trading Partner Agreement*.

Parties wishing an opportunity to be heard on this procedural change may attend a meeting with the Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of New York, Olympic Towers, 300 Pearl Street, Suite 350, Buffalo, New York 14202 on **Wednesday, June 16, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. in Part I**. This procedural change will become effective October 1, 1999.

This will allow for sufficient time for each creditor to review their present procedures and develop and implement a process to compensate for this change. Creditors who have devised procedures to complement this change may want to share them at the June 16, 1999 meeting or provide the Clerk with a written statement outlining their *innovations which will be shared* with interested creditors.

Dated: May 14, 1999

MARTIN H. OOGJEN III  
Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court