

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

STANDING ORDER 2020-04

**REGARDING THE EXTENSION OF CERTAIN DEADLINES RELATED TO
MEETINGS OF CREDITORS UNDER 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) DUE TO THE EXIGENT
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Upon consideration of 1) national emergency created by the COVID-19 virus; 2) the Notice filed on March 17, 2020, by the Office of the United States Trustee (the “USTO”) continuing all in-person meetings of creditors under 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) (“§ 341 Meeting”) scheduled from March 17, 2020, through April 10, 2020, in all chapter 7, 12, and 13 cases to a later date, unless telephonic or alternative means of conducting the meeting were arranged; 3) the “Motion to Extend Certain Deadlines Related to § 341 Meetings Due to the Exigent Circumstances Created By COVID-19 Pandemic” filed by the USTO on behalf of the United States, through the United States Trustee for Region 1, William K. Harrington, in Miscellaneous Proceeding No. 20-00101; 4) the Court’s jurisdiction and authority in each case, matter, and proceeding affected by this Standing Order; 5) the provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 105; 6) the necessity of carrying out the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and implementing certain deadlines in the Bankruptcy Code and in the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”) during this time of national emergency; and 7) notice of this order being provided as a Standing Order of this Court; just cause appearing for the relief set forth herein,

Now, therefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that, effective immediately, subject to any order entered to the contrary after the date of this Standing Order:

1. For each chapter 7, 12, and 13 case filed from January 17, 2020, through March 12, 2020, in which the § 341 Meeting was not held telephonically or through alternative means on the date set forth in the court’s notice of § 341 Meeting¹, (each, an “Affected Case”), the “first date set for the meeting of creditors under 11 U.S.C. § 341(a)” as used in the Bankruptcy Rules shall be the date the § 341 Meeting was or will be held telephonically or through alternative means (the “Reset Date”) as set forth in a “Notice of Rescheduled Section 341 Meeting of Creditors” to be filed by the case trustee in each Affected Case.² The Clerk of Court shall cause the Notice of Rescheduled Section 341 Meeting of Creditors, or such Amended Notice as provided in footnote No. 2, to be served via the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.
2. For each Affected Case, the deadlines set under Bankruptcy Rules 1007(c), 1017(e), 2002(h), 4004(a), 4007(c), and 4008(a) shall be calculated from the Reset Date.
3. For each Affected Case, the deadline under Bankruptcy Rule 2003(a) for holding § 341 Meetings is extended to the extent necessary to accommodate any Reset Date of the § 341 Meetings by the USTO or order of this Court.

¹ See Official Forms 309A-309I.

² Or such “Amended Notice of Rescheduled Section 341 Meeting of Creditors” filed in an Affected Case.

4. For each Affected Case which is a chapter 13 case, “the date on which the meeting of creditors is first scheduled to be held” pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 1308(a) shall be the Reset Date of the § 341 Meeting.
5. For each Affected Case which is a chapter 7 case, “the date of the first meeting of creditors” pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 704(b) shall be the Reset Date for the § 341 Meeting.
6. The Clerk of Court shall promptly: (a) send notice of entry of this Standing Order to all Registered Users of this Court’s CM/ECF filing system; (b) docket it in each Affected Case; and (c) post a copy of the Standing Order on the Court’s website.
7. Nothing in this Standing Order precludes the USTO or any other party in interest from seeking further relief, if appropriate, to modify or expand upon the provisions of this Standing Order.
8. This Standing Order shall remain in effect until the entry of a further Standing Order of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

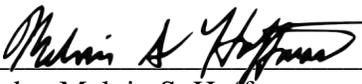
March 30, 2020



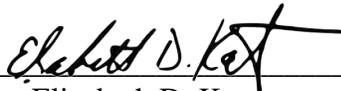
Chief Judge Christopher J. Panos



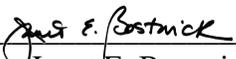
Judge Frank J. Bailey



Judge Melvin S. Hoffman



Judge Elizabeth D. Katz



Judge Janet E. Bostwick