

# Tidewater Bankruptcy Bar Association e-Newsletter

November 2011



## Dear TBBA Members:

It is hard to believe that another year is coming to an end as we enter another busy Holiday season. Be sure to mark your calendars for the TBBA's Annual Holiday Social event that is scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Scottie Quixx.

The TBBA is committed to communicating with its members regarding new developments and any news that will keep the members informed. We encourage any members who have any professional or personal news or announcements that they would like to communicate to TBBA members, to forward the information to us. We include these items in future newsletters.

TBBA membership continues to grow. The continued success of the TBBA requires a strong membership base. If you know of anyone who would benefit from membership in the TBBA, please pass along an invitation to join.

Sincerely,  
John R. Bollinger  
TBBA Communications Chair

## 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Judges' Corner

Please find below some **very important** information received from the Chambers of Judges St. John and Santoro to be passed on to our members.

### **IMPORTANT PLEASE READ**

The Judges' Chambers of the Bankruptcy Court have received several inquiries from staff of attorneys authorized to practice here, where the calling staff member has become argumentative, strident and highly disrespectful of the Court's staff. We wish to take this opportunity to remind you it remains our expectation that all attorneys and their staff interact with the Court in a respectful and professional manner. It is also the Court's expectation that your staff's interactions with the Court will be conducted only at your direction and will be supervised by you. If your staff members are incapable of treating the Court with respect, you would be well advised to instruct them not to contact the Court. Should this problem persist, be aware we are prepared to prohibit anyone from an offending office except for the admitted attorney to engage in any communication with the Court. We also will consider whether the conduct is sufficiently offensive to issue a show cause to the attorney whose staff member has interacted unprofessionally with the Court directing the attorney to appear to show cause why his or her privilege to practice before our Court should not be suspended or revoked. It is unquestionable that the attorneys who practice before our Court and their staff are exceptionally busy. However, despite the demands on us all, nothing short of professional and respectful conduct on the part of our attorneys and *their staff* will be tolerated.

Judges St. John and Santoro

## US Trustee's Corner

### **Change In Norfolk Chapter 7 § 341 Meeting Schedule**

Effective January 1, 2012, in an effort to avoid conflicts with the court's docket, the Office of the U.S. Trustee will schedule chapter 7 § 341 meetings in Norfolk on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and also on Wednesdays. At this time, Wednesday meetings will be scheduled either in the morning or afternoon. If the need arises, there may be meetings scheduled for both Wednesday morning and afternoon when it does not conflict with the Newport News chapter 7 meeting schedule. On occasion, meetings may be scheduled on Tuesday or Thursday mornings to accommodate increased case filings or a federal holiday.

### **Fire Alarm Building/Evacuation Procedures for Room 120, U.S. Trustee Hearing Room**

During the last scheduled fire drill in the Norfolk Federal Building in October, the occupants of the U.S. Trustee hearing room did not quickly or properly evacuate the room and building. When the alarm system for the building is activated, all personnel and visitors to the building must exit the building. After exiting the building through the northwest door near A.J. Gator's, hearing room occupants are required to proceed to the Food Court on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level of MacArthur Mall. From there, we are notified by building personnel when it is safe to return to the building.

Standing around outside of a building that may have a fire or bomb incident is not safe for you or your clients. Anyone needing special assistance to evacuate or travel away from the building can check with a hall monitor in the hall or lobby.

Please follow the procedures for proper evacuation during fire drills or actual incidents. The drills occur on the average of only twice a year.

## Law Updates

We would like to keep everyone apprised of relevant changes to federal and state law on a regular basis. Please make note that Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure are being amended and the changes to these federal rules become effective on December 1, 2011. Specifically, the following Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure are being amended- Bankruptcy Rules 1004.2, 2003, 2019, 3001, 3002.1, 4004, 6003 and Bankruptcy Forms , 9A-9I, 10 and 25A. You are encouraged to review and familiarize yourself with these changes prior to the effective date. You may view a summary of the changes on the United States Courts website at:

<http://www.uscourts.gov/RulesAndPolicies/FederalRulemaking/PendingRules.aspx>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTES

Congratulations to Peter Zooberg and his wife Amber for the birth of a healthy baby boy on September 6, 2011.

## SAVE THE DATES

### **TBBA Holiday Social -**

**Date: Thursday, December 8, 2011**

**Location: Scotty Quixx**

### **TBBA 20th Annual CLE Seminar-**

**Date: February 10, 2012**

**Location: The Westin, Virginia Beach Towne Center**

**Schedule of Speakers: To Be Provided shortly**

**The TBBA is constantly looking for speakers and topic ideas for its annual and /or luncheon seminars. If you have a topic and are interested in speaking please contact Cullen Drescher at [cdrescher@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:cdrescher@mcguirewoods.com). Your contribution is always appreciated.**