



## United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of California

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[www.caeb.uscourts.gov](http://www.caeb.uscourts.gov)

Winter 2016

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### New Forms Changes

On December 1, 2015 the new forms adopted by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts were implemented. To ensure a smooth transition, and to allow practitioners time to adapt to the new forms and update their software, our District allowed a grace period from December 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016, in which our Court accepted outdated forms.

Beginning with cases filed on February 1, 2016, the Bankruptcy Court for Eastern District of California will issue a Notice of Intent to Dismiss (NOI) in any case using outdated forms. Documents listed on the Notice of Intent to Dismiss must be resubmitted using new forms adopted as of December 1, 2015. New forms may be found on our website at [www.caeb.uscourts.gov](http://www.caeb.uscourts.gov), under Forms and Publications.

### Changes to Local Rules

On January 8, 2016, the modified Local Rules were adopted by the Eastern District of California. Local Rule 9017-1 regarding Alternate Direct Testimony, Exhibits, and Qualification of Expert Witnesses was modified to include information regarding Sanctions regarding Failure to Comply with orders by the court for the timely exchange of Alternate Direct Testimony Statements and other exhibits/evidence.

The complete version of the Local Rules, as adopted on January 8, 2016, is available on the Local Rules page of the website, along with a redlined version.

### Contact Us

The Eastern District of California e-Filing Help Desk is staffed from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for Federal Holidays. You can reach us at 855-542-0992, 916-930-4460, or by e-mail at [EFilers\\_Helpdesk@caeb.uscourts.gov](mailto:EFilers_Helpdesk@caeb.uscourts.gov).

## **Reminder Regarding Login and Password Security**

Login and password security are crucial to our e-filing system. Allowing an unauthorized user access to your login and password could potentially cause problems with cases that you e-file, and could even lead to the suspension of your e-filing privileges. The reason for this is that your login and password are the equivalent of an electronic signature, and an attorney who e-files documents is essentially signing them. On a more practical note, allowing unauthorized users to have access to your e-filing account could lead to documents being filed without your knowledge, or could even result in your address, e-mail, or password information being changed in our e-filing system.

Here are some tips to ensuring that your login and password stay secure:

1. If you share your login and password with support staff, you should change your password through the e-filing system if one of your staff leaves the firm.
2. When asking a staff member to e-file documents on your behalf, stress the importance of using the correct login and password.
3. If there are multiple attorneys in your law firm, each attorney is required to have his or her own e-filing account.
4. If you leave a law firm, your e-filing account goes with you! Be sure to change your mailing address and e-mail address(es) through our e-filing system. This is also a great time to change your password to ensure that your account is not inadvertently used by someone in your previous firm.

## **Calendaring Changes in the Fresno Division**

Moving parties may now set all matters in Fresno Department A and Fresno Department B in either Fresno or Bakersfield on the respective self-set dates and times without obtaining a court order. This is a change in procedure for Fresno, Department B. The court may reschedule hearings at its discretion if it appears parties are being prejudiced by setting matters. More information regarding this new procedure can be found on the Self-Set Calendar for Fresno, or by calling the Fresno Calendar Clerk at 559-499-5825.

Additionally, BAPCPA matters requiring an expedited hearing (such as motions to extend the automatic stay) now require an order shortening time in Fresno, Department B. This is also true for all other BAPCPA motions, regardless of the nature of the matter.