

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**STANDING ORDER 2015-01  
Revised Chapter 13 Rule 13-7**

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2015, CHAPTER 13 RULE 13-7 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES IS RESCINDED AND REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING:

**RULE 13-7. PROFESSIONAL FEES; PREPETITION RETAINERS**

- (a) Prepetition Retainers. The amount of any retainer received by debtor's counsel paid within one year before the filing of the petition in bankruptcy or agreed to be paid for services rendered or to be rendered in contemplation of or in connection with the bankruptcy case shall be included in the Statement of Attorney Compensation filed pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2016(b).
- (b) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, if debtor's attorney's total compensation prior to entry of a confirmation order is \$3,500 or less, the disclosure of the compensation in the Rule 2016(b) Statement shall be sufficient notwithstanding compensation for post confirmation services in an amount not exceeding \$500, and the filing of an itemized application for compensation shall be excused, unless the Court orders otherwise.
- (c) Application for Additional Attorney's Fees up to \$10,000. An attorney who has incurred fees in excess of \$3,500 prior to entry of a confirmation order or in excess of \$500 afterward, but less than \$10,000 in the aggregate, may file an application for compensation in accordance with Official Local Form 17, unless the Court orders otherwise. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an attorney required to file an application for compensation may, prior to allowance of such application, take the first \$4,000 received as interim compensation, subject to further order of the Court with respect to such application.
- (d) Application for Additional Attorney's Fees over \$10,000. An attorney who proposes to charge a debtor more than \$10,000 in the aggregate for legal services in a chapter 13 case shall file an application for compensation in accordance with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2016 and MLBR 2016-1.
- (e) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, debtor's attorney shall serve a copy of any application on all creditors, parties requesting service of all pleadings, and the chapter 13 trustee and shall file a certificate of service to that effect with the application. If no objections are filed within twenty-one (21) days of service, the Court shall award fees in its discretion, with or without a hearing, in accordance with applicable law.

- (f) Nothing in this Rule shall be construed to limit the Court's discretion to review the amount of fees paid to or agreed to be paid to a debtor's attorney, and to enter appropriate orders allowing, disallowing, or reducing such attorney's fees.

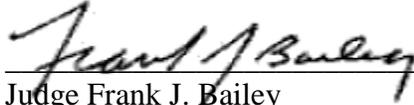
SO ORDERED:

  
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Melvin S. Hoffman, Chief Judge

  
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Judge William C. Hillman

  
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Judge Joan N. Feeney

  
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Judge Henry J. Boroff

  
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Judge Frank J. Bailey

Dated: February 26 , 2015