

**PRESS RELEASE**

**United States v. Bernard L. Madoff, 09 Cr. 213 (DC)**

**Proceedings of March 12, 2009**

The court proceedings in United States v. Madoff scheduled for March 12, 2009, will be held at 10 a.m. in Courtroom 24B on the 24th floor of the United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street.

**Seating**

Fifty seats in Courtroom 24B will be reserved for victims or their representatives.

A number of seats will be reserved for the press, including representatives of the courthouse press and sketch artists.

Remaining seats in 24B will be available on a first come first serve basis.

**Victim Statements**

Pursuant to the Crime Victims Protection Act, victims will be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard at the hearing on March 12th. Victims are reminded that the Court expects to address only two issues at this hearing: (1) whether to accept the plea (should Mr. Madoff plead guilty); and (2) whether Mr. Madoff should be remanded or continued on bail. Hence, victims will be heard only on these two issues. Victims who wish to be heard on sentencing, forfeiture, and restitution will be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard before or at the time of sentencing.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m., on March 12, 2009, two sign-in sheets will be placed outside Courtroom 24B. One sign-in sheet will be for victims who wish to be heard on the issue of acceptance of the plea and one sign-in sheet will be for victims who wish to be heard on the issue of bail. Victims who wish to be heard on these issues must sign the appropriate sign-in sheet. The Court may limit the number of speakers and the amount of time any person may speak.

**Overflow Viewing Rooms**

The Jury Assembly Room, located on the first floor of the Courthouse, and Courtroom 9B will serve as overflow viewing rooms. Closed-circuit audio and video feed of court proceedings may not be broadcast, televised, recorded, or photographed by any method for any purpose.

**Electronic Equipment**

The use of any form of electronic devices, e.g., recording equipment, BlackBerry, cellular phone, camera, receiver, or transmitter, is forbidden under Local Civil Rule 1.8. Such equipment may not be brought into the Courtroom. Laptops are permitted for note-taking if they are not connected to the internet and do not contain a camera.

Inquiries related to this case only should be directed to Gina Castellano at 212-805-0200.