

**U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania  
Attorney Advisory Committee**

**September 4, 2025, at 1:00 PM**

**Attendance: Judge Van Eck, Sarah Rothermel, Judge Conway, Sarah Crouch, Troy Sellars, Seth Eisenberg, Joe Schalk, Jack Zaharopoulos, Jill Manuel-Coughlin, David Harris, Lisa Doran, Jill Durkin, Rick Thompson, Chad Julius, Vince Rubino, Robert Chernicoff, and Lawrence Young.**

Call to Order: Judge Van Eck called the meeting to order and took roll of the attendees.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Update on amendments to Local Rules 3015-2(f) and 3019-1 and Local Forms 3015-2b, 3015-2d, and 3019-1.

Troy Sellars discussed the pending proposed changes to Local Rules 3015-2(f) and 3019-1 which support changes to Local Bankruptcy Forms 3015-2b, 3015-2d, and 3019-1, which deal with certifications re: amended plans.

It was noted that the changes require red-line plans be provided in Chapters 11, 12, and 13 when an amended plan is filed. It was also noted that the proposed changes have been posted on the Court's website for review and comment and that all comments are due by Friday, September 19, 2025, and that the rules are tentatively scheduled to become effective October 1, 2025.

Mr. Sellars reported that the proposed changes had also been circulated to Jim Jones as Chairman of the Rules Committee and Vince Rubino as President of the MDBBA, and that the only comments dealt with the technical aspect of complying with the change. It was noted that all of the Local Forms and the model Chapter 13 Plan are available in Word or as a PDF on the Court's website. It was noted that red-lines can easily be produced using Word but a user might need to use a more advanced version of Adobe than the free version to comply with the rules when using the PDF version of the model Chapter 13 plan. There was some discussion that Google Forms might also help with complying with the new requirements.

Upon request from Attorney Rubio, Mr. Sellars agreed to provide some directions for producing red-lines when a blast email is sent about the new Rules and Forms going into effect.

Attorney Chernicoff, Judge Van Eck, and Seth Eisenberg discussed the certification form for Chapter 11 cases. Attorney Chernicoff noted he was fine with the proposed changes to the local form. Judge Van Eck noted how helpful the red-line plans are to the court and court staff.

2. Continued discussion on fee applications for no-look filers where the case has been dismissed without a confirmed plan.

Judge Van Eck asked about the current state of discussion regarding the potential need for no-look filers to file fee application in cases dismissed with unconfirmed plan. He recalled that at the last Attorney Advisory Committee meeting we discussed adding a comment to the appropriate Local Bankruptcy Rule to alert the bar of the potential need to track their time should they seek compensation in a case that was dismissed pre-confirmation.

Troy Sellars noted that a comment was added to Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-2 after the last meeting. Specifically, the comment now provides: Attorneys who request standard no-look fees, and who also plan to seek additional compensation for services beyond the flat fee or for work performed in cases dismissed before plan confirmation, must be prepared to provide detailed time records to support the requested fees.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Jill Coughlin raised a question about how notices of Post-Petition Fees and Expenses were handled in the Middle District in conduit plans. Trustee Zaharopoulos noted that PPFN were taken into consideration in conduit cases and invited Attorney Coughlin to reach out to him after the meeting for a more detailed discussion.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on November 20, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.