

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

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STANDING ORDER NO. 2  
APPLICATIONS FOR COMPENSATION IN CHAPTER 13 CASES

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The failure of some counsel to properly comply with the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules and the Administrative Procedures required for an application for compensation in a Chapter 13 case has resulted in the Court spending an inordinate amount of time noting and correcting such failures during its normal hearing schedule. This has caused both the Court and counsel (including the majority who do comply) to experience considerably lengthy Chapter 13 calls. To rectify this situation,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Beginning on February 10, 2014, any application for compensation may be denied without prejudice and without notice and/or hearing if the Court finds such application in its totality (including, but not limited to exhibits, and proofs of service relating thereto, the Debtor's counsel's 2016 statement and the Debtor's Statement of Financial Affairs) fails to comply with the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules and/or the Administrative Procedures. The Court will adopt a form order for use in such instances. Said form order will provide some, but not necessarily all, of the reasons for the application's denial. It remains each counsel's obligation to comply with all of the applicable Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules and the Administrative Procedures irrespective of what may be contained in the form order.
2. In the event of repeated denials without prejudice in any one matter or as to any one counsel, the Court may, on notice to counsel, reduce and allow counsel's requested compensation or, in its discretion, deny compensation with prejudice.

3. In the event of purely monetary discrepancies in an application (*e.g.*, inconsistent reporting of funds prepaid by the debtor or amounts charged by counsel), the Court may, in its discretion and without notice to counsel, allow compensation in the amount most favorable to the Debtor contained in the application.
4. In the event of undocumented expenses or fees requested above those authorized by the Court Approved Retention Agreement (when the CARA is used), the Court may, in its discretion and without notice to counsel, reduce and allow such expenses or compensation to the correct/supported amount.
5. When the CARA is used, a copy of the most recently approved version of the CARA actually and personally signed by the Debtor and dated must be appended to the application; otherwise, the application will be denied. Failure to date the CARA constitutes noncompliance with the predicates for relief set forth in General Order # 13-01 of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois (dated July 10, 2013), and will result in compensation being reduced accordingly.

ENTER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Barnes', written over a horizontal line.

Timothy A. Barnes  
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Entered this 5th day of February, 2014