

## **TELEPHONIC COURT APPEARANCES**

### **Procedures**

Telephone appearances are permitted, except:

1. When the caller cannot minimize background noise or ensure a clear phone signal. Calling from a location where distracting noise interferes with the call may result in terminating the caller's participation or continuing the hearing. The court may also issue an order preventing the caller from participating in telephonic appearances.
2. Initial Chapter 11 and 12 Status Conferences. Debtor and debtor's counsel must appear in person. Others may appear telephonically.
3. Contested Chapter 11 and 12 Confirmation Hearings.
4. Trials and Evidentiary Hearings.
5. Any matter designated by the court as requiring a personal appearance.

#### Notice Regarding Tentative Rulings and Missed Connections

- If the court has issued a tentative ruling or prehearing disposition, everyone who appears telephonically shall have reviewed and be familiar with the tentative ruling or prehearing disposition. Failure to comply with this requirement constitutes a waiver of the opportunity to appear telephonically at the hearing.
- The deadline for scheduling telephonic appearances is independent of the issuance of tentative rulings and prehearing dispositions. Late scheduling of a telephonic appearance is not justified by the fact that tentative rulings or prehearing dispositions have not been posted on the court's Internet site prior to the deadline for scheduling a telephone appearance. If an individual who has scheduled a telephonic appearance does not respond to the call of a matter on calendar, the court may pass the matter or may treat the failure to respond as a failure to appear. Scheduling simultaneous telephonic appearances in multiple courts or departments does not excuse a failure to appear when a matter is called on calendar.
- Individuals making use of the conference call service are cautioned that they do so at their own risk. Hearings generally will not be rescheduled due to missed connections.