

Chapter 13 Trustee Bailey's COVID-19 Office Procedures Effective April 6, 2020

As we are all aware, the current health issues are changing the way everyone conducts business. Be assured we are working to accommodate everyone and their needs.

§ 341 Hearings

Due to the concerns regarding COVID-19, the Trustee's Office will not conduct § 341 meetings in person. Meetings may be adjourned or conducted telephonically in accordance with instructions from the UST. If you wish to adjourn the § 341 meeting, you must contact [Connie Gerhardt](#) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled hearing.

Court Hearings

We will do our best to resolve as many matters scheduled on the Judges' confirmation and miscellaneous dockets. Please continue to contact your case administrators for pre-confirmation cases, [David Powell](#) for post-confirmation cases assigned to Judge Preston, and [Andrew Stimmel](#) for post-confirmation cases assigned to Judge Hopkins. Please note that the COVID-19 hearing procedures are Judge specific and can be found on the Court's website at <https://www.ohsb.uscourts.gov/>.

Post-Confirmation Suspension or Reduction of Plan Payments

On April 6, 2020, the Court issued [General Order No. 41-2](#). The order allows debtors who are experiencing a reduction or interruption in income post-confirmation due to COVID-19 to obtain immediate suspension or reduction of Chapter 13 plan payments. Relief may be sought through either an agreed order or a motion and proposed order. [Click here](#) for the agreed order template to be used in cases being administered by Trustee Edward A Bailey.

When seeking relief by agreed order:

- If the debtor is proposing to reduce the plan payment rather than suspend the entire plan payment, indicate that proposal in paragraph 1 along with the explanation for the change in financial condition.
- Email proposed agreed orders to either [David Powell](#) (Judge Preston's cases) or [Andrew Stimmel](#) (Judge Hopkin's cases).

Many debtors have been reaching out to our office directly. We are referring all represented debtors to their counsel. If your client is experiencing a change in circumstances due to COVID-19, please make our office aware and file the appropriate pleading. The Office will be reviewing each case on an individual basis.

Should you need to reach our office, email is the preferred method as most of the staff is teleworking. We will do our very best to operate as normal during these trying times – including continuing to disburse monthly.