

06 - BK-049



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Subject Fw: Comments on Rules

BK comment

— Forwarded by James Ishida/DCA/AO/USCOURTS on 02/15/2007 02:34 PM —



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02/15/2007 01:48 PM

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Subject Comments on Rules

Please see the attached comments on proposed rules changes. Please send confirmation of your receipt of this email and attached document.

Sincerely,

John

<<Chapter 11 Forms Pos. Paper1 021507.pdf>>

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**Position Paper Submitted to the Judicial Conference of the United States, Advisory Committees on Rules of Bankruptcy and Criminal Procedure, and the Rules of Evidence by the Commercial Law League of America and its Bankruptcy Section**

**Suggested Modifications to Proposed Small Business Form Plan and Disclosure Statement<sup>1</sup>**

The Commercial Law League of America ("CLLA"), founded in 1895, is the nation's oldest organization of attorneys and other experts in credit and finance actively engaged in the field of commercial law, bankruptcy and insolvency. Its membership exceeds 3,100 individuals. The CLLA has long been associated with the representation of creditor interests, while at the same time seeking fair, equitable and efficient administration of bankruptcy cases for all parties in interest.

The Bankruptcy Section of the CLLA is made up of approximately 1,450 bankruptcy lawyers and bankruptcy judges from virtually every state in the United States. Its members include practitioners with both small and large practices, who represent divergent interests in bankruptcy cases. The CLLA has testified on numerous occasions before Congress as experts in the bankruptcy and reorganization fields.

The purpose of this Position Paper is to suggest modifications to the Form Plan and Disclosure Statement (Official Forms 25A and 25B (12/08)) so that the Forms provide the most essential elements for plan confirmation and promote efficiency in these type of bankruptcy cases as endorsed by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005.

**MODIFICATIONS**

**I. Specific Preservation of Avoidance and other Actions for the Estate**

The Bankruptcy Code generally permits a plan proponent to retain and enforce claims and causes of action for the benefit of the estate. 11 USC § 1123(b)(3)(B). However, the failure to properly disclose the existence of such claims and causes of action has resulted in the waiver and dismissal of the claim in various courts. See, Hay v. First Interstate Bank 978 F.2d. 555, 557 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992); Eubanks v. F.D.I.C. 997 F.2d. 166, 174-175 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992); Oneida Motor Freight, Inc. v. United Jersey Bank 848 F.2d. 414, 419-420 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir.), cert. denied, 488 U.S. 967 (1988) and In re Tranel 940 F.2d 1168, 1175 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991). It has been noted that "[t]he requirement that retention of the avoidance powers be clear serves to protect the unsecured creditors and to ensure that post-confirmation avoidance proceedings are for their benefit." In re Mako 985 F.2d. 1052, 1056 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1993). Therefore the Form Plan and Disclosure Statement must have provisions to specifically retain avoidance actions and any other claims and causes

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<sup>1</sup> Special recognition and thanks to Adam A. Lewis of Morrison & Foerster LLP, San Francisco, California and Robert G. Harris of Binder & Malter, LLP, Santa Clara, California for their assistance with this position paper.

of action that the reorganized debtor intends to prosecute post-confirmation. The current version of the Form Plan has no reservation language and the Form Disclosure Statement, Section II(F) is ambiguous in specifically preserving the claims and causes of action for the estate. Suggested provisions are as follows:

(i) **Form Disclosure Statement**

Place in Section VI:

Avoidance [or other] Actions

Except as otherwise provided for in the Plan, Reorganized [name of the Debtor] shall have the right to prosecute any avoidance or recovery actions under Sections 542 through 551 [and list any other claims and/or causes of action] of the Bankruptcy Code that belong to the Debtor or Debtor in Possession, and the proceeds of such actions shall be retained by the Reorganized [name of the Debtor].

(ii) **Form Plan**

Place in Section IX:

Avoidance [or other] Actions

Except as provided otherwise herein, Reorganized [name of the Debtor] shall have the right to prosecute any avoidance or recovery actions under Sections 542 through 551 [and list any other claims and/or causes of action] of the Bankruptcy Code that belong to the Debtor or Debtor in Possession, and the proceeds of such actions shall be retained by the Reorganized [name of the Debtor].

**II. Plan Implementation Provision**

This new article is designed to commit the debtor to verifiable arrangements for funding a plan. This will help not only to monitor and manage performance under the plan, but it will also add credibility to the plan process by adding transparency and by enhancing the ability of the Court and creditors to judge and measure feasibility. A further benefit should be to force the debtor and the debtor's counsel to think carefully in advance about what they're going to do and how (and whether) they can do it. The provision would be as follows:

**ARTICLE** \_\_  
**Means for Implementation of the Plan**

[Insert here provisions regarding how the plan will be funded, e.g., what estate assets or income are being devoted to payment of creditors under the plan and in what percentages. Provisions could include, e.g., who gets the benefit of the proceeds of avoidance actions and other litigation, whether future income will be used to pay creditors, whether, how and by when assets will sold. The section might also include provisions for the logistics of payments (e.g., monthly by the debtor, creation of a liquidating trust, etc.). This section or a variant should be inserted in both the plan and disclosure statement.]

**III. Streamlined Settlement Procedure**

The following would replace the current 5.03. As drafted, the current 5.03 needlessly excludes the possibility and efficiency of settlements without court approval, a device particularly appropriate in smaller estates and for de minimis claims. The suggested new section would be:

**5.03. Settlement of Disputed Claims.** The Debtor will have the power and authority to compromise a disputed claim [with court approval and compliance with Rule 9019 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure] [without court approval as to claims asserted for not more than \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or discounts of not more than \_\_\_\_\_ % from the asserted amount of the claim, and as to all other disputed claims with court approval and compliance with Rule 9019 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure].

**IV. Payments Necessary To Assume Executory Contracts**

The Code provides in section 365(b) that, regarding unexpired leases or contracts as to which there has been a default, the debtor must at the time of assumption (a) cure or show that it will shortly cure the default (other than certain non-monetary defaults), (b) pay any actual pecuniary loss to the non-debtor party to the contract, and (c) provide adequate assurance of future performance under such contract or lease.

(a) As drafted, Article VI of the Form Plan provides for the assumption and rejection of executory contracts. However, the requirement for and timing of the payments necessary to assume must be clarified if paragraph 6.01(a) is to be used without substantial confusion. The following should therefore be added as new paragraph 6.01(b) of the Form Plan, and current 6.01(b) should be re-numbered as paragraph 6.01(c):

(b) If there has been a default under an executory contract or unexpired lease to be assumed under this Plan, then Debtor shall, as a condition to assumption, (A) not later than [INSERT DATE] cure such default except as may be otherwise permitted under the Code, (B) not later than [INSERT DATE] compensate the non-debtor party to such contract or lease for any actual pecuniary loss to such party resulting from such default.

United States Bankruptcy Court

District of \_\_\_\_\_

In re \_\_\_\_\_,  
Debtor

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Small Business Case under Chapter 11

**[NAME OF PROPONENT]'S PLAN OF REORGANIZATION, DATED [INSERT DATE]**

**ARTICLE I**  
**SUMMARY**

This Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan") under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Code") proposes to pay creditors of [insert the name of the debtor] (the "Debtor") from [specify sources of payment, such as an infusion of capital, loan proceeds, sale of assets, cash flow from operations, or future income].

This Plan provides for \_\_\_\_\_ classes of secured claims; \_\_\_\_\_ classes of unsecured claims; and \_\_\_\_\_ classes of equity security holders. Unsecured creditors holding allowed claims will receive distributions, which the proponent of this Plan has valued at approximately \_\_\_\_\_ cents on the dollar. This Plan also provides for the payment of administrative and priority claims [if payment is not in full on the effective date of this Plan with respect to any such claim (to the extent permitted by the Code or the claimant's agreement), identify such claim and briefly summarize the proposed treatment.]

All creditors and equity security holders should refer to Articles III through VI of this Plan for information regarding the precise treatment of their claim. A disclosure statement that provides more detailed information regarding this Plan and the rights of creditors and equity security holders has been circulated with this Plan. **Your rights may be affected. You should read these papers carefully and discuss them with your attorney, if you have one. (If you do not have an attorney, you may wish to consult one.)**

**ARTICLE II**  
**CLASSIFICATION OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS**

- 2.01 Class 1. All allowed claims entitled to priority under § 507 of the Code (except administrative expense claims under § 507(a)(2), ["gap" period claims in an involuntary case under § 507(a)(3),] and priority tax claims under § 507(a)(8)).
- 2.02 Class 2. The claim of \_\_\_\_\_, to the extent allowed as a secured claim under § 506 of the Code.

[Add other classes of secured creditors, if any. Note: Section 1129(a)(9)(D) of the Code provides that a secured tax claim which would otherwise meet the description of a priority tax claim under § 507(a)(8) of the Code is to be paid in the same manner and over the same period as prescribed in § 507(a)(8).]

2.03 Class 3. All unsecured claims allowed under § 502 of the Code.

[Add other classes of unsecured claims, if any.]

2.04 Class 4. Equity interests in the Debtor. [If the Debtor is an individual — “The interests of the individual Debtor in property of the estate.”]

**ARTICLE III**  
**TREATMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE CLAIMS,**  
**U.S. TRUSTEES FEES, AND PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS**

3.01 Unclassified Claims. Under section §1123(a)(1), administrative expense claims, [“gap” period claims in an involuntary case allowed under § 502(f) of the Code,] and priority tax claims are not in classes.

3.02 Administrative Expense Claims. Each holder of an administrative expense claim allowed under § 503 of the Code [, and a “gap” claim in an involuntary case allowed under § 502(f) of the Code,] will be paid in full on the effective date of this Plan (as defined in Article VII), in cash, or upon such other terms as may be agreed upon by the holder of the claim and the Debtor.

3.03 Priority Tax Claims. Each holder of a priority tax claim will be paid [specify terms of treatment consistent with § 1129(a)(9)(C) of the Code].

3.04 United States Trustee Fees. All fees required to be paid by 28 U.S.C. §1930(a)(6) (U.S. Trustee Fees) will accrue and be timely paid until the case is closed, dismissed, or converted to another chapter of the Code. Any U.S. Trustee Fees owed on or before the effective date of this Plan will be paid on the effective date.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS UNDER THE PLAN**

4.01 Claims and interests shall be treated as follows under this Plan:

Class	Impairment	Treatment
Class 1 - Priority Claims	[State whether impaired or unimpaired.]	[Insert treatment of priority claims in this Class, including the form, amount and timing of distribution, if any. For example: "Class 1 is unimpaired by this Plan, and each holder of a Class 1 Priority Claim will be paid in full, in cash, upon the later of the effective date of this Plan as defined in Article VII, or the date on which such claim is allowed by a final non-appealable order. Except: _____."]
Class 2 – Secured Claim of [Insert name of secured creditor.]	[State whether impaired or unimpaired.]	[Insert treatment of secured claim in this Class, including the form, amount and timing of distribution, if any.] [Add class[es] of secured claims if applicable]
Class 3 - General Unsecured Creditors	[State whether impaired or unimpaired.]	[Insert treatment of unsecured creditors in this Class, including the form, amount and timing of distribution, if any.] [Add administrative convenience class if applicable]
Class 4 - Equity Security Holders of the Debtor	[State whether impaired or unimpaired.]	[Insert treatment of equity security holders in this Class, including the form, amount and timing of distribution, if any.]

**ARTICLE V**  
**ALLOWANCE AND DISALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS**

5.01 **Disputed Claim.** A disputed claim is a claim that has not been allowed or disallowed [by a final non-appealable order], and as to which either: (i) a proof of claim has been filed or deemed filed, and the Debtor or another party in interest has filed an objection; or (ii) no proof of claim has been filed, and the Debtor has scheduled such claim as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated.

5.02 **Delay of Distribution on a Disputed Claim.** No distribution will be made on account of a disputed claim unless such claim is allowed [by a final non-appealable order].

5.03 **Settlement of Disputed Claims.** The Debtor will have the power and authority to settle and compromise a disputed claim with court approval and compliance with Rule 9019 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**PROVISIONS FOR EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES**

6.01 Assumed Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases.

(a) The Debtor assumes the following executory contracts and/or unexpired leases effective upon the [Insert "effective date of this Plan as provided in Article VII," "the date of the entry of the order confirming this Plan," or other applicable date]:

[List assumed executory contracts and/or unexpired leases.]

(b) The Debtor will be conclusively deemed to have rejected all executory contracts and/or unexpired leases not expressly assumed under section 6.01(a) above, or before the date of the order confirming this Plan, upon the [Insert "effective date of this Plan," "the date of the entry of the order confirming this Plan," or other applicable date]. A proof of a claim arising from the rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease under this section must be filed no later than \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) days after the date of the order confirming this Plan.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

7.01 Definitions and Rules of Construction. The definitions and rules of construction set forth in §§ 101 and 102 of the Code shall apply when terms defined or construed in the Code are used in this Plan, and they are supplemented by the following definitions: [Insert additional definitions if necessary].

7.02 Effective Date of Plan. The effective date of this Plan is the eleventh business day following the date of the entry of the order of confirmation. But if a stay of the confirmation order is in effect on that date, the effective date will be the first business day after that date on which no stay of the confirmation order is in effect, provided that the confirmation order has not been vacated.

7.03 Severability. If any provision in this Plan is determined to be unenforceable, the determination will in no way limit or affect the enforceability and operative effect of any other provision of this Plan.

7.04 Binding Effect. The rights and obligations of any entity named or referred to in this Plan will be binding upon, and will inure to the benefit of the successors or assigns of such entity.



7.05 Captions. The headings contained in this Plan are for convenience of reference only and do not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Plan.

[7.06 Controlling Effect. Unless a rule of law or procedure is supplied by federal law (including the Code or the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure), the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ govern this Plan and any agreements, documents, and instruments executed in connection with this Plan, except as otherwise provided in this Plan.]

[7.07 Corporate Governance. [If the Debtor is a corporation include provisions required by § 1123(a)(6) of the Code.]]

## **ARTICLE VIII** **DISCHARGE**

[If the Debtor is not entitled to discharge under 11 U.S.C. § 1141(d)(3) change this heading to  
“NO DISCHARGE OF DEBTOR.”]

8.01. [Option 1 – If Debtor is an individual and § 1141(d)(3) is not applicable]  
Discharge. Confirmation of this Plan does not discharge any debt provided for in this Plan until the court grants a discharge on completion of all payments under this Plan, or as otherwise provided in § 1141(d)(5) of the Code. The Debtor will not be discharged from any debt excepted from discharge under § 523 of the Code, except as provided in Rule 4007(c) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

**[Option 2 -- If the Debtor is a partnership and section 1141(d)(3) of the Code is not applicable]**

Discharge. On the confirmation date of this Plan, the debtor will be discharged from any debt that arose before confirmation of this Plan, subject to the occurrence of the effective date, to the extent specified in § 1141(d)(1)(A) of the Code. The Debtor will not be discharged from any debt imposed by this Plan.

**[Option 3 -- If the Debtor is a corporation and § 1141(d)(3) is not applicable]**

Discharge. On the confirmation date of this Plan, the debtor will be discharged from any debt that arose before confirmation of this Plan, subject to the occurrence of the effective date, to the extent specified in § 1141(d)(1)(A) of the Code, except that the Debtor will not be discharged of any debt: (i) imposed by this Plan; (ii) of a kind specified in § 1141(d)(6)(A) if a timely complaint was filed in accordance with Rule 4007(c) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure; or (iii) of a kind specified in § 1141(d)(6)(B).

**[Option 4 – If § 1141(d)(3) is applicable]**

No Discharge. In accordance with § 1141(d)(3) of the Code, the Debtor will not receive any discharge of debt in this bankruptcy case.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**OTHER PROVISIONS**

**[Insert other provisions, as applicable.]**

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Plan Proponent

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for the Plan Proponent

## **Instructions for Small Business Plan of Reorganization Form**

### **BACKGROUND AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This small business chapter 11 plan of reorganization form is promulgated pursuant to § 433 of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005. It may be used in cases where the debtor (whether an individual or an artificial entity) is a small business debtor under § 101(51D) of the Code. This form is intended to be used in conjunction with the small business chapter 11 disclosure statement form (Official Form 25B). Because the type of debtor and the details of the proposed plan will vary from case to case, this form is intended to provide an illustrative format, rather than a specific prescription for the language or content of a plan in any particular case.
2. Some language in this form appears in brackets. The bracketed language sometimes instructs the plan's proponent to provide certain information and sometimes provides optional or alternative language that should be used when and where appropriate. Proponents should make the necessary insertions and/or delete inapplicable language.

### **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

#### **SUMMARY**

3. The first article should provide a summary of the debtor's proposed plan. It should describe the manner in which the plan will be consummated and the source of funds for payments to be made under the plan. These sources might include an infusion of capital, loan proceeds, sale of assets, cash flow from operations, or future income. The summary should also describe the treatment of the various classes of claimants under the plan.

#### **CLASSIFICATION OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS**

4. The second article describes each class of claimants that will receive a distribution under the plan. The first class consists of claimants entitled to priority pursuant to § 507 of the Code other than those entitled to priority under § 507(a)(2), (3), or (8). The next class or group of classes consists of creditor(s) with allowed secured claims. Secured creditors are usually classified individually, with each secured creditor being placed in its own separate class. Classes of secured creditors should be added as necessary. Next, unsecured claimants, not entitled to priority, should be classified. The proponent may, to the extent allowed by law, create additional classes of unsecured claims, including an administrative convenience class pursuant to §

1122(b) of the Code. The last class comprises the holders of equity interests in the debtor.

#### TREATMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE CLAIMS, U.S. TRUSTEES FEES, AND PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS

5. The treatment of certain claims, such as administrative expense claims, allowed under § 503 of the Code, and priority tax claims, allowed under §507(a)(8) of the Code, is statutorily specified. These claims are not, therefore, placed into classes. Their treatment is described in the third Article.

#### TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS UNDER THE PLAN

6. The fourth article specifies the treatment accorded the various classes of claims and interests provided for under the plan.
7. Priority claimants other than those allowed under §§ 503 and 507(a)(8) must be classified and paid in full under the plan unless the claimant agrees otherwise.
8. Each secured creditor is generally placed in its own class, with a particular treatment specified for that class. Section 1129(a)(9)(D) of the Code provides that a secured tax claim which would otherwise meet the description of a priority tax claim under § 507(a)(8) of the Code is to be paid in the same manner and over the same period as prescribed in § 507(a)(8).
9. The plan should describe the treatment of the general unsecured claims. An administrative convenience class may be created pursuant to § 1122(b) of the Code, and other classes of unsecured claims may be created to the extent permitted by applicable law.
10. Finally, the plan should describe the treatment of equity interests.

#### ALLOWANCE AND DISALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS

11. The fifth article addresses the treatment of disputed claims. A “disputed claim” is a claim that has not been allowed or disallowed. No distribution will be made on account of a disputed claim unless such claim is allowed. The debtor will have the power and authority to settle and compromise a disputed claim with court approval and compliance with Rule 9019.

#### PROVISIONS FOR EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES

12. The sixth article deals with executory contracts and unexpired leases. The plan proponent should list all executory contracts and unexpired leases that it has already assumed, or which it intends to assume under the plan. All other executory contracts will be deemed rejected.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

13. The seventh article provides certain general provisions. Definitions from the Code are incorporated by reference, and any other definitions required by the plan should be listed in section 7.01 of the plan. If a governing law clause is desired, it should be included here, and if the debtor is a corporation, provisions required by §1123(a)(6) of the Code should be included.

#### DISCHARGE

14. The eighth article describes the effect of discharge under the plan. When and whether the debtor is entitled to a discharge will depend, among other things, upon whether the debtor is an individual, partnership, or corporation, and whether the debtor is continuing in business after consummation of the plan. The proponent should choose the appropriate language from the options provided.

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

15. To the extent that other provisions, not provided in the plan, are desired, they should be placed in the ninth article.

COMMITTEE NOTE

This form is new. It implements § 433 of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-8, 119 Stat. 23 (April 20, 2005). This form for a small business chapter 11 plan of reorganization may be used in cases where the debtor (whether an individual or an artificial entity) is a small business debtor under § 101(51D) of the Code. The form is intended to be used in conjunction with the small business chapter 11 disclosure statement form (Official Form 25B).

Because the type of debtor and the details of the proposed plan of reorganization may vary, the form is intended to provide an illustrative format, rather than a specific prescription for the language or content of a plan in any particular case. The form includes instructions and examples of the types of information needed to complete it.

Official Form 25B (12/08)

United States Bankruptcy Court  
District of \_\_\_\_\_

In re \_\_\_\_\_,  
Debtor

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Small Business Case under Chapter 11

**[NAME OF PLAN PROONENT]'S DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, DATED [INSERT DATE]**

*Table of Contents*

[Insert when text is finalized]

## I. INTRODUCTION

This is the disclosure statement (the “Disclosure Statement”) in the small business chapter 11 case of \_\_\_\_\_ (the “Debtor”). This Disclosure Statement contains information about the Debtor and describes the [insert name of plan] (the “Plan”) filed by [the Debtor] on [insert date]. A full copy of the Plan is attached to this Disclosure Statement as Exhibit A. *Your rights may be affected. You should read the Plan and this Disclosure Statement carefully and discuss them with your attorney. If you do not have an attorney, you may wish to consult one.*

The proposed distributions under the Plan are discussed at pages \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ of this Disclosure Statement. [General unsecured creditors are classified in Class \_\_, and will receive a distribution of \_\_\_ % of their allowed claims, to be distributed as follows \_\_\_\_\_.]

### A. Purpose of This Document

This Disclosure Statement describes:

- The Debtor and significant events during the bankruptcy case,
- How the Plan proposes to treat claims or equity interests of the type you hold (*i.e.*, what you will receive on your claim or equity interest if the plan is confirmed),
- Who can vote on or object to the Plan,
- What factors the Bankruptcy Court (the “Court”) will consider when deciding whether to confirm the Plan,
- Why [the Proponent] believes the Plan is feasible, and how the treatment of your claim or equity interest under the Plan compares to what you would receive on your claim or equity interest in liquidation, and
- The effect of confirmation of the Plan.

Be sure to read the Plan as well as the Disclosure Statement. This Disclosure Statement describes the Plan, but it is the Plan itself that will, if confirmed, establish your rights.

### B. Deadlines for Voting and Objecting; Date of Plan Confirmation Hearing

The Court has not yet confirmed the Plan described in this Disclosure Statement. This section describes the procedures pursuant to which the Plan will or will not be confirmed.

1. *Time and Place of the Hearing to [Finally Approve This Disclosure Statement and] Confirm the Plan*



The hearing at which the Court will determine whether to [finally approve this Disclosure Statement and] confirm the Plan will take place on [insert date], at [insert time], in Courtroom \_\_\_\_\_, at the [Insert Courthouse Name, and Full Court Address, City, State, Zip Code].

2. *Deadline For Voting to Accept or Reject the Plan*

If you are entitled to vote to accept or reject the plan, vote on the enclosed ballot and return the ballot in the enclosed envelope to [insert address]. See section IV.A. below for a discussion of voting eligibility requirements.

Your ballot must be received by [insert date] or it will not be counted.

3. *Deadline For Objecting to the [Adequacy of Disclosure and] Confirmation of the Plan*

Objections to [this Disclosure Statement or to] the confirmation of the Plan must be filed with the Court and served upon [insert entities] by [insert date].

4. *Identity of Person to Contact for More Information*

If you want additional information about the Plan, you should contact [insert name and address of representative of plan proponent].

C. **Disclaimer**

*The Court has [conditionally] approved this Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information to enable parties affected by the Plan to make an informed judgment about its terms. The Court has not yet determined whether the Plan meets the legal requirements for confirmation, and the fact that the Court has approved this Disclosure Statement does not constitute an endorsement of the Plan by the Court, or a recommendation that it be accepted. [The Court's approval of this Disclosure Statement is subject to final approval at the hearing on confirmation of the Plan. Objections to the adequacy of this Disclosure Statement may be filed until \_\_\_\_\_.]*

II. **BACKGROUND**

A. **Description and History of the Debtor's Business**

The Debtor is a [corporation, partnership, etc.]. Since [insert year operations commenced], the Debtor has been in the business of \_\_\_\_\_. [Describe the Debtor's business].

B. **Insiders of the Debtor**

[Insert a detailed list of the names of Debtor's insiders as defined in §101(31) of the United States Bankruptcy Code (the "Code") and their relationship to the Debtor. For each insider, list all compensation paid by the Debtor or its affiliates to that person or entity during the two years prior to the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case, as well as compensation paid during the pendency of this chapter 11 case.]

**C. Management of the Debtor Before and During the Bankruptcy**

During the two years prior to the date on which the bankruptcy petition was filed, the officers, directors, managers or other persons in control of the Debtor (collectively the "Managers") were [List the Managers of the Debtor prior to the petition date].

The Managers of the Debtor during the Debtor's chapter 11 case have been: [List Managers of the Debtor during the Debtor's chapter 11 case.]

After the effective date of the order confirming the Plan, the directors, officers, and voting trustees of the Debtor, any affiliate of the Debtor participating in a joint Plan with the Debtor, or successor of the Debtor under the Plan (collectively the "Post Confirmation Managers"), will be: [List Post Confirmation Managers of the Debtor.] The responsibilities and compensation of these Post Confirmation Managers are described in section \_\_\_ of this Disclosure Statement.

**D. Events Leading to Chapter 11 Filing**

[Describe the events that led to the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case.]

**E. Significant Events During the Bankruptcy Case**

[Describe significant events during the Debtor's bankruptcy case:

- Describe any asset sales outside the ordinary course of business, debtor in possession financing, or cash collateral orders.
- Identify the professionals approved by the court.
- Describe any adversary proceedings that have been filed or other significant litigation that has occurred (including contested claim disallowance proceedings), and any other significant legal or administrative proceedings that are pending or have been pending during the case in a forum other than the Court.
- Describe any steps taken to improve operations and profitability of the Debtor.
- Describe other events as appropriate.]

**F. Projected Recovery of Avoidable Transfers [Choose the option that applies]**

**[Option 1 – If the Debtor does not intend to pursue avoidance actions]**

The Debtor does not intend to pursue preference, fraudulent conveyance, or other avoidance actions.

**[Option 2 – If the Debtor intends to pursue avoidance actions]**

The Debtor estimates that up to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ may be realized from the recovery of fraudulent, preferential or other avoidable transfers. While the results of litigation cannot be predicted with certainty and it is possible that other causes of action may be identified, the following is a summary of the preference, fraudulent conveyance and other avoidance actions filed or expected to be filed in this case:

Transaction	Defendant	Amount Claimed

**[Option 3 – If the Debtor does not yet know whether it intends to pursue avoidance actions]**

The Debtor has not yet completed its investigation with regard to prepetition transactions. If you received a payment or other transfer within 90 days of the bankruptcy, or other transfer avoidable under the Code, the Debtor may seek to avoid such transfer.

**G. Claims Objections**

Except to the extent that a claim is already allowed pursuant to a final non-appealable order, the Debtor reserves the right to object to claims. Therefore, even if your claim is allowed for voting purposes, you may not be entitled to a distribution if an objection to your claim is later upheld. The procedures for resolving disputed claims are set forth in Article V of the Plan.

**H. Current and Historical Financial Conditions**

The identity and fair market value of the estate’s assets are listed in Exhibit B. [Identify source and basis of valuation.]

The Debtor’s most recent financial statements [if any] issued before bankruptcy, each of which was filed with the Court, are set forth in Exhibit C.

[The most recent post-petition operating report filed since the commencement of the Debtor’s bankruptcy case are set forth in Exhibit D.] [A summary of the Debtor’s periodic operating reports filed since the commencement of the Debtor’s bankruptcy case is set forth in Exhibit D.]

**III. SUMMARY OF THE PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS**

**A. What is the Purpose of the Plan of Reorganization?**

As required by the Code, the Plan places claims and equity interests in various classes and describes the treatment each class will receive. The Plan also states whether each class of claims or equity interests is impaired or unimpaired. If the Plan is confirmed, your recovery will be limited to the amount provided by the Plan.

**B. Unclassified Claims**

Certain types of claims are automatically entitled to specific treatment under the Code. They are not considered impaired, and holders of such claims do not vote on the Plan. They may, however, object if, in their view, their treatment under the Plan does not comply with that required by the Code. As such, the Plan Proponent has *not* placed the following claims in any class:

**1. Administrative Expenses**

Administrative expenses are costs or expenses of administering the Debtor’s chapter 11 case which are allowed under § 507(a)(2) of the Code. Administrative expenses also include the value of any goods sold to the Debtor in the ordinary course of business and received within 20 days before the date of the bankruptcy petition. The Code requires that all administrative expenses be paid on the effective date of the Plan, unless a particular claimant agrees to a different treatment.

The following chart lists the Debtor’s estimated administrative expenses, and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Estimated Amount Owed</u>	<u>Proposed Treatment</u>
Expenses Arising in the Ordinary Course of Business After the		Paid in full on the effective date of the Plan, or according to terms of obligation if later

Petition Date		
The Value of Goods Received in the Ordinary Course of Business Within 20 Days Before the Petition Date		Paid in full on the effective date of the Plan, or according to terms of obligation if later
Professional Fees, as approved by the Court.		Paid in full on the effective date of the Plan, or according to separate written agreement, or according to court order if such fees have not been approved by the Court on the effective date of the Plan
Clerk's Office Fees		Paid in full on the effective date of the Plan
Other administrative expenses		Paid in full on the effective date of the Plan or according to separate written agreement
Office of the U.S. Trustee Fees		Paid in full on the effective date of the Plan
<b>TOTAL</b>		

2. *Priority Tax Claims*

Priority tax claims are unsecured income, employment, and other taxes described by § 507(a)(8) of the Code. Unless the holder of such a § 507(a)(8) priority tax claim agrees otherwise, it must receive the present value of such claim, in regular installments paid over a period not exceeding 5 years from the order of relief.

The following chart lists the Debtor's estimated § 507(a)(8) priority tax claims and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

Description (name and type of tax)	Estimated Amount Owed	Date of Assessment	Treatment
			Pmt interval = [Monthly] payment = Begin date = End date = Interest Rate % = Total Payout Amount = \$
			Pmt interval = [Monthly] payment = Begin date =

Description (name and type of tax)	Estimated Amount Owed	Date of Assessment	Treatment
			End date = Interest Rate % = Total Payout Amount = \$

**C. Classes of Claims and Equity Interests**

The following are the classes set forth in the Plan, and the proposed treatment that they will receive under the Plan:

1. *Classes of Secured Claims*

Allowed Secured Claims are claims secured by property of the Debtor's bankruptcy estate (or that are subject to setoff) to the extent allowed as secured claims under § 506 of the Code. If the value of the collateral or setoffs securing the creditor's claim is less than the amount of the creditor's allowed claim, the deficiency will [be classified as a general unsecured claim].

The following chart lists all classes containing Debtor's secured prepetition claims and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

Class #	Description	Insider? (Yes or No)	Impairment	Treatment
	Secured claim of: Name = _____  Collateral description = _____  Allowed Secured Amount = \$ _____  Priority of lien = _____  Principal owed = \$ _____ Pre-pet. arrearage = \$ _____  Total claim = \$ _____		[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	[Monthly] Pmt = _____  Pmts Begin = _____  Pmts End = _____  [Balloon pmt] = _____  Interest rate % = _____  Treatment of Lien = _____  [Additional payment required to cure defaults] = _____

Secured claim of: Name = _____  Collateral description = _____  Allowed Secured Amount = \$ _____ Priority of lien = _____  Principal owed = \$ _____ Pre-pet. arrearage = \$ _____  Total claim = \$ _____		[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	Monthly Pmt = _____  Pmts Begin = _____  Pmts End = _____  [Balloon pmt] = _____  Interest rate % = _____  Treatment of Lien = _____  [Additional payment required to cure defaults] = _____
--	--	--	--

2. *Classes of Priority Unsecured Claims*

Certain priority claims that are referred to in §§ 507(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (7) of the Code are required to be placed in classes. The Code requires that each holder of such a claim receive cash on the effective date of the Plan equal to the allowed amount of such claim. However, a class of holders of such claims may vote to accept different treatment.

The following chart lists all classes containing claims under §§ 507(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (a)(7) of the Code and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

Class #	Description	Impairment	Treatment
	Priority unsecured claim pursuant to Section [insert]  Total amt of claims = \$ _____	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	
	Priority unsecured claim pursuant to Section [insert]  Total amt of claims = \$ _____	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	

3. *Class[es] of General Unsecured Claims*

General unsecured claims are not secured by property of the estate and are not entitled to priority under § 507(a) of the Code. [Insert description of §1122(b) convenience class if applicable.]

The following chart identifies the Plan’s proposed treatment of Class[es] \_\_ through \_\_, which contain general unsecured claims against the Debtor:

Class #	Description	Impairment	Treatment
	[1122(b) Convenience Class]	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	[Insert proposed treatment, such as “Paid in full in cash on effective date of the Plan or when due under contract or applicable nonbankruptcy law”]
	General Unsecured Class	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	Monthly Pmt = Pmts Begin = Pmts End = [Balloon pmt] = Interest rate % from [date] = Estimated percent of claim paid =

4. *Class[es] of Equity Interest Holders*

Equity interest holders are parties who hold an ownership interest (i.e., equity interest) in the Debtor. In a corporation, entities holding preferred or common stock are equity interest holders. In a partnership, equity interest holders include both general and limited partners. In a limited liability company (“LLC”), the equity interest holders are the members. Finally, with respect to an individual who is a debtor, the Debtor is the equity interest holder.

The following chart sets forth the Plan’s proposed treatment of the class[es] of equity interest holders: [There may be more than one class of equity interests in, for example, a partnership case, or a case where the prepetition debtor had issued multiple classes of stock.]



Class #	Description	Impairment	Treatment
	Equity interest holders	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	

**D. Means of Implementing the Plan**

1. *Source of Payments*

Payments and distributions under the Plan will be funded by the following:

[Describe the source of funds for payments under the Plan.]

2. *Post-confirmation Management*

The Post-Confirmation Managers of the Debtor, and their compensation, shall be as follows:

Name	Affiliations	Insider (yes or no)?	Position	Compensation

**E. Risk Factors**

The proposed Plan has the following risks:

[List all risk factors that might affect the Debtor’s ability to make payments and other distributions required under the Plan.]

**F. Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases**

The Plan, in Exhibit 5.1, lists all executory contracts and unexpired leases that the Debtor will assume under the Plan. Assumption means that the Debtor has elected to continue to perform the obligations under such contracts and unexpired leases, and to cure defaults of the

type that must be cured under the Code, if any. Exhibit 5.1 also lists how the Debtor will cure and compensate the other party to such contract or lease for any such defaults.

If you object to the assumption of your unexpired lease or executory contract, the proposed cure of any defaults, or the adequacy of assurance of performance, you must file and serve your objection to the Plan within the deadline for objecting to the confirmation of the Plan, unless the Court has set an earlier time.

All executory contracts and unexpired leases that are not listed in Exhibit 5.1 will be rejected under the Plan. Consult your adviser or attorney for more specific information about particular contracts or leases.

If you object to the rejection of your contract or lease, you must file and serve your objection to the Plan within the deadline for objecting to the confirmation of the Plan.

***[The Deadline for Filing a Proof of Claim Based on a Claim Arising from the Rejection of a Lease or Contract Is \_\_\_\_\_. Any claim based on the rejection of a contract or lease will be barred if the proof of claim is not timely filed, unless the Court orders otherwise.]***

#### **G. Tax Consequences of Plan**

***Creditors and Equity Interest Holders Concerned with How the Plan May Affect Their Tax Liability Should Consult with Their Own Accountants, Attorneys, And/Or Advisors.***

The following are the anticipated tax consequences of the Plan: [List the following general consequences as a minimum: (1) Tax consequences to the Debtor of the Plan; (2) General tax consequences on creditors of any discharge, and the general tax consequences of receipt of plan consideration after confirmation.]

#### **IV. CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES**

To be confirmable, the Plan must meet the requirements listed in §§ 1129(a) or (b) of the Code. These include the requirements that: the Plan must be proposed in good faith; at least one impaired class of claims must accept the plan, without counting votes of insiders; the Plan must distribute to each creditor and equity interest holder at least as much as the creditor or equity interest holder would receive in a chapter 7 liquidation case, unless the creditor or equity interest holder votes to accept the Plan; and the Plan must be feasible. These requirements are not the only requirements listed in § 1129, and they are not the only requirements for confirmation.

### A. Who May Vote or Object

Any party in interest may object to the confirmation of the Plan if the party believes that the requirements for confirmation are not met.

Many parties in interest, however, are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan. A creditor or equity interest holder has a right to vote for or against the Plan only if that creditor or equity interest holder has a claim or equity interest that is both (1) allowed or allowed for voting purposes and (2) impaired.

In this case, the Plan Proponent believes that classes \_\_\_\_\_ are impaired and that holders of claims in each of these classes are therefore entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan. The Plan Proponent believes that classes \_\_\_\_\_ are unimpaired and that holders of claims in each of these classes, therefore, do not have the right to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 1. *What Is an Allowed Claim or an Allowed Equity Interest?*

Only a creditor or equity interest holder with an allowed claim or an allowed equity interest has the right to vote on the Plan. Generally, a claim or equity interest is allowed if either (1) the Debtor has scheduled the claim on the Debtor's schedules, unless the claim has been scheduled as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated, or (2) the creditor has filed a proof of claim or equity interest, unless an objection has been filed to such proof of claim or equity interest. When a claim or equity interest is not allowed, the creditor or equity interest holder holding the claim or equity interest cannot vote unless the Court, after notice and hearing, either overrules the objection or allows the claim or equity interest for voting purposes pursuant to Rule 3018(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

*The deadline for filing a proof of claim in this case was \_\_\_\_\_.  
[If applicable – The deadline for filing objections to claims is \_\_\_\_\_.]*

#### 2. *What Is an Impaired Claim or Impaired Equity Interest?*

As noted above, the holder of an allowed claim or equity interest has the right to vote only if it is in a class that is *impaired* under the Plan. As provided in § 1124 of the Code, a class is considered impaired if the Plan alters the legal, equitable, or contractual rights of the members of that class.

#### 3. *Who is Not Entitled to Vote*

The holders of the following five types of claims and equity interests are *not* entitled to vote:

- holders of claims and equity interests that have been disallowed by an order of the Court;
- holders of other claims or equity interests that are not “allowed claims” or “allowed equity interests” (as discussed above), unless they have been “allowed” for voting purposes.
- holders of claims or equity interests in unimpaired classes;
- holders of claims entitled to priority pursuant to §§ 507(a)(2), (a)(3), and (a)(8) of the Code; and
- holders of claims or equity interests in classes that do not receive or retain any value under the Plan;
- administrative expenses.

***Even If You Are Not Entitled to Vote on the Plan, You Have a Right to Object to the Confirmation of the Plan [and to the Adequacy of the Disclosure Statement].***

4. *Who Can Vote in More Than One Class*

A creditor whose claim has been allowed in part as a secured claim and in part as an unsecured claim, or who otherwise hold claims in multiple classes, is entitled to accept or reject a Plan in each capacity, and should cast one ballot for each claim.

**B. Votes Necessary to Confirm the Plan**

If impaired classes exist, the Court cannot confirm the Plan unless (1) at least one impaired class of creditors has accepted the Plan without counting the votes of any insiders within that class, and (2) all impaired classes have voted to accept the Plan, unless the Plan is eligible to be confirmed by “cram down” on non-accepting classes, as discussed later in Section [B.2.].

1. *Votes Necessary for a Class to Accept the Plan*

A class of claims accepts the Plan if both of the following occur: (1) the holders of more than one-half (1/2) of the allowed claims in the class, who vote, cast their votes to accept the Plan, and (2) the holders of at least two-thirds (2/3) in dollar amount of the allowed claims in the class, who vote, cast their votes to accept the Plan.

A class of equity interests accepts the Plan if the holders of at least two-thirds (2/3) in amount of the allowed equity interests in the class, who vote, cast their votes to accept the Plan.

2. *Treatment of Nonaccepting Classes*

Even if one or more impaired classes reject the Plan, the Court may nonetheless confirm the Plan if the nonaccepting classes are treated in the manner prescribed by § 1129(b) of the Code. A plan that binds nonaccepting classes is commonly referred to as a “cram down” plan. The Code allows the Plan to bind nonaccepting classes of claims or equity interests if it meets all the requirements for consensual confirmation except the voting requirements of § 1129(a)(8) of the Code, does not “discriminate unfairly,” and is “fair and equitable” toward each impaired class that has not voted to accept the Plan.

*You should consult your own attorney if a “cramdown” confirmation will affect your claim or equity interest, as the variations on this general rule are numerous and complex.*

C. **Liquidation Analysis**

To confirm the Plan, the Court must find that all creditors and equity interest holders who do not accept the Plan will receive at least as much under the Plan as such claim and equity interest holders would receive in a chapter 7 liquidation. A liquidation analysis is attached to this Disclosure Statement as Exhibit E.

D. **Feasibility**

The Court must find that confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation, or the need for further financial reorganization, of the Debtor or any successor to the Debtor, unless such liquidation or reorganization is proposed in the Plan.

1. *Ability to Initially Fund Plan*

The Plan Proponent believes that the Debtor will have enough cash on hand on the effective date of the Plan to pay all the claims and expenses that are entitled to be paid on that date. Tables showing the amount of cash on hand on the effective date of the Plan, and the sources of that cash are attached to this disclosure statement as Exhibit F.

2. *Ability to Make Future Plan Payments And Operate Without Further Reorganization*

The Plan Proponent must also show that it will have enough cash over the life of the Plan to make the required Plan payments.

The Plan Proponent has provided projected financial information. Those projections are listed in Exhibit G.

The Plan Proponent’s financial projections show that the Debtor will have an aggregate annual average cash flow, after paying operating expenses and post-confirmation taxes, of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The final Plan payment is expected to be paid on \_\_\_\_\_.

[Summarize the numerical projections, and highlight any assumptions that are not in accord with past experience. Explain why such assumptions should now be made.]

*You Should Consult with Your Accountant or other Financial Advisor If You Have Any Questions Pertaining to These Projections.*

V. **EFFECT OF CONFIRMATION OF PLAN**

A. **DISCHARGE OF DEBTOR** [If the Debtor is not entitled to discharge pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1141(d)(3) change this heading to “**NO DISCHARGE OF DEBTOR.**”]

**[Option 1 – If Debtor is an individual and § 1141(d)(3) is not applicable]**

Discharge. Confirmation of the Plan does not discharge any debt provided for in the Plan until the court grants a discharge on completion of all payments under the Plan, or as otherwise provided in § 1141(d)(5) of the Code. Debtor will not be discharged from any debt excepted from discharge under § 523 of the Code, except as provided in Rule 4007(c) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

**[Option 2 -- If the Debtor is a partnership and § 1141(d)(3) of the Code is not applicable]**

Discharge. On the effective date of the Plan, the Debtor shall be discharged from any debt that arose before confirmation of the Plan, subject to the occurrence of the effective date, to the extent specified in § 1141(d)(1)(A) of the Code. However, the Debtor shall not be discharged from any debt imposed by the Plan. After the effective date of the Plan your claims against the Debtor will be limited to the debts imposed by the Plan.

**[Option 3 -- If the Debtor is a corporation and § 1141(d)(3) is not applicable]**

Discharge. On the effective date of the Plan, the Debtor shall be discharged from any debt that arose before confirmation of the Plan, subject to the occurrence of the effective date, to

the extent specified in § 1141(d)(1)(A) of the Code, except that the Debtor shall not be discharged of any debt (i) imposed by the Plan, (ii) of a kind specified in § 1141(d)(6)(A) if a timely complaint was filed in accordance with Rule 4007(c) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, or (iii) of a kind specified in § 1141(d)(6)(B). After the effective date of the Plan your claims against the Debtor will be limited to the debts described in clauses (i) through (iii) of the preceding sentence.

**[Option 4 – If § 1141(d)(3) is applicable]**

No Discharge. In accordance with § 1141(d)(3) of the Code, the Debtor will not receive any discharge of debt in this bankruptcy case.

**B. Modification of Plan**

The Plan Proponent may modify the Plan at any time before confirmation of the Plan. However, the Court may require a new disclosure statement and/or revoting on the Plan.

[If the Debtor is not an individual, add the following: “The Plan Proponent may also seek to modify the Plan at any time after confirmation only if (1) the Plan has not been substantially consummated *and* (2) the Court authorizes the proposed modifications after notice and a hearing.”]

[If the Debtor is an individual, add the following: “Upon request of the Debtor, the United States trustee, or the holder of an allowed unsecured claim, the Plan may be modified at any time after confirmation of the Plan but before the completion of payments under the Plan, to (1) increase or reduce the amount of payments under the Plan on claims of a particular class, (2) extend or reduce the time period for such payments, or (3) alter the amount of distribution to a creditor whose claim is provided for by the Plan to the extent necessary to take account of any payment of the claim made other than under the Plan.”]

**C. Final Decree**

Once the estate has been fully administered, as provided in Rule 3022 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Plan Proponent, or such other party as the Court shall designate in the Plan Confirmation Order, shall file a motion with the Court to obtain a final decree to close the case. Alternatively, the Court may enter such a final decree on its own motion.

**VI. OTHER PLAN PROVISIONS**

[Insert other provisions here, as necessary and appropriate.]

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[Signature of the Plan Proponent]

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[Signature of the Attorney for the Plan Proponent]



**EXHIBITS**

**Exhibit A – Copy of Proposed Plan of Reorganization**

**Exhibit B – Identity and Value of Material Assets of Debtor**

**Exhibit C – Prepetition Financial Statements  
(to be taken from those filed with the court)**

**Exhibit D – [Most Recently Filed Postpetition Operating Report][Summary of Postpetition  
Operating Reports]**

**Exhibit E – Liquidation Analysis**

***Plan Proponent’s Estimated Liquidation Value of Assets***

**Assets**

a. Cash on hand	\$
b. Accounts receivable	\$
c. Inventory	\$
d. Office furniture & equipment	\$
e. Machinery & equipment	\$
f. Automobiles	\$
g. Building & Land	\$
h. Customer list	\$
i. Investment property (such as stocks, bonds or other financial assets)	\$
j. Lawsuits or other claims against third-parties	\$
k. Other intangibles (such as avoiding powers actions)	\$

***Total Assets at Liquidation Value*** \$

**Less:**

Secured creditors’ recoveries \$

**Less:**

Chapter 7 trustee fees and expenses \$

**Less:**

Chapter 11 administrative expenses \$

**Less:**

Priority claims, excluding administrative expense claims \$

**[Less:**

Debtor’s claimed exemptions] \$

(1) Balance for unsecured claims \$

(2) Total dollar amount of unsecured claims \$

***Percentage of Claims Which Unsecured Creditors Would Receive Or Retain in a Chapter 7 Liquidation:*** \$

***Percentage of Claims Which Unsecured Creditors Will Receive or Retain under the Plan:*** \_\_\_\_\_ % [Divide (1) by (2)]

\_\_\_\_\_ %

**Exhibit F – Cash on hand on the effective date of the Plan**

<b>Cash on hand on effective date of the Plan:</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Less -</i>	
Amount of administrative expenses payable on effective date of the Plan	-
Amount of statutory costs and charges	-
Amount of cure payments for executory contracts	-
Other Plan Payments due on effective date of the Plan	-
	<b>\$</b>
Balance after paying these amounts.....	

The sources of the cash Debtor will have on hand by the effective date of the Plan are estimated as follows:

\$	Cash in Debtor's bank account now
+	Additional cash Debtor will accumulate from net earnings between now and effective date of the Plan [state the basis for such projections]
+	Borrowing [separately state terms of repayment]
+	Capital Contributions
+	Other
\$	<b>Total [This number should match "cash on hand" figure noted above]</b>

**Exhibit G – Projections of Cash Flow and Earnings for Post-Confirmation Period**



## Instructions for Form Disclosure Statement

### BACKGROUND AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. This small business chapter 11 disclosure statement form is promulgated pursuant to § 433 of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005. This form may be used in cases where the debtor (whether an individual or an artificial entity) is a small business debtor within the meaning of § 101(51D) of the Code. This form provides a format for disseminating to parties in interest information about the plan of reorganization in a debtor's small business chapter 11 case, so that those parties can make reasonably informed judgments whether to accept, reject or object to the plan. Because the relevant legal requirements for and effects of a plan's confirmation may vary depending on the nature of the debtor, and because the details of any proposed reorganization necessarily vary, this form is intended to provide a format for disclosure, rather than a specific prescription for the language or content of a disclosure statement in any particular case. The form highlights the factual and legal disclosures required by § 1125 of the Code in connection with the plan's confirmation. It is not intended to restrict the plan's proponent from providing additional information where that would be useful.
2. Proponents are encouraged to present material information in as clear a fashion as possible, including, where feasible, in an accompanying executive summary, approved by the court, that highlights particular creditors' or interest holders' voting status and treatment under the plan.
3. Some language in this form appears in brackets. The bracketed language sometimes instructs the plan's proponent to provide certain information, and sometimes provides optional or alternative language that should be used when and where appropriate. Proponents should make the necessary insertions and/or delete inapplicable language.

### SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

#### INTRODUCTORY SECTION

4. The introductory section describes the purpose of the disclosure statement, provides procedural information regarding confirmation of the plan, including where to obtain additional information, indicates whether particular claimants or interest holders will be entitled to vote on the plan, and details the procedures and deadlines for filing objections to confirmation of the plan. A copy of the plan should be attached to the debtor's disclosure statement as

Exhibit A. Where the proposed distribution to unsecured creditors and other classes can be succinctly summarized, describe that distribution in the second introductory paragraph.

5. In some cases, the court will approve the debtor's disclosure statement prior to solicitation of acceptance or rejection of the plan. See Rule 3017. In other cases, the court may conditionally approve the disclosure statement, and combine the hearing on the adequacy of disclosure and the hearing on confirmation of the plan into one hearing. See Rule 3017.1. Use the bracketed language as appropriate in subsections I.B. and I.C.

#### BACKGROUND SECTION

6. The second part of disclosure statement provides a history of the debtor's business, both before and during the debtor's bankruptcy case. In this section, the plan proponent should describe the debtor's business, the events that led to the filing of the debtor's bankruptcy petition, and the key events in the debtor's bankruptcy case, and identify the people who managed the debtor during the case and who will manage the debtor after the plan is confirmed. The proponent should disclose its intentions with regard to, and the status of, avoidance actions. If the debtor or proponent intends to bring an avoidance action against a particular creditor or equity interest holder, the disclosure statement should disclose this fact so that the creditor or equity interest holder can use that information to determine the value of its claim or interest when considering whether to accept or reject the plan. If the debtor or plan proponent is uncertain as to what avoidance actions might be brought, that fact should be disclosed as well, so that claimants and equity interest holders can take that information into account, as well, when considering whether to accept or reject the plan.
7. A schedule of the debtor's material assets, along with the basis for their valuation should be attached to the debtor's disclosure statement as Exhibit B. Under § 1116 of the Code, the debtor must also file its most recent prepetition financial statements with the petition. These financial statements should be attached to the debtor's disclosure statement as Exhibit C.
8. Sections 434 and 435 of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, and § 308 of the Code require the debtor to file periodic operating reports with the court. The most recent such reports, or a summary of the filed reports, should be attached to the debtor's disclosure statement as Exhibit D.

## SUMMARY OF PLAN

9. The third part of the disclosure statement describes the treatment of various creditors and equity interest holders who will receive distributions under the plan. Because the treatment of certain claims, such as administrative expense claims, allowed under § 503 of the Code, and priority tax claims, allowed under § 507(a)(8) of the Code, is statutorily specified, these claims are not placed into classes. Secured creditors are generally each placed in their own class, with the particular treatment specified for that class. Section 1129(a)(9)(D) of the Code provides that a secured tax claim which would otherwise meet the description of a priority tax claim under § 507(a)(8) of the Code is to be paid in the same manner and over the same period as prescribed in § 507(a)(8) of the Code. While it is not required, the proponent may, where applicable, wish to classify claims under § 507(a)(9) and (10) of the Code. Finally, the disclosure statement should describe the treatment of the general unsecured claimants and equity interest holders. An administrative convenience class may be created pursuant to § 1122(b) of the Code, and other classes of unsecured claims may be created to the extent permitted by applicable case law. Also, while the suggested language of the form contemplates that plan distributions will be in the form of monthly payments, other forms of consideration are permitted and this section of the disclosure statement should be modified to describe clearly the form(s), methods and timing of payments to be made under the particular plan.
10. The disclosure statement should also detail the sources of funds for payments to be made under the plan. These should include the sources of funds for payments to be made on the effective date of the plan (detailed in Exhibit F), and the source of payments that will be made over the life of the plan. The description should be supported by projections about the income and profitability of the debtor. The plan proponent must also fully describe post-confirmation management, as required by § 1129(a)(5) of the Code. The disclosure statement should also describe any risk factors that might influence the debtor's ability to complete the payments or affect the value of the distributions provided for under the plan. Also, the disclosure statement should list any material executory contracts that will be assumed pursuant to the plan, as well as any material contracts that will be rejected. To the extent possible, the tax consequences of the plan should also be summarized.

## CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES SECTION

11. The fourth part of the disclosure statement sets forth the procedures and requirements for confirmation. In this regard, the disclosure statement should inform creditors and equity interest holders of (1) which class they are in, (2) whether they are entitled to vote, and (3) the amount of their claim allowed for voting purposes. This may be accomplished in the disclosure statement itself or, as noted above, in a summary statement, approved by the court, and sent to

the parties in interest along with the disclosure statement. A liquidation analysis of the debtor should be attached to the disclosure statement as Exhibit E. As noted above, the sources of funds for payments to be made on the effective date of the plan should be detailed in Exhibit F, and projections about the profitability and cash flow of the debtor's business after confirmation should be attached to the disclosure statement as Exhibit G.

#### EFFECT OF PLAN CONFIRMATION

12. The fifth part of the disclosure statement describes the effect of plan confirmation. The language used here should be chosen with care, as the effect of confirmation differs depending on whether the debtor is an individual, partnership, or corporation, and on whether the debtor will continue in business post-confirmation or will, instead, be liquidated.
13. If the plan provides that, after its confirmation, property of the estate will vest in and be distributed by someone other than the debtor, the disclosure statement should identify any such property and the person in whom the property will vest.

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

14. Other provisions may be added in Part VI as desired and appropriate.

COMMITTEE NOTE

This form is new. It implements § 433 of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-8, 119 Stat. 23 (April 20, 2005), which provides for an official form for a disclosure statement that may be used in cases where the debtor (whether an individual or an artificial entity) is a small business debtor under § 101(51D) of the Code. The form provides a format for disseminating information to parties in interest about the plan of reorganization in a small business debtor's chapter 11 case, so that a party can make a reasonably informed judgment whether to accept, reject, or object to a proposed plan of reorganization or liquidation.

The form is intended to be used in conjunction with the form small business chapter 11 plan (Official Form 25A). As required by § 433 of the 2005 Act, the form seeks to strike a practical balance between the reasonable needs of the courts, the United States trustee, creditors, and other parties in interest for reasonably complete information, on the one hand, and economy and simplicity for debtors, on the other. The form includes instructions and examples of the types of information needed to complete it.

Because the relevant legal requirements for, and effect of, a plan's confirmation may vary depending on the nature of the debtor and the details of the proposed plan, this form is intended to provide an illustrative format for disclosure, rather than a specific prescription for the language or content of a particular disclosure statement. The form highlights the factual and legal disclosures required for adequate disclosure under § 1125 of the Code. The form is not intended to restrict a plan proponent from providing additional information where that would be useful. Plan proponents are encouraged to present material information in as clear a manner as possible, including, where feasible, by providing an accompanying executive summary, approved by the court, that highlights particular creditors' or interest holders' voting status and treatment under the plan.

Rule 3016 specifies the manner in which the disclosure statement is to be filed. Rule 3017 specifies the manner in which the court will consider it. Rule 3017.1 specifies special procedures for the court's conditional approval of a disclosure statement in a small business case.