

**NOTICE RE TELEPHONIC APPEARANCE PROCEDURES FOR  
JUDGE JANET S. BAER'S CASES  
EFFECTIVE APRIL 11, 2013**

**I. POLICY GOVERNING TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES**

Telephonic appearances are allowed in both **Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 matters** before Judge Baer in Courtroom 615 **with the exception of** Trials and Evidentiary Hearings (all counsel and all witnesses must appear in person) and such other matters as designated by the Court as requiring a personal appearance.

No telephonic appearance will be allowed unless it is made through **CourtCall**, an independent conference call company, pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section II. If an individual schedules a telephonic appearance and then fails to 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 does not excuse a failure to appear.

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.

**II. SCHEDULING A TELEPHONIC APPEARANCE.**

**By Telephone:** Absent an emergency, telephone appearances may be arranged by calling **CourtCall at (866) 582-6878** not later than **12:00 noon** the court day prior to the hearing date. Any request for a telephonic appearance made after the noon deadline must be Court approved by contacting Judge Baer's Law Clerk, Naomi Dein, at 312-435-6054, or Judge Baer's Courtroom Deputy, Anthony Watson, at 312-435-5653.

**III. PROCEDURE FOR TELEPHONIC APPEARANCE.**

Court Call will provide counsel with written confirmation of a telephonic appearance, and give counsel a number to call to make the telephonic appearance. It is counsel's responsibility to dial into the call not later than 10 minutes prior to the scheduled hearing.

**CourtCall does not place a call to counsel.**

The initial charge per participant for a CourtCall appearance is \$30.00 for the first 45 minutes you are connected. For each additional 15 minute increment the charge is \$7.50. If you do not timely call and connect with the Court Call operator, you will be billed for the call and the hearing may proceed in your absence.

Telephonic appearances are connected directly with the courtroom's public address system and electronic recording equipment so that a normal record is produced. To ensure the quality of the record, the use of car phones, cellular phones, speakerphones, public telephone booths, or phones in other public places is prohibited except in the most

extreme emergencies. Participants should be able to hear all parties without difficulty or echo.

At the time of your hearing, you may initially be in the listening mode in which case you will be able to hear the case before yours just as if you were in the courtroom. After your call is connected to the courtroom, the Judge will call the case, request appearances, and direct the manner in which the hearing proceeds. Each time you speak, you should identify yourself for the record. The court's teleconferencing system allows more than one speaker to be heard, so the Judge can interrupt a speaker to ask a question or redirect the discussion. When the Judge informs the participants that the hearing is completed, you may disconnect and the next case will be called.

Telephonic appearances by multiple participants are only possible when there is compliance with every procedural requirement. Sanctions may be imposed when there is any deviation from the required procedures or the Court determines that a person's conduct makes telephonic appearances inappropriate. Sanctions may include dropping a matter from calendar, continuing the hearing, proceeding in the absence of an unavailable participant, a monetary sanction, and/or a permanent prohibition against a person appearing telephonically.