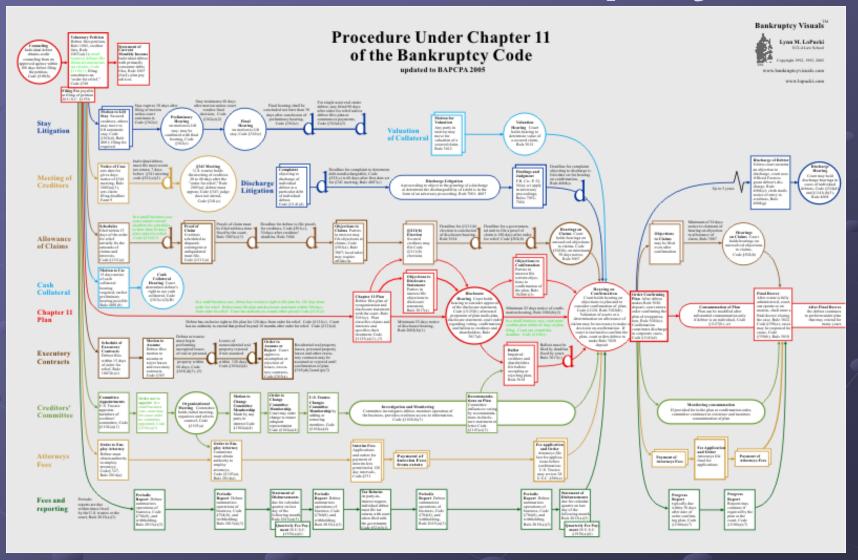
# Bankruptcy 101

The Basics of Bankruptcy

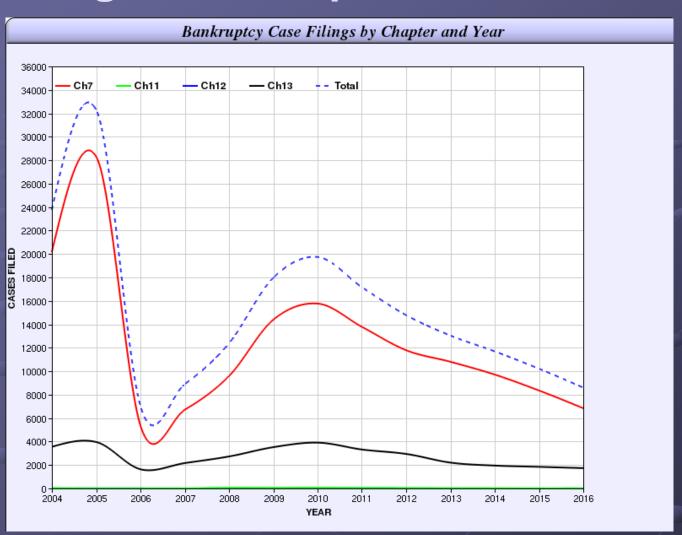
# **Advanced Bankruptcy**



## Sources of Bankruptcy Law

- The United States Constitution provides for a uniform system of bankruptcy.
- Bankruptcy Act of 1898
- Bankruptcy Code of 1978
- BAPCPA: Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005

### **Oregon Bankruptcies 2004-2016**



### Some Recent Cases









# Life Cycle of Bankruptcy Case

- Petition filed
- Trustee (or DIP) appointed
- First meeting of creditors
- Administration of estate (varies by chapter)
- Distribution to creditors
- Case closed

# Liquidation



### **The Mean Means Test**

- Debtor cannot file chapter 7 if he/she can repay a certain amount to unsecured creditors after taking into account certain expenses.
- A presumption of abuse created if:
  - Debtor can repay at least \$12,850 over 5 years; or
  - Debtor can repay at least \$129/month and that equals at least 25% of unsecured debt over 5 years

# Chapter 7 Assets

Car #1	HHG	<b>Cash</b> \$1,500	Retirement
House	Car #2	Personal Injury Claim	
	Car #3		

# **Chapter 7 Equity**

HHG Cash Retirement Car #1 – no equity \$3,000 \$1,500 \$400,000 fmv \$20,000 GMAC debt \$22,000 **Car #2** \$4,500 equity: Personal fmv is \$10,000 **House**--\$39,600 Injury GMAC debt is in equity Claim \$5,500 Car #3: \$4,000 equity: fmv is \$10,000; GMAC debt is \$6,000

# **Oregon Exemptions 2017**

#### Homestead

- ORS 18.395 Real property up to \$40,000 (\$50,000 if joint owners), including a manufactured home (defined by ORS 446.003) or floating home (defined by ORS 830.700)
- Sale proceeds exempt for one year if plan to and actually do purchase another home with them.

#### Personal Property

- ORS 18.345(1)(d) Motor vehicle to \$3,000;
- ORS 18.345(1)(b) Clothing, jewelry, personal items to \$1,800 total;
- ORS 18.345(1)(f) Household items, furniture, utensils, TVs and radios to \$3,000 total and food & fuel to last 60 days if debtor is householder;
- ORS 18.345(1)(a) Books, pictures & musical instruments to \$600 total;
- ORS 18.345(1)(n) Earned income tax credit;
- ORS 18.345(1)(e) Domestic animals & poultry with food to last 60 days up to \$1,000;
- ORS 18.345(1)(k) Personal injury recoveries up to \$10,000 for debtor or someone debtor depended upon as needed for support;
- ORS 18.345(1)(L) Lost earnings payments for debtor or someone debtor depended upon as needed for support;
- ORS 18.345(1)(p) \$400 of any personal property that is not already covered under any other exemption;
- ORS 18.362 One pistol and one rifle or shotgun if owned by person over the age of 16, up to cumulative total of \$1,000.

#### Wages

 ORS 18.385 - The greater of the following: \$218 per week or minimum of 75% of disposable wages.\*

# Federal Exemptions 2017

- **Homestead:** §522(d)(1), (5) Real property, including mobile homes and co-ops, or burial plots up to \$23,675. Unused portion of homestead, up to \$11,850 may be used for other property.
- **Personal Property:** §522(d)(2) Motor vehicle up to \$3,775.
- §522(d)(3) Animals, crops, clothing, appliances and furnishings, books, household goods, and musical instruments up to \$600 per item, and up to \$12,625 total.
- §522(d)(4) Jewelry up to \$1,600.
- §522(d)(9) Health aids.
- §522(d)(11)(B) Wrongful death recovery for person you depended upon.
- §522(d)(11)(D) Personal injury pmt up to \$23,675 except for pain & suffering or pecuniary loss.
- §522(d)(11)(E) Lost earnings payments.
- **Pensions:** §522(b)(3)(C) Tax exempt retirement accounts
- §522(b)(3)(C)(n) IRAS and Roth IRAs to \$1,283,025.
- Public Benefits: §522(d)(10)(A) Public assistance, SocSec, Veteran's benefits, Unemployment.
- §522(d)(11)(A) Crime victim's compensation.
- Tools of Trade: §522(d)(6) Implements, books and tools of trade, up to \$2,375.
- Alimony and Child Support: §522(d)(10)(D) Spousal/child support needed for support.
- **Insurance**: §522(d)(7) Unmatured life insurance policy except credit insurance.
- §522(d)(8) Life insurance policy with loan value up to \$12,625.
- §522(d)(10)( C ) Disability, unemployment or illness benefits.
- §522(d)(11)( C ) Life insurance pmts for a person you depended on, needed for support.
- Wildcard: §522(d)(5) \$1,250 of any property, and unused portion of homestead up to \$11,850.

# **Chapter 7 Estate Liquidation**

\$800 exempt HHG Retirement— Car #1 – no equity \$3,000 \$700 not entirely exempt exempt Personal Car #2 Injury Claim \$4300 exempt \$10,000 exempt **House**--\$39,600 \$200 not in equity exempt \$40,000 exempt if single; **Car #3** Excess over \$4,000 not \$10,000 not \$50,000 exempt if exempt exempt married.

## What Happens to Assets?

- Car #1: GMAC repossesses
- House: Debtors reaffirm
- Car #2: Debtors keep, reaffirm debt
- Car #3: Trustee sells, pays off GMAC, keeps
   \$4,000 for estate
- Cash: Debtors pay trustee \$700
- Personal Injury Claim: Trustee takes over case, pays debtor first \$10,000
- Retirement, HHG: Debtors keep

# **Pyramid of Priority**

Child Support

Trustee fees, other Administrative

Other Priority

Unsecured

Debtor/Debtor's Shareholders

## **Distribution of Cash**

#### Priority debts

- Child support
- Trustee and other administrative costs
- Wages owed to debtor's employees
- Taxes

#### Secured debts

GMAC gets \$6,000 (car #2 debt) from sale

#### Unsecured

Share remaining cash pro rata

# Discharge!

X \*\*

- Permanent Injunction
- Some debts excepted from discharge:
  - Child support
  - Recent taxes
  - Pre-bankruptcy luxury purchases and cash advances
  - Restitution
  - Civil penalties
  - Loan to pay taxes
  - Fraud, intentional torts\*

## **Frequent Filers**

- No discharge in chapter 7
  - If received discharge under chapters 7 or 11 within previous eight years; or
  - If received chapter 13 discharge within previous six years.
- No discharge in chapter 13
  - If received discharge under chapters 7 or 11 within previous four years; or
  - If received chapter 13 discharge within previous two years.

# Chapter 13 Reorganization

- --monthly payments of
- --net disposable income for
- --at least three, up to five years with
- -- "superdischarge" after all payments made

## The PLAN

- Chapter 13 plan must:
  - Pay all priority debt in full
  - Pay secured creditors current value of claim
- Chapter 13 plan may:
  - "Strip down" some secured debt
  - Cure mortgage arrearages
  - Allow debtor to sell property

## **Confirmation of Plan**

- Minimums under old law:
  - Case must be filed in good faith,
  - Plan must pay unsecured creditors at least what would have received in chapter 7 (Best Interest of Creditors test)
  - Plan must be proposed in good faith

## Confirmation under BAPCPA

- Plan must pay pre-petition secured arrearages in equal monthly installments.
- Plan payments must provide adequate protection to creditors with security interest in personal property.
- Debtor must have paid all domestic support obligations due after filing.
- Debtor must have filed all federal, state, and local tax returns.

## Duration of Chapter 13 Plans

#### **OLD LAW**

Most chapter 13 plans lasted three years, but could last up to five years with court's approval.

#### **NEW LAW**

If annual family income exceeds state annual median income, must propose five-year repayment plan.

# The Not-So-Super Discharge

#### **OLD LAW**

Debtors who completed a plan received a

"super discharge"

- Fraud
- Breach of fiduciary duty
- Willful and malicious injury
- Some otherwise nondischargeable taxes
- Civil restitution
- Civil penalties

#### **NEW LAW**

- No discharge for debts arising out of
  - Fraud
  - Breach of fiduciary duty
  - Willful and malicious injury, including civil restitution
- May discharge some taxes, civil penalties

### How It Used to Work

Debtors were offered incentives to file chapter 13:

- Interest stopped on all priority debt
- Superdischarge was available
- Strip down vehicle loans to value of collateral

Even with incentives, only **30%** of chapter 13 cases reached the goal line of discharge.

### **How It Works Now**

- It's still a mystery!
  - There are at least seven different ways to calculate net disposable income;
  - No statistics on success rates;
  - Many more marginal debtors are in chapter 13 cases;
  - Interest continues to accrue on non-dischargeable debt
- The cost of chapter 13, both to debtors and creditors, has skyrocketed.
- In short, it's a



#### • What is <u>disposable income</u>?

- If debtor's annual income is less than state annual median income (\$80,170 for four-member family):
  - Debtor's current monthly income
  - Minus debtor's actual, reasonably necessary expenses for maintenance and support
  - = Disposable Income
- If debtor's annual income is more than state annual median income:
  - Debtor's current monthly income
  - Minus debtor's actual, reasonably necessary expenses for maintenance and support as established by strict IRS guidelines
  - = Disposable Income

# Automatic Stay



## What is the Automatic Stay?

#### Forbids efforts to:

- collect pre-petition debt
- continue court or administrative proceedings
- control property of the bankruptcy estate
- create, perfect or enforce a lien against property

The automatic stay applies to governmental units just as it does to private creditors.

# **Exceptions to Automatic Stay**

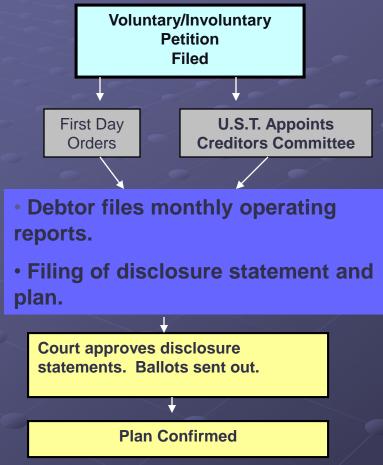
# Paternity and Child Support



## Tax Audit and Assessment



# Chapter 11 (Business Reorganization)



Chapter 11 Plan governs relations between re-organized debtor and creditors.

# Chapter 11: Convert or Dismiss For Cause

#### **OLD LAW**

Courts could dismiss case for cause:

- Loss to estate and unlikelihood of rehabilitation.
- Inability to effectuate plan.
- Unreasonable delay.
- > Failure to propose plan.
- > Denial of confirmation of proposed plan.
- No payment of fees.

# Chapter 11: Convert or Dismiss For Cause

#### **NEW LAW**

Courts **MUST** convert or dismiss case if cause exists. Adds new further grounds for cause:

- Failure to maintain insurance.
- Unauthorized use of cash collateral.
- Unexcused failure to file a document.
- Failure to attend first meeting of creditors or Rule 2004 examination.
- Failure to pay taxes.
- Failure to pay domestic support obligation.

## **Proofs of Claim**

04/16

**FILED** 

U.S. Bankruptcy Court District of Idaho

8/23/2017

Stephen W. Kenyon, Clerk

Case 16-01332-JDP Claim 1 Filed 08/23/17 Desc Main Document Page 1 of 3

Read the instructions before filling out this form. This form is for making a claim for payment in a bankruptcy case. Do not use this form to

Fill in this information to identify the case:

United States Bankruptcy Court District of Idaho

Debtor 1 Marlin Pohlman

Official Form 410
Proof of Claim

Debtor 2 (Spouse, if filing)

Do you know if anyone else has filed a proof of claim for this claim?	✓ No ☐ Yes. Who made the earlier filing?					
Does this claim amend one already filed?	Yes. Claim number on court claims registry (if known	) I Filed on 05/05/2017  MM / DD / YYYY				
	Contact email  Uniform claim identifier for electronic payments in chapter	Contact email				
	Contact phone	Contact phone				
Bankruptcy Procedure (FRBP) 2002(g)	Central Trust P.O. Box 14400 Salem, OR 97309					
Where should notices and payments to the creditor be sent?  Federal Rule of	Where should notices to the creditor be sent?  Oregon Department of Corrections  Name	Where should payments to the creditor be sent? (if different)				
Has this claim been acquired from someone else?	M No ☐ Yes. From whom?					
	Name of the current creditor (the person or entity to be paid Other names the creditor used with the debtor	for this claim)				
.Who is the current creditor?						
Part 1: Identify the Clai		on the notice of bankruptcy (Form 309) that you receive				
person who files a fraudulent	claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 ye	ears, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.				
xplain in an attachment.		,				
	It information that is entitled to privacy on this form or on any m, such as promissory notes, purchase orders, invoices, item nents. Do not send original documents; they may be destro					

6.Do you have any number you use to identify the debtor?	□	No Yes. Last 4 digits of the debtor's a	occount or any number you use	to identify the	debtor:	6114
7.How much is the claim?	\$		Ooes this amount included No ☐ Yes. Attach statement other charges required	itemizing into	erest, fees	s expenses or
8.What is the basis of the claim?	Bai	amples: Goods sold, money lo ath, or credit card. Attach reda nkruptcy Rule 3001(c). nit disclosing information that is	aned, lease, services per cted copies of any docum s entitled to privacy, such	formed, pers nents suppor as healthca	sonal injur ting the cl re informa	y or wrongful aim required by
=	Civil restitution (\$2,732.46); Copies (\$353.70); Postage (\$211.62); County Court (\$477.22); Federal Court (\$299.02)					
9. Is all or part of the claim secured?		No Yes. The claim is secured by Nature of property: Real estate. If the clain Proof of C Motor vehicle Other. Describe:	a lien on property. n is secured by the debto Claim Attachment (Official	r's principal r Form 410−A	residence,	file a Mortgage Proof of Claim.
		Basis for perfection:  Attach redacted copies of do interest (for example, a mort document that shows the lie	gage, lien, certificate of t	itle financino	of perfecti	on of a security
		Value of property:	\$	,		
		Amount of the claim that is secured:	s \$			
		Amount of the claim that is unsecured:	\$	u	nsecured	of the secured and amounts should amount in line 7.)
		Amount necessary to cure date of the petition:	any default as of the	\$	1	
		Annual Interest Rate (when	case was filed)	9/	5	
		☐ Fixed ☐ Variable				
0.ls this claim based on a lease?		No Yes. Amount necessary to	cure any default as of t	he date of th	ne petition	n.\$
1.Is this claim subject to a right of setoff?		No Yes. Identify the property:				
official Form 410		Proo	f of Claim			page 2

## **Proofs of Claim**

Case 16-01332-JDP Claim 1 Filed 08/23/17 Desc Main Document Page 3 of 3

☐ Domestic		₹ No Yes. Check all that apply: Amount entitled to			
under 11	☐ Domestic support obligations (including alimony and child support) under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B).				
property of	☐ Up to \$2,850* of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or household use. 11				
☐ Wages, s 180 days	☐ Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to \$12,850*) earned within 180 days before the bankruptcy petition is filed or the debtor's				
☐ Taxes or	☐ Taxes or penalties owed to governmental units. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(8).				
☐ Contributi	☐ Contributions to an employee benefit plan. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).				
Other. Sp	☐ Other. Specify subsection of 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(_) that applies				
<ul> <li>Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/01/19 and every 3 years after that for cases begun on of adjustment.</li> </ul>					
Check the approp	riate box:				
☐ I am the cree	I am the creditor.				
I am the creditor's attorney or authorized agent.					
I am the trus	tee, or the debtor	r, or their authorized agent. Bankruptcy	Rule 3004.		
그 그 그렇게 되어왔다면서 맛있는 사람들이 많아 되었다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하다면 하					
I understand that an authorized signature on this Proof of Claim serves as an acknowledgment that when calculating the amount of the claim, the creditor gave the debtor credit for any payments received toward the debt.					
I have examined the information in this Proof of Claim and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct.  I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.					
Executed on date	8/23/2017				
	MM / DD /	YYYY			
/s/ Carolyn G. Wa	de				
Signature					
Print the name of the person who is completing and signing this claim:					
Name		Carolyn G. Wade			
		First name Middle name Last name			
Title		Senior Assistant Attorney General			
Company		Oregon Department of Justice			
		Identify the corporate servicer as the company servicer	if the authorized agent is a		
Address		1162 Court Street NE			
		Number Street			
		Salem, OR 97301			
		City State ZIP Code			
Contact phone	541 696 7916		letiklei etake ee ee		
	property U.S.C. §:  Wages, s. 180 days 180 says	property or services for pe U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).  Wages, salaries, or committee of the person of the bankr business ends, whichever Taxes or penalties owed to 507(a)(8).  Other. Specify subsection:  Amounts are subject to adjustment of adjustment.  Check the appropriate box:  I am the creditor.  I am the creditor.  I am a guarantor, surety, end understand that an authorized signature the amount of the claim, the creditor gave I have examined the information in this Prand cornect.  I declare under penalty of perjury that the Executed on date  Executed on date  8/23/2017  MM / DO //  /s/ Carolyn G. Wade  Signature  Title  Company  Address	property or services for personal, family, or household use. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).  Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to \$12,850°) earned within 180 days before the bankruptory petition is filled or the debtor's business ends, whichever is earlier. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4).  Taxes or penalties owed to governmental units. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).  Contributions to an employee benefit plan. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).  Other. Specify subsection of 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(_) that applies "Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/01/19 and every 3 years after that for case of adjustment.  Check the appropriate box:  I am the creditor.  I am the creditor's attorney or authorized agent.  I am the routies, or the debtor, or their authorized agent. Bankruptory I am a pustamtor, surely, endorser, or other codebtor. Bankruptory II am an amborated signature on this Proof of Claim seves as an acknosledge the amount of the claim, the creditor gave the debtor credit for any payments incoined too I have examined the information in this Proof of Claim and have a reasonable belief that the and cornect.  Executed on date  8/23/2017  MM / DD / YYYY  /s/ Carolyn G. Wade  First name Middle name Last name. Schion, OR 97391  City State ZIP Code		

Official Form 410 Proof of Claim page 3

## **Avoidable Transfers**

- Preferences
- Fraudulent Conveyances
- Post-Petition Transfers

## Preferences

Preferences are transfers of property of the debtor:

- Made for the benefit of a creditor;
- Made on account of an antecedent debt;
- Made while the debtor was insolvent;
- Made within 90 days before the filing of the bankruptcy (one year, if transfer is to insider);
- That allow the creditor to receive more than it would have if the transfer had not occurred and the creditor had received a distribution under a chapter 7.

## **Fraudulent Transfers**

### Transfers of property of the debtor:

- Within two years before the filing of the bankruptcy;
- Made either
  - with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud a creditor;
     or
  - for less than reasonably equivalent value
    - while the debtor was insolvent or
    - when the debtor was engaged in business with unreasonably small capital; or
    - intended to incur debts he couldn't pay; or
    - to an insider under an "employment contract" not in the ordinary course of business.

## **Post-Petition Transfers**

Post-Petition transfers are transfers of property of the estate:

- Made after the commencement of the case;
- That are not authorized by the bankruptcy code or the bankruptcy court.

### **Advice to Agencies**

### After the debtor has filed for bankruptcy, you may:

- Continue administrative process under "police power" exception in § 362(b)(4)
- Address license issues and assess civil penalties and/or costs on any orders issued post-petition
- File proofs of claim for already-assessed debts
  - Where nothing is final yet, give estimate and say "estimated" after amount
  - Amend proofs of claim to include additional debts once orders are entered
- Start counting 60 days to finality of any not-yet-final order – when final, you can collect civil penalties

## After debtor has filed for bankruptcy, you may NOT:

- Include bankruptcy as factor in your proceedings because it would violate §525
- Undertake any collection efforts on any debts during bankruptcy because it would violate automatic stay

### Certain costs and penalties are discharged

- If debtor receives any kind of discharge, costs in prepetition final orders are discharged
- If debtor receives full discharge under §1328(a) in ch.
   13, civil penalties are discharged
- If debtor receives hardship discharge under §1328(b), then civil penalties are NOT discharged

## **Agency Questions**

#### Effect of automatic stay on collection efforts

- Multiple parties responsible on single account
  - Automatic stay protects ONLY debtors in bankruptcy and property of the estate
  - If debtor is corporation, debtor's owners are NOT protected
  - If debtor is individual:
    - LLC member files for bankruptcy, LLC is not debtor in that bankruptcy, so LLC is NOT protected
    - Corporation's shareholder/officer files for bankruptcy, corporation is not debtor in that bankruptcy, so corporation is NOT protected
    - Partnership's partner files for bankruptcy, partnership is not debtor in that bankruptcy, so partnership is NOT protected
    - Sole proprietor of business files for bankruptcy, business IS included in that bankruptcy, so business IS protected
  - Chapter 13 co-debtor stay only applies to consumer debts,
     which agency does not collect, so agency can go and collect

# Secured portion of proof of claim with recorded warrant

- Value of property minus amount of any senior liens = secured portion of proof of claim
  - Example: Property value = \$500,000. 1st, 2nd and 3rd trust deeds ahead of agency = \$450,000 total. Agency's secured claim = \$50,000.
  - Example: Property value = \$500,000. Agency recorded warrant before 3<sup>rd</sup> trust deed. Agency's secured claim = \$150,000 and 3<sup>rd</sup> trust deed may be completely unsecured.
- Unsecured portion of agency's proof of claim is likely unsecured, though possibly priority, depending on facts and timing of claim

### Notice of debtor's bankruptcy to agency

- Debtors are required to notify each state agency separately, but they often fail to do this
- If your agency is not listed as a creditor in debtor's bankruptcy schedules, but you find out about it from sources other than debtor and his/her attorney:
  - Proceed as if your agency had been listed in bankruptcy schedules
  - Debt to your agency is NOT discharged if you received notice too late to file non-dischargeability complaint
  - Debt to your agency is NOT discharged if you received notice too late to participate in distribution to unsecured creditors
  - Debt to your agency is discharged if you received notice in time to participate in bankruptcy but did not (and debt is of type that is dischargeable)

# Efforts to collect on pre-petition vs. post-petition debt

- Is debt really post-petition debt? (Were the actions taken by debtor giving rise to the debt post-petition?)
- What kind of bankruptcy is it? (Chapter 7 has different result than chapter 13 or chapter 11)
- What actions do you want to take? (Administrative? Collection? Recording a warrant?)
- Remember that debtor's assets and bankruptcy estate's assets are off-limits
- Contact DOJ to work through these questions

### REMEMBER

- Be careful! Before taking any collection action, be sure you are not violating the automatic stay.
- Be vigilant to protect your rights under chapters 7, 11, or 13
  - Review plans carefully and call DOJ if you think the debtor is trying to impair your claim.
  - File proof of claims early.
  - Give notice to the debtor and court about where you want notices to be filed.
- Most important, if you have any question about bankruptcy, call DOJ for help!









It's QUESTION TIME!!