



United States Trustee Program

*Office of the United States Trustee
Region 8 - Chattanooga, Tennessee*

*Operating Guidelines and Reporting
Requirements for Chapter 11 Cases*

**OPERATING GUIDELINES AND
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR
CHAPTER 11 CASES
FILED IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
TENNESSEE**

INTRODUCTION

Section 586(a)(3) of Title 28 of the UNITED STATES CODE provides that the United States Trustee shall supervise the administration of Chapter 11 cases within the Region for which such United States Trustee is appointed. Pursuant to that section, the United States Trustee for Region 8, which is comprised of the judicial districts of the States of Kentucky and Tennessee, has promulgated the following requirements for debtors in possession and appointed trustees in Chapter 11 cases.

Rule 9034, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure ("FRBP"), requires that the U.S. Trustee be served with copies of all documents filed in the case. Copies of documents or pleadings shall be served electronically when filed with the court except for those documents specifically excluded from electronic service by the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court of the Eastern District of Tennessee. Unless you are specifically directed otherwise, communications to the U.S. Trustee should be directed to the attention of Assistant US Trustee, 31 E. 11th Steet, 4th Floor, Chattanooga, TN 37402 (Ustpreion08.cn.ecf@usdoj.gov) and service of filings should be made through filing with the court's electronic-filing system in accordance with FRBP 5005(b) & 9036.

All certifications, reports, documents, and any other papers required by the Office of the United States Trustee which are to be signed by the debtor must be signed by the debtor or an authorized principal of the debtor. Failure of the debtor or an authorized principal to sign, or signing by any other party, including debtor's counsel or accountant, will render the document incomplete. Joint debtors may file one set of operating reports each month, but both debtors must sign every report.

TIMELY COMPLIANCE WITH EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS IS MANDATORY. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY REQUIREMENT MAY RESULT IN THE U.S. TRUSTEE OR OTHER PARTIES MOVING TO DISMISS OR CONVERT YOUR CASE, FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A TRUSTEE OR EXAMINER, OR THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

ANY REQUESTS FOR MODIFICATION OF ANY OF THESE REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING AND APPROVED IN WRITING BY THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE.

GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Complete statements of financial affairs and complete schedules of liabilities and assets must be filed either with the petition commencing the case or within 14 days of the commencement of the case. A list of the 20 largest unsecured creditors (excluding insiders) must be filed with the petition upon commencement of the case. For Small Business Cases as defined by 11 U.S.C. § 101(51C), Small Business Debtors as defined by 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D), or Debtors under Subchapter V, as defined by 11 U.S.C. § 1182, the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash flow statement and federal income tax return must be filed with the petition as well, or within 7 days thereafter.
- B. Debtors in Possession, through senior management, and counsel, must attend meetings scheduled by the court or the U.S. Trustee, including initial debtor interviews, scheduling conferences, and meeting of creditors convened under 11 U.S.C. §341.
- C. The debtor may not pay debts owed before the commencement of the case (“pre-petition debts”) except as allowed by the Bankruptcy Court. This prohibition includes home mortgages, wages, vehicle loans, etc. Additionally, no assets may be sold or disposed of except as allowed by and upon compliance with §363 of the Code and the Bankruptcy Rules governing sales.

Requests for payment of pre-petition wages must be accompanied by a detailed list of persons and amounts to be paid. Agreed orders for adequate protection must include description of the collateral, the value of the collateral as of the petition date, the current value of the collateral, and the rate of depreciation of the collateral or other factors affecting the value of the collateral.

- D. The debtor may not pay any professionals, such as attorneys, accountants, or appraisers, without Court approval. Judicial approval of employment of such professionals must be obtained prior to the rendering of any services.
- E. Except for compensation to professionals, the debtor must pay in full when due all new obligations arising after the filing of the petition (“post-petition”).
- F. The debtor may not use cash collateral (as defined by §363) without the consent of the secured creditor or the approval of the Court. Requests for use of cash collateral shall be accompanied by a budget, a statement as to the notice provided to creditors, and a statement whether the secured creditor(s) consents to the use of cash collateral.
- G. The debtor may obtain credit or incur secured or unsecured debt only upon the Court’s approval unless the credit or debt is within the established pre-petition ordinary course of business.

- H. The debtor must provide the U.S. Trustee with a current mailing address, physical address, and phone number of the debtor, as well as a current mailing address, email address and phone number of debtor's counsel, responsible individual, and responsible financial individual. Any changes to this information must be reported to the U.S. Trustee immediately.
- I. The debtor must obtain approval of the Court to use, sell, or lease property of the estate, unless the use, sale or lease of property is within the established pre-petition ordinary course of business of the debtor.

2. BANK ACCOUNTS

- A. Immediately upon the filing of the petition, unless the court orders otherwise, the debtor shall close any bank account over which the debtor has possession or control at the time of filing.
- B. Immediately upon the filing of the petition, the debtor shall open at least one debtor in possession account. If the debtor uses cash collateral, separate cash collateral accounts must be established and maintained pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §363(c)(4). Attached is a "Debtor-in-possession Statement for Depository" including a listing of depositories which have agreed to comply with the guidelines of the U.S. Trustee. The debtor must complete this statement and present it to the depository to open the debtor in possession accounts.
- C. The debtor must deposit all receipts and make all disbursements through the debtor in possession accounts. This includes post-petition personal services income (wages, etc.). Any funds in excess of those required for current operations should be maintained in an interest-bearing account.
- D. In the event the depository refuses to comply with the U.S. Trustee guidelines, the debtor must move the accounts to another depository within a reasonable time after notice from the U.S. Trustee; such reasonable time shall not exceed 30 days.
- E. When a trustee is appointed to succeed a debtor in possession, the trustee may continue previously opened and maintained debtor in possession accounts but must ensure that the accounts and checks reflect the trustee's name and title along with the name of the debtor and the case number.

3. INSURANCE

- A. All debtors must maintain insurance and make all insurance premium payments when due.
- B. Immediately upon filing the Chapter 11 case the U.S. Trustee office must be provided with proof that the required insurance is being maintained. A Certificate of Insurance from the debtor's insurance agent(s) with the U.S. Trustee as the "Certificate Holder" must be provided. The U.S. Trustee's address or fax number must be listed in the Certificate. This ensures the U.S. Trustee will be notified in

the event of cancellation.

- C. Debtor shall immediately notify the U.S. Trustee of the expiration, termination, or renewal of any coverage and shall immediately provide the U.S. Trustee with adequate proof of renewal or replacement coverage.

4. TAXES

- A. The debtor shall file returns for, but not pay, all the pre-petition taxes, including sales taxes, as soon as possible after the date of the filing of the petition. A copy of each return shall be served on the U.S. Trustee.
- B. The debtor shall pay any post-petition tax liability associated with the debtor's payroll, in accordance with the most recent edition of the Internal Revenue Service's Circular E Publication, and state and local taxing authority guidelines, unless a Court order or other order of the taxing authority requires otherwise.
- C. All tax returns and reports for post-petition obligations shall be timely filed and accompanied by payment in full of any tax liability. A copy of each return, and verification of payment of taxes due, shall be served on the U.S. Trustee.
- D. Chapter 11 debtors who are individuals should refer to the Internal Revenue Service's Notice 2006-83, which provides further guidance for individuals filing bankruptcy cases under Chapter 11. Pursuant to those guidelines, debtors who are individuals must obtain new taxpayer identification numbers for the bankruptcy estate created when the bankruptcy petition was filed. In addition, separate income tax returns may be required for the bankruptcy estate and debtors. Individual debtors should refer to the IRS publication (Internal Revenue Bulletin 2006-40) and consult with their accountant for specific guidance.

5. INITIAL DEBTOR INTERVIEW

Senior management along with debtor's counsel must attend an initial debtor interview. These meetings will be conducted by an attorney and analyst from the Office of the United States Trustee generally within eight (8) working days after the filing of the petition. In addition to informing the debtor of its obligations in bankruptcy, the U.S. Trustee will begin to assess the viability of the debtor and inquire about the debtor's plan to reorganize.

The debtor is required to produce the following documents at the initial debtor interview, as detailed on the attached Initial Report Checklist:

- A. Completed "Initial Report Checklist". (Exhibit A)
- B. Completed "Information for Initial Debtor Interview". (Exhibit B)
- C. Completed "Certification of Receipt of Operating Guidelines and Designation of Specific Individuals". (Exhibit C)

- D. Completed "Bank Account Declaration of Debtor" (Exhibit D) under penalty of perjury verifying the closing of all pre-petition bank accounts and stating the date each account was closed and that all monies were transferred to the new debtor in possession bank accounts. Voided permanent checks from the new account(s) must be attached.
- E. Completed "Insurance Expiration Statement" (Exhibit E) and proof of the following insurance coverages:
- (1) Casualty insurance must be maintained at an amount at least equal to the replacement value of tangible assets susceptible to casualty loss (fire, weather, theft, vandalism, etc.);
 - (2) Workers' compensation insurance and unemployment insurance must be maintained if the debtor has employees;
 - (3) General liability and, if appropriate, product liability insurance must be maintained if the debtor conducts business operations; and
 - (4) Life insurance on key personnel; and
 - (5) Any other insurance customary in the debtor's business.

The debtor shall, at the initial debtor interview, provide the U.S. Trustee with a copy of the insurance binder or the first page of all policies, showing the nature of coverage, coverage amounts and expiration dates.

- F. Three most recently filed Federal Income Tax Returns and most recent Personal Property Tax Return with all schedules and attachments.
- G. Most recently prepared financial statements, audited as well as unaudited, including but not limited to, balance sheets, income statements, inventory statements, accounts receivable and accounts payable statements, and tax reconciliations.
- H. Monthly cash receipts and disbursement projections for the next twelve months.

6. BOOKS AND RECORDS

The books and records of the debtor must be closed as of the date of the filing of the petition. The debtor must open a new set of books and records and must provide separate accounting with respect to pre-petition and post-petition accounts and transactions.

7. PHYSICAL INVENTORY

Within thirty (30) days of filing the petition, the debtor shall provide the U.S. Trustee with a physical inventory as of the date of the filing of the petition. The inventory shall indicate itemized values at cost and fair market value. This requirement may be satisfied by submission of Schedule B if sufficient detail is provided.

8. CREDITORS MEETINGS

Section 341 of the Bankruptcy Code requires a meeting of creditors in each case absent court order. This meeting is scheduled by the Office of the United States Trustee and notice of the meeting is sent to all creditors. Senior management and debtor's counsel are required to attend. Requests for waiver of or relief from local rules must be upon application to and approval by the court. The debtor's representative should have knowledge of and be familiar with the operation of the debtor's business and the bankruptcy proceeding. In addition, the debtor in possession's accountant/bookkeeper should be available for examination at the §341 meeting. The U.S. Trustee may also request, through debtor's counsel, that additional representatives of the debtor attend the §341 meeting and be available for examination. If debtor's first monthly operating report is due prior to the §341 meeting, the debtor must file the report with the court by the due date. It is recommended that the debtor prepare and file the first monthly operating report prior to the §341 meeting even though the first report may not be due until after the date of the meeting. After notice of the §341 meeting has been mailed, meetings cannot be cancelled or rescheduled to accommodate conflicts with the schedule of the debtor or the debtor's attorney, except in extraordinary circumstances. The debtor's counsel must contact the Office of the United States Trustee to request that the meeting be rescheduled. If the request is approved, the debtor's counsel must certify to the Court that adequate notice of the rescheduled meeting has been sent to all parties in interest.

An attorney for the U.S. Trustee will preside at the §341 meeting, administer the oaths/affirmations, and examine the debtor and/or other appropriate person(s). No written minutes will be kept at the meeting. The meeting will be recorded. All recordings will be stored by the Office of the United States Trustee for a period of not less than five years from the conclusion of the meeting, at which time the recordings will be erased, absent any requests to the contrary. Requests for copies of the recorded meetings must be made in writing to the Office of the United States Trustee, 31 E. 11th Street, 4th Floor, Chattanooga, TN 37402. The request must include: case name, case number, chapter, trustee name, date and time of §341 meeting.

The debtor, or the debtor's representative, must bring to the meeting of creditors two forms of identification: one proof of his/her social security number and one photo identification. Failure to provide the necessary proof of identity shall result in the United States Trustee moving for dismissal or conversion of the case.

9. SMALL BUSINESS CASES AND SUBCHAPTER V

Specific rules relate to cases filed by small businesses, as defined by the Bankruptcy Code. These provisions attempt to streamline and simplify several burdensome Chapter 11 requirements. Additional changes were made effective in February 2020 with the effective date of the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019, resulting in a Subchapter V election that is available for small business debtors. Debtors should discuss this option thoroughly with counsel to gain understanding and determine whether election is desirable. Among other provisions, Subchapter V election mandates the appointment of an independent trustee whose main purpose is to assist in effecting a consensual plan of reorganization. This trustee will also review the debtor's operations, participate in the initial debtor

interview and meeting of creditors, and be integrally involved in most aspects of the case. Subchapter V cases are also not subject to quarterly fee assessment.

10. QUARTERLY FEES (Not applicable to Subchapter V cases.)

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6), a quarterly fee shall be paid to the United States Trustee System Fund at Treasury in each case under chapter 11 (except small business cases under Subchapter V of chapter 11) for each calendar quarter, or portion thereof, between the date a bankruptcy petition is filed and the date the court enters a final decree closing the case, dismisses the case, or converts the case to another chapter in bankruptcy.

The quarterly fee is calculated by totaling the reported disbursements for the three-month calendar quarter, or portion thereof, found in the fee schedule link below. The quarterly fee amount will be estimated if disbursements for all months of a calendar quarter that the case is open have not been reported to the United States Trustee. The estimated fee is based on: a) the reported disbursement history, b) the debtor's initial financial data submitted when the case was filed, or c) the United States Trustee's estimate. If there is a disagreement with the estimated quarterly fee noted on the billing statement, then Monthly Operating Reports or actual disbursement reports supporting a different calculation must be filed with the bankruptcy court and served on the United States Trustee office. The applicable minimum fee is due even if there were no disbursements during a calendar quarter. The fee is not prorated.

For the quarterly fee schedule and fee calculations, please refer to the link below:

<https://www.justice.gov/ust/chapter-11-quarterly-fees>

Quarterly fees are due no later than one month following the end of each calendar quarter. Failure to pay quarterly fees may result in the conversion or dismissal of the case.¹ Payment of that quarter's fees and any past due fees and interest, if applicable, must be made before the effective date of a confirmed plan of reorganization and quarterly fees will continue to accrue until entry of the final decree, or until the case is converted or dismissed. Failure to pay these fees may result in a motion by the United States Trustee to dismiss or convert the case to a chapter 7 case.

Payment Options

A billing statement from the United States Trustee Program is mailed to the debtor or other designated party for each calendar quarter before the payment due date.

As of September 30, 2025, the United States Trustee Program no longer accepts checks or money orders as forms of payment for chapter 11 quarterly fees.² Any checks or money

¹ Each quarterly fee must be paid timely. Failure to receive a bill from the Executive Office for United States Trustees does not excuse timely payment. Failure to pay the quarterly fee is cause for conversion or dismissal of the chapter 11 case pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1112(b)(4)(K).

² On March 25, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order 14247 titled "Modernizing Payments to and From America's Bank Account" (EO 14247). This order aims to modernize the government's payment processes by mandating a transition from traditional paper-based payments to fast and secure electronic payments. In accordance with EO 14247, the United States Trustee Program will no longer accept checks or money orders as forms of payment for chapter 11 quarterly fees.

orders received on or after this date will be returned to the sender. All quarterly fee payments must be made electronically through the United States Trustee Program's Pay.gov site located here:

<https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/672415208>

The party paying quarterly fees will need the ten-digit account number (xxx-xx-xxxxx) and bank account information (account and routing number) to remit quarterly fee payments via Pay.gov. You should follow the instructions on Pay.gov for remitting payment.³ Please note that you will be required to complete the box requesting your Taxpayer ID on Pay.gov to complete their payment. If a debtor does not have an EIN, you may enter all 9's in this box. Pay.gov allows the use of PayPal as a payment method, thereby enabling parties to make payments without sharing bank account details directly with Pay.gov. **However**, PayPal has transaction limits, which vary based on account verification status and payment method. Parties wishing to use PayPal to pay quarterly fees should check with PayPal.com directly for more information regarding the monetary cap.

Failing to make acceptable electronic payments of quarterly fees through Pay.gov could result in delays in payment and the accrual of interest and other penalties, and legal action for failure to timely remit payment.

Anyone who has questions about the payment of chapter 11 quarterly fees should contact their local United States Trustee office.

DISCLOSURES PURSUANT TO THE DEBT COLLECTION

IMPROVEMENT ACT DISCLOSURE OF INTENT TO USE TAXPAYER IDENTIFYING NUMBER FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING AND REPORTING DELINQUENT QUARTERLY FEES OWED TO THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §1930(A)(6)

Please be advised that, pursuant to the Debt Collection Improvements Act of 1996, Public Law 104-134, Title III, §31001(i)(3)(A), 110 Stat. 1321-365, codified at 31 U.S.C. §3701, the U.S. Trustee intends to use the debtor's Taxpayer Identifying Number ("TIN") as reported by the debtor or debtor's counsel in connection with the chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings for the purpose of collecting and reporting on any delinquent debt, including chapter 11 quarterly fees, that are owed to the U.S. Trustee.

The U.S. Trustee will provide the debtor's TIN to the U.S. Department of Treasury for its use in attempting to collect overdue debts. Treasury may take the following steps: (1) submit the debt to the Internal Revenue Service Offset Program so that

³Automatic debits to business or checking accounts may be blocked by a security feature called ACH Fraud Prevention Filters. ACH Fraud Prevention Filters works by having an allowed list of ACH Company ID's, thereby enabling debits. The agency identification for the United States Trustee Program is 1501000502. This will allow payments being presented for payment to process and not blocked by your banks ACH Fraud Prevention filters.

the amount owed may be deducted from any payment made by the federal government to the debtor, including but not limited to tax refunds, (2) report the delinquency to credit reporting agencies, (3) send collection notices to the debtor, (4) engage private collection agencies to collect the debt, and (5) engage the United States Attorney's office to sue for collection. Collection costs will be added to the total amount of the debt. If the United States is unable to collect the full amount of any debt owed on a debtor's quarterly fee obligation, an I.R.S. Form 1099-C (Cancellation of Debt) will be filed with the Internal Revenue Service as required by law.

11. PERIODIC REPORTING

A. Monthly Operating Reports

You must file a monthly operating report with the court for every month you remain in chapter 11 until one of the following occurs: (1) the effective date of a confirmed plan of reorganization; (2) the conversion of your case to a case under another chapter; or (3) dismissal of your case. You must file each report with the court no later than 15 days after the end of the reporting month, pursuant to Local Rule 2015-2(d).

(1) Cases that are not Small Business Cases or Subchapter V Cases

If you fall into this category, pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 58.8, you must complete correctly and file the newest version of UST Form 11-MOR, Monthly Operating Report ("MOR"). You can access the latest version of this form, along with instructions for completion and filing, at <https://www.justice.gov/ust/chapter-11-operating-reports>. While at that webpage, you or the person who is preparing the report should subscribe to the "Chapter 11 Operating Reports E-mail Updates" on that webpage to receive email updates about changes to the MOR form.

(2) Small Business Cases and Subchapter V Cases

If you are considered a Small Business Debtor, or have elected to proceed under Subchapter V, you must complete and file Official Form B 425C located on the website of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts at <https://www.uscourts.gov/services-forms/forms>

B. Post-confirmation Reports

After the effective date of your confirmed plan, you must file reports quarterly for every calendar quarter until (1) entry of a final decree, (2) conversion of your case to another chapter, or (3) dismissal of your case. You must file each report with the court no later than 15 days after the end of the reporting quarter, pursuant to Local Rule 2015-2(d).

If you are not a Small Business Debtor or proceeding under Subchapter V, you must file UST Form 11-PCR, Post-confirmation Report ("PCR"). You can access the

latest version of this form, along with instructions for completion and filing, at <https://www.justice.gov/ust/chapter-11-operating-reports> . If you are a Small Business Debtor, your local Office of the United States Trustee will advise you on which form to use. If you are proceeding under Subchapter V, you do not need to file any reports after the effective date of your plan unless the court orders otherwise.

C. Other Reports

If you hold a substantial or controlling interest (presumed to be at least a 20 percent interest) in another entity that is not a publicly traded corporation, you must file periodic reports using Official Form B 426 located on the website of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts <https://www.uscourts.gov/services-forms/forms>

The first form is due no later than seven days after the first date set for the meeting of creditors, and then periodically every six months thereafter until the effective date of your plan, or if your case is dismissed or converted to another chapter. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2015.3.

If you sell property not in the ordinary course of business (which needs court approval), you must file a Report of Sale after completion of the sale. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 6004(f).

12. GROUND FOR DISMISSAL

- A. Substantial or continuing loss to or diminution of the estate and the absence of a reasonable likelihood of rehabilitation;
- B. Gross mismanagement of the estate;
- C. Failure to maintain appropriate insurance that poses a risk to the estate or to the public;
- D. Unauthorized use of cash collateral substantially harmful to a creditor;
- E. Failure to comply with an order of the court;
- F. Unexcused failure to satisfy timely any filing or reporting requirement established by the Bankruptcy Code;
- G. Failure to attend the meeting of creditors convened under section 341(a) or an examination ordered under rule 2004 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure without good cause shown by the debtor;
- H. Failure timely to provide information or attend meetings reasonably requested by the US Trustee;
- I. Failure timely to pay taxes owed after the petition date or to file tax returns due after the petition date;
- J. Failure to file a disclosure statement, or to file or confirm a plan, within the time fixed by this title or by order of the court;
- K. Failure to pay any fees or charges required under the Bankruptcy Code;
- L. Revocation of an order of confirmation under section 1144;
- M. Inability to effectuate substantial consummation of a confirmed plan;

- N. Material default by the debtor with respect to a confirmed plan;
- O. Termination of a confirmed plan by reason of the occurrence of a condition specified in the plan; and
- P. Failure of the debtor to pay any domestic support obligation that first becomes payable after the date of the filing of the petition.

THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE MAY REVISE, MODIFY, OR AMEND THESE GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FROM TIME TO TIME, AND AS IS APPROPRIATE IN AN INDIVIDUAL CASE. COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THESE GUIDELINES OR OTHER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE ARE SOUGHT AND APPRECIATED AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CHATTANOOGA OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE
REGION 8
KENTUCKY/TENNESSEE

Attachment: Chapter 11 Initial Report Instructions and Exhibits

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE - REGION 8

CHAPTER 11 INITIAL REPORT INSTRUCTIONS

The Initial Report has been designed to provide the United States Trustee with basic information about the debtor and ensure that the debtor successfully emerges from Chapter 11 without unnecessary delay or expense. This Instruction Page is for the debtor's information in preparing the various documents which will comprise the Initial Report. **THE INITIAL REPORT SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN ITS ENTIRETY FOR THE INITIAL DEBTOR INTERVIEW.** The items to be included in the Initial Report are as follows:

1. **Initial Report Checklist.** Exhibit A should be completed indicating the other documents to be supplied at the initial interview.
2. **Initial Debtor Interview Information Sheet.** Exhibit B consists of two pages identifying areas of concern which will be addressed during the initial interview. All debtors should complete this document and bring supporting information relevant to these areas of concern (if applicable) to the initial interview.
3. **Certification of Receipt of Operating Guidelines and Designation of Specific Individuals.** All debtors are required to attest to their receipt of the operating guidelines and reporting requirements on Exhibit C. Debtors must also designate the individual who will be responsible for discharging the duties of the debtor-in-possession. This person will be expected to attend the initial interview, the §341(a) meeting of creditors, disclosure statement hearing, confirmation hearing and any other significant hearings convened in this case. Debtors must also designate the individual who will be responsible for preparing all financial reports required by the Court or United States Trustee.
4. **Bank Account Declaration of Debtor.** All pre-petition bank accounts are required to be closed as of the date the Petition is filed and new debtor in possession accounts opened. All debtors must declare on Exhibit D under penalty of perjury the location of their pre-petition and post-petition bank accounts. Also included in Exhibit D is a Statement for Depository, listing the signatories on the new accounts, and a list of financial institutions, one of which should be utilized for the new accounts. Debtors should bring with them verification of account designations and account numbers, along with a sample copy of a voided check on each account.
5. **Insurance Expiration Statement.** All debtors are required to declare the current status of their insurance policies on Exhibit E. The operating guidelines provide details on the type coverages that are required. Copies of certificates of insurance listing the United States Trustee as “certificate holder” must be attached. to Exhibit E.
6. **Cash Flow Projections.** Debtors are to provide a statement of projected cash receipts and disbursements for each month of the next twelve-month period.
7. All other documents listed on attached **Initial Report Checklist.**

INITIAL REPORT CHECKLIST

CASE NAME: _____

CASE NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

Please check items supplied at Initial Debtor Interview:

- { } INFORMATION FOR INITIAL DEBTOR INTERVIEW IS COMPLETED AND ATTACHED (Exhibit B) (not applicable if schedules and SOFA has been filed).
- { } CERTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF OPERATING GUIDELINES AND DESIGNATION OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS IS COMPLETED AND ATTACHED (Exhibit C).
- { } BANK ACCOUNT DECLARATION OF DEBTOR AND DEBTOR-IN-POSSESSION STATEMENT FOR DEPOSITORY IS COMPLETED AND ATTACHED (Exhibit D), ALONG WITH VOIDED CHECKS FROM NEW BANK ACCOUNTS.
- { } INSURANCE EXPIRATION STATEMENT IS COMPLETED AND ATTACHED (Exhibit E), ALONG WITH CERTIFICATES OF INSURANCE LISTING THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE AS "CERTIFICATE HOLDER"
- { } COPIES OF THE LAST THREE FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURNS FILED, ALONG WITH ALL SCHEDULES AND ATTACHMENTS, AND A COPY OF THE LAST PERSONAL PROPERTY RETURN ARE ATTACHED.
- { } COPIES OF THE MOST RECENT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AUDITED AND/OR UNAUDITED, FOR THE DEBTOR ARE ATTACHED, INCLUDING BALANCE SHEET, STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS, AND CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR SMALL BUSINESS CASES, PURSUANT TO §1116(1)(A). (If not available and not filed with the court, a statement pursuant to §1116(1)(B) must be filed and provided to UST.)
- { } FOR SMALL BUSINESS CASES, MONTHLY CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS PROJECTIONS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS SUBSEQUENT TO FILING ARE ATTACHED.
- { } PURSUANT TO §1106(c)(1), PROOF OF APPROPRIATE NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF DOMESTIC SUPPORT OBLIGATION CLAIMS IS ATTACHED

INFORMATION FOR INITIAL DEBTOR INTERVIEW AND
CERTIFICATION OF PERMISSION FOR DIRECT DEBTOR CONTACT

CASE NAME: _____

CASE NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

BUSINESS INFORMATION:

NATURE OF BUSINESS: _____

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: _____ DATE STARTED/INCORPORATED: _____

CORPORATE OFFICERS, PARTNERS OR SOLE PROPRIETOR:

NAME	TITLE	% OF OWNERSHIP	SALARY (past 12 mos.)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

CONDITIONS WHICH CAUSED THE CHAPTER 11 PETITION TO BE FILED: _____

PROPOSED PLAN OF REORGANIZATION: _____

FINANCIAL CONDITION AS OF FILING DATE (ESTIMATES ARE ACCEPTABLE):

CASH: _____ INVENTORY: _____

ACCTS. RECEIVABLE (TOTAL): _____ AMOUNT UNCOLLECTIBLE: _____

FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT: _____ VEHICLES: _____

REAL ESTATE (ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY):

LOCATION/DESCRIPTION HOLDER	VALUE	DEBT	LIEN
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

AMOUNTS DUE FROM OFFICERS/DIRECTORS/SHAREHOLDERS: _____

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ASSETS: _____

TAXES OWED:

TAXING AUTHORITY	AMOUNT
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

WAGES OWED: _____ # CLAIMS: _____

RENT OWED: _____ MOS. IN ARREARS: _____

OWING UNSECURED/TRADE ACCOUNTS: _____ # OF ACCTS: _____

AMOUNTS DUE TO OFFICERS/DIRECTORS/SHAREHOLDERS: _____

SECURED DEBTS (DO NOT REPEAT OBLIGATIONS LISTED UNDER REAL ESTATE):

SECURED PARTY	AMOUNT	COLLATERAL
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

COMMENTS: _____

CERTIFICATION OF PERMISSION FOR DIRECT DEBTOR CONTACT

The undersigned, as counsel for the debtor, hereby grants permission for a bankruptcy analyst of the U.S. Trustee's Office to contact the debtor directly regarding books and records of the debtor, monthly operating reports, U.S. Trustee quarterly fees, and other administrative matters.

(Date)

(Attorney for Debtor)

CERTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF OPERATING GUIDELINES
AND DESIGNATION OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS

CASE NAME: _____

CASE NO.: _____

I hereby certify that I have received from the Office of the United States Trustee the Operating Guidelines and Reporting Requirements for Chapter 11 Cases. Further, I hereby certify that I have read and understand the guidelines and requirements, and I agree to perform in accordance with said guidelines and requirements. I also designate below, as provided under Bankruptcy Rule 9001(5), the individual responsible for discharging the duties of the Debtor under 11 U.S.C. §1107 and as may be required by the Court or the United States Trustee. Also designated is the individual responsible for the preparation of all financial reports as required by the Court or the United States Trustee.

 (Date)

 (Signature)

 (Printed Name of Signatory)

 (Title)

OTHER DUTIES OF DEBTOR:

PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS:

BY: _____
 (Signature)

BY: _____
 (Signature)

NAME: _____
 (Print or type)

NAME: _____
 (Print or type)

TITLE: _____

TITLE: _____

EMAIL: _____

EMAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

The undersigned, as counsel for the debtor, has read and reviewed with the debtor, the operating guidelines and reporting requirements discussed above.

 (Date)

 (Attorney for Debtor)

BANK ACCOUNT DECLARATION OF DEBTOR

CASE NAME: _____ CASE NUMBER: _____

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that all prepetition bank accounts of the above-captioned debtor were closed, as listed below*:

Depository Name	Account Name	Account Number	Date Closed/ Closing Balance
_____	_____	_____	_____/_____
_____	_____	_____	_____/_____
_____	_____	_____	_____/_____

I further declare under penalty of perjury that all monies have been transferred to the following debtor in possession bank accounts*:

Depository Name	Account Name	Account Number	Date Opened/ Opening Balance
_____	_____	_____	_____/_____
_____	_____	_____	_____/_____
_____	_____	_____	_____/_____

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided above, and any attachment hereto is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Date)

(Signature)

(Title)

(Printed Name of Signatory)

* Attach additional sheets if necessary.

INSURANCE EXPIRATION STATEMENT

CASE NAME: _____ CASE NUMBER: _____

COVERAGE/ PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	INSURANCE TYPE & PROPERTY INSURED	NAME/ADDRESS OF INSURANCE COMPANY	NAME OF INDIVIDUAL AGENT	EXPIRATION DATE OF POLICY	DATE COVERAGE PAID THRU
PROPERTY:					
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
LIABILITY:					
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
WORKERS COMP:					
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER:					
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided above and, on any attachments, hereto is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. (Attach additional sheets if necessary. Attach proof of coverage for each policy shown.)

_____ (Date)	_____ (Signature)	_____ (Printed Name & Title)
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U.S. Department of Justice

*Office of the United States Trustee
Districts of Kentucky and Tennessee*

*31 E. 11th Street
4th Floor
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402*

423/752-5153

FAX 423/752-5161

DEBTOR-IN-POSSESSION STATEMENT FOR DEPOSITORY

To: Designated Depository

From: Office of the United States Trustee

Case Name: _____

Bankruptcy Case No: _____

Date: _____

The Debtor-in-Possession has stated that the depository (from the attached listing) for the above styled case is

(Designated Depository)

This authorization may be used to establish one or more accounts at the selected depository. It should be provided to and left with bank personnel for their records when opening the debtor-in-possession account(s).

The authorized signatories on these accounts, which must be indicated below, may be determined by the debtor, an officer of the debtor, a general partner of the debtor, or the debtor's attorney.

Authorized Signatories

Title

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Debtor or Debtor's Attorney

U S Trustee – Region 8
Chattanooga TN

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE**

RELEASE

To: All Banks, Depositories and Financial Institutions

I, the undersigned, hereby authorize all banks, depositories and financial institutions (hereafter collectively “Depositories”) to release to the United States Trustee, Region 8, and successors in office (“UST”), or UST’s designee, any and all information requested by UST regarding any and all deposit accounts maintained by the undersigned bankruptcy debtor at all Depositories and containing estate funds in or related to cases pending under the provisions of title 11, United States Code (“Bankruptcy Code”) (all such accounts being hereafter collectively referred to as “Bankruptcy Accounts”), at any time. This Release authorizes Depositories to provide to UST all information pertaining to Bankruptcy Accounts, including, but not limited to, copies of bank statements, deposit slips, checks, electronic images, Image Replacement Documents, withdrawal slips, debits, or any other document evidencing any transaction affecting any Bankruptcy Accounts.

This Release shall remain in full force and effect so long as any Bankruptcy Accounts are maintained at any Depositories.

(Signature)

(Address)

(Printed name)

(Title)

(Bankruptcy Case Name)

(Bankruptcy Case Number)

(Date)

USTP Authorized Depository Institutions

Date: 2/2/2026

USTP Region:		8		
Districts:		Eastern District of Tennessee, Middle District of Tennessee, Western District of Tennessee, Eastern District of Kentucky, Western District of Kentucky		
<p>The following is a list of financial institutions that have been approved by the U.S. Trustee for the above region to serve as an authorized depository for the deposit of bankruptcy estate funds. This list is provided to assist Debtors in Possession, case trustees and other fiduciaries authorized to hold bankruptcy estate funds to comply with the requirements of section 345 of the Bankruptcy Code. Each financial institution listed has its own criteria for establishing accounts for requesting customers. There is no guarantee that the authorized depository will open an account for the deposit of bankruptcy estate funds or convert an existing bank account to a bankruptcy estate account. It is important to contact the specific bank to determine their individual requirements as to the opening of bankruptcy accounts.</p>				
Name of Authorized Depository		Contact Information	All Districts	Individual Districts If Applicable
Axos Bank	Axos Fiduciary Services 844-889-0896 banking@axosfs.com	Yes		
Cadence Bank	Paula Russell 662-680-2431 paula.russell@cadencebank.com	Yes		
Carroll Bank & Trust	Ashley Edwards 731-209-1632	Yes		
Central Bank & Trust Co.	David Moore 859-253-6222	No	Eastern District of Kentucky, Western District of Kentucky	
Citizens Bank NA	800-922-9999 CentralBankruptcyAccountReview@ cfgcustomers.com	Yes		
Citizens National Bank	Janice Parker 865-286-2603 jparker@cnbtn.com	Yes		

Community Trust Bank Inc.	Jennifer Blackburn 800-282-7762	Yes	
Customers Bank	Eli Rodriguez 980-420-4955 erodriguez1@customersbank.com	Yes	
East West Bank	Victor Owens 626-768-6933 victor.owens@eastwestbank.com	Yes	
F & M Bank	Pamela Settle Kelley 931-645-2400	Yes	
Fifth Third Bank	Branch Manager	No	Eastern District of Tennessee, Middle District of Tennessee, Eastern District of Kentucky, Western District of Kentucky
First Horizon Bank	Branch Manager 901-523-4883	Yes	
First Service Bank	Darla McJunkins 501-253-8608 darla.mcjunkins@firstservicebank.com	Yes	
Flagstar Bank	Yvonda Johnson-White 646-822-7501 yvonda.johnsonwhite@flagstar.com	Yes	
JP Morgan Chase Bank NA	(Existing customers only) jpmc.ust.bankruptcy.inquiries@jpmchase.com	Yes	
KeyBank NA	Linda Kucinski 216-689-8481	Yes	
Legends Bank	Lee Pedigo 931-503-1234 lpedigo@legendsbank.com	Yes	
Metropolitan Commercial Bank	George Kossaris gkossaris@mcbankny.com	Yes	

Ocean First Bank	Brian Wyremski bwyremski@oceanfirst.com	Yes	
Old National Bank	Jane Miller 812-461-9261 jane.miller@oldnational.com	Yes	
Peoples Bank of East Tennessee	Michelle Lovin 423-442-8238 mlovin@PBET.bank	Yes	
Pinnacle National Bank	Becky McIlwain 615-690-4005 becky.mcillwain@pnfp.com	Yes	
PNC Bank NA	Melissa Bitzer 412-762-2774 melissa.bitzer@pnc.com	Yes	
Premier Bank NA	www.DIPaccount.com	Yes	
Regions Bank	Kristen Birdson 205-264-4006 Dip@regions.com	Yes	
Republic Bank & Trust Co.	Caroline Robinson 502-561-7151 crobinson@republicbank.com	Yes	
Salyersville National Bank	Lane Blanton 606-349-3131 lblanton@salyersvillebank.com	Yes	
ServisFirst Bank	Bradford Vieira 615-921-3520 bvieira@servisfirstbank.com	Yes	
Studio Bank	Rick Sofilkanich 615-241-6054 rick.sofilkanich@studiobank.com	Yes	
Synovus Bank	Richard Arbuckle 770-468-8271 richardarbuckle@synovus.com	Yes	

Texas Capital Bank	Cathy Reynolds/Dan Luellen 972-656-6857	Yes	
Texas Traditions Bank	Yvette DelosReyes 281-505-9500 ydelosreyes@txtraditionsbank.com	Yes	
The First Bank & Trust Co.	Teresa Browning 276-623-2323 ttbrowning@firstbank.com	Yes	
The Peoples Bank	Amy M. Burris 270-629-5626 aburris@thepeoplesbank-ky.com	Yes	
Traditional Bank	Sarah Jefferson 859-469-7404 sjefferson@traditionalbank.com	Yes	
TriState Capital Bank	Martin McKown 877-304-0304 mmckown@tscbank.com	Yes	
Truist Bank	Branch Manager	Yes	
US Bank NA	US Bank Bankruptcy Dept 866-603-1571	Yes	
Veritex Community Bank	Kim Jones 731-316-7079 kjones@veritexbank.com	Yes	
Vista Bank	Robert Bruce 214-614-2652 rbruce@vistabank.com	Yes	
Webster Bank NA	Justin Roth 212-757-8082 jroth@websterbank.com	Yes	
Wells Fargo Bank NA	Luana Tafoya/Lori Pugh 503-721-5300	Yes	

Western Alliance Bank	Shaun Steinstra 602-389-3500	Yes
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