

**SO ORDERED**



*Thomas J. Catliota*  
THOMAS J. CATLIOTA  
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

In re: \*  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC PROCEDURES \* Miscellaneous Proceeding No.  
\* 20-90006  
\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 20-10  
ADDRESSING (I) MODIFICATION OF CONFIRMED PLANS PURSUANT TO THE  
CARES ACT, AND (II) EXPEDITED TREATMENT OF CHAPTER 13 MOTIONS TO  
SUSPEND PLAN PAYMENTS OR TO VACATE WAGE ORDERS**

In response to the current state of emergency concerning the spread of COVID-19, and the corresponding health and economic challenges faced by the citizens of Maryland, this Court will (i) establish interim procedures for motions to modify confirmed Chapter 13 plans under 11 U.S.C. § 1329(d) (§ 1113(b)(1)(C) of the CARES Act), and (ii) temporarily amend its procedures relating to Chapter 13 motions to suspend plan payments for up to four months or motions to temporarily vacate wage orders for up to four months. The procedures in this Order override any current practice or deadline for resolving these motions that would apply under Court order, Standing Order 2020-07 of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, or the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the District of Maryland. *To the extent debtors may require additional relief from other Chapter 13*

*deadlines, any party may file a motion to shorten the time to respond to any filing or to take any other action.*<sup>1</sup>

Therefore, it is, by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland, hereby

ORDERED, that a motion for approval of a modification of a confirmed plan to extend the term of the plan to no more than seven years in accordance with 11 U.S.C § 1329(d) (a “CARES Act Modification Motion”) shall (i) include information to support the requested relief under § 1329(d)(1)(A), (ii) be accompanied by an affidavit verifying such information, and (iii) conspicuously state that the debtor is seeking the modification pursuant to § 1329(d); and it is further

ORDERED, the deadline to object to a CARES Act Modification Motion shall be twenty-one (21) days from the date of service; and it is further

ORDERED, that except as modified by the terms of this Order, Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-4 shall apply to a CARES Act Modification Motion; and it is further

ORDERED, that a motion to suspend plan payments for up to four months or a motion to vacate a current wage order for up to four months (either, a “Moratorium Motion”) shall be accompanied by a proposed order and an affidavit or other evidence supporting the need for the requested relief; and it is further

ORDERED, the deadline to object to a Moratorium Motion for any party other than a Chapter 13 Standing Trustee shall be seven (7) days from the date of service; and it is further

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<sup>1</sup> The Court’s website contains links to suggested forms for filing motions to shorten time to respond to a filing or to set an expedited hearing, and a proposed order to file with the motion.  
<https://www.mdb.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/MotionToShortenTime.docx>;  
<https://www.mdb.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/OrderOnMotionToShortenTime.docx>

ORDERED, the Court will consider a Moratorium Motion after (1) the lapse of a seven-day objection deadline and (2) the filing of a line of no opposition to the Motion by the applicable Chapter 13 Standing Trustee; and it is further

ORDERED, that Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(b)(3) is modified to the extent necessary to implement the shorter objection period set by this Order; and it is further

ORDERED, the Moratorium Motion and proposed order must state that the Moratorium Motion, if approved, does not reduce the overall funding in the confirmed plan by the amount of the suspended payments, and that the debtor will file a motion to modify the plan to obtain that result if intended; and it is further

ORDERED, that any party adversely affected by the Court's resolution of the Moratorium Motion on an expedited basis may file a motion for reconsideration within fourteen (14) days of service of notice of the entry of such order.

**END OF ORDER**