



# United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of California

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July 2015

## Eastern District Conference

The Eastern District Conference is coming up in October of this year. It will be the District's 33rd annual conference. If you have not attended one of these conferences (they are by invitation only), it is an informal opportunity for discussion of matters of common interest among the bench and bar.

## Upcoming Forms Changes

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts is working on a series of new petition related forms, which will be adopted as of December 1, 2015. These forms are in the final stages of approval, and have been re-written in plain English, and with *pro se* parties in mind. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of California will keep the bar posted as these new forms become available.

## Local Rules Changes

The updated Local Rules, which went into effect on May 1, 2015 are now posted on the Local Rules page of our website. In addition, a red-lined version is available to highlight the differences between the updated rules and the most recent prior revision.

## Update Regarding Transcripts for Sacramento, Department A

Judge McManus has joined Judge Jaime in Sacramento and Judges Lee and Clement in Fresno in using Digital Audio Recordings as the official court record for Court Proceedings.

This new procedure went live in Department A as of June 1, 2015.

Information regarding how to order transcripts, as well as a list of transcriptionists can be found on our website at [www.caeb.uscourts.gov](http://www.caeb.uscourts.gov), under the "Hearing Transcripts" link.

## Court Holidays—2015

On these days, the court's three offices will be closed. Unless otherwise noted on our website, e-Filing will still be available.

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| September 7, 2015..... | Labor Day     |
| October 12, 2015.....  | Columbus Day  |
| November 11, 2015..... | Veteran's Day |
| November 26, 2015..... | Thanksgiving  |
| December 25, 2015..... | Christmas Day |

### Did you know?

The e-Filing Help Desk is staffed from Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is closed on Federal Holidays.

If you do not reach a person immediately, please leave a message. We will return your call as soon as possible.

## **Debtors Will Soon Be Able to Receive Electronic Notices through the BNC**

Beginning in September, debtors —whether *pro se* or represented by an attorney—will be able to receive e-mail notification of court generated Notices and Orders sent through the Bankruptcy Noticing Center (BNC). Since notices and orders are e-mailed to debtors the same day they are filed with the court, this will be particularly helpful to debtors who live in remote areas, where mail delivery might take longer than it does in urban areas.

In order to request this service, each debtor will need to file a document with the court that includes a valid e-mail address.

This is a free service, and does NOT require a PACER account. Additionally, if the debtor decides that it does not meet his or her needs, he or she can deactivate it any time.

More information regarding this procedure will be provided as it becomes available.

## **Web Browser Support for e-Filing**

Effective in July 2015, e-Filers will no longer be able to use Internet Explorer Version 7 to file documents through the Eastern District of California's eCalWebFiling site.

The following browsers will continue to be supported.

- Internet Explorer Versions 8, 9, 10, and 11
- Google Chrome Version 20+
- Firefox Version 10+

E-filers who continue to use Internet Explorer version 7 may have a wide variety of problems when attempting to e-File, and are encouraged to update their browser as soon as possible.

## **New Judge Selected**

Attorney René Lastreto of Lang, Richert and Patch in Fresno has been selected as the newest judge of the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of California. His chambers will be located in Fresno.

The Clerk's Office looks forward to working with Mr. Lastreto as he makes his transition to Judge!

## **Modesto Mailing Address**

Unless otherwise directed by court order, all mail regarding cases filed in the Modesto Division should be sent to the following address:

United States Bankruptcy Court  
501 I Street, Suite 3-200  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Modesto Divisional Office will continue to remain staffed and open to the public from 9:00 to 4:00 p.m., Monday—Friday, excluding court holidays.

## **E-Filing Questions**

Contact the Help Desk at 855-542-0992 or by e-mail at [efilers\\_helpdesk @caeb.uscourts.gov](mailto:efilers_helpdesk@caeb.uscourts.gov)