

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND



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NOTICE

**EFFECTIVE JULY 12, 2010, THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICING CENTER WILL NOT MAIL NOTICES TO
A CREDITOR IF ADDRESS IS INVALID**

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland uses the Bankruptcy Noticing Center (“BNC”) to mail notices, but the BNC can only do so if an address is valid. If an address is not valid, the United States Postal Service (“USPS”) treats this as sending mail to an “undeliverable address.” Reasons for undeliverable mail may include: incomplete address; moved to a foreign address; moved and left no forwarding address; post office box closed; and forwarding order expired.

Since the start of the BNC program, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts has authorized the BNC to bypass notices with incomplete addresses. Effective July 12, 2010, the BNC will no longer print and mail notices to undeliverable addresses for the additional reasons stated above. Instead, the BNC will mail a notification to the debtor or debtor’s attorney¹ stating that the notice was bypassed. The bypass notification will: (1) include a copy of the notice that the BNC did not mail to the undeliverable address; (2) identify the creditor and the undeliverable address; (3) instruct the debtor to immediately mail the undelivered notice to the creditor; (4) inform the debtor that the BNC will not mail future notices to the undeliverable address; and (5) include space on the notification for the debtor to insert a corrected address for the creditor.

Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rules 1007-1 and 1007-3, it is the responsibility of the debtor to provide current mailing addresses for creditors listed on the petition. The District of Maryland will no longer issue a “returned mail letter” for undeliverable addresses which the BNC cannot mail. Any incorrect address provided to the court cannot be used for future noticing purposes. Please file with the court the BNC bypass form or an amendment to the matrix and a certification of completed mailing of the document(s).

The BNC will continue to identify undeliverable addresses for creditors on each BNC Certificate of Notice under the category “Bypassed Recipients.” The BNC will also include the reason why a creditor’s address was bypassed and state that the debtor or debtor’s attorney was notified that the address was undeliverable. Please note that the BNC will continue to mail notices to undeliverable addresses under the following conditions: (1) the address is for a debtor; or (2) the address is for a creditor who, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 342(f), has filed a preferred address with the BNC for all cases or who, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 342(e), has filed a preferred address with the court for a particular case. The BNC will attempt to contact the preferred address recipient regarding the need for address correction. Providing valid addresses will reduce the volume of returned mail that the debtor, debtor’s attorney and the courts receive, and it will avoid unnecessary postage costs.

¹ Notice to debtor’s attorney will begin with the implementation of CM/ECF Ver. 4.0 which is expected in late Summer/early Fall of 2010