## BANKRUPTCY INFORMATION SHEET

## BANKRUPTCY LAW IS A FEDERAL LAW. THIS SHEET PROVIDES YOU WITH GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS IN A BANKRUPTCY CASE. THE INFORMATION HERE IS NOT COMPLETE. YOU MAY NEED LEGAL ADVICE.

## WHEN YOU FILE BANKRUPTCY

You can choose the kind of bankruptcy that best meets your needs (provided you meet certain qualifications):

Chapter 7 - A trustee is appointed to take over your property. Any property of value will be sold or turned into money to pay your creditors. You may be able to keep some personal items and possibly real estate depending on the law of the State where you live and applicable federal laws.

Chapter 13- You can usually keep your property, but you must earn wages or have some other source of regular income and you must agree to pay part of your income to your creditors. The court must approve your repayment plan and your budget. A trustee is appointed and will collect the payments from you, pay your creditors, and make sure you live up to the terms of your repayment plan.

Chapter 12 - Like Chapter 13, but it is only for family farmers and family fishermen.

Chapter 11 - This is used mostly by businesses. In Chapter 11, you may continue to operate your business, but your creditors and the court must approve a plan to repay your debts. There is no trustee unless the judge decides that one is necessary; if a trustee is appointed, the trustee takes control of your business and property.

If you have already filed bankruptcy under chapter 7 , you may be able to change your case to another chapter.

Your bankruptcy may be reported on your credit record for as long as ten years. It can affect your ability to receive credit in the future.

## WHAT IS BANKRUPTCY DISCHARGE AND HOW DOES IT OPERATE?

One of the reasons people file bankruptcy is to get a "discharge". A discharge is a court order which states that you do not have to pay most of your debts. Some debts cannot be discharged. For example, you cannot discharge debts for -

```
- most taxes;
- child support;
- alimony;
- most student loans;
- court fines and criminal restitution; and
- personal injury caused by driving drunk or under the influence of drugs.
```

The discharge only applies to debts that arose before the date you filed. Also, if the judge finds that you received money or property by fraud, that debt may not be discharged.

It is important to list all your property and debts in your bankruptcy schedules. If you do not list a debt, for example, it is possible the debt will not be discharged. The judge can also deny your discharge if you do something dishonest in connection with your bankruptcy case, such as destroy or hide property, falsify records, or lie, or if you disobey a court order.

You can only receive a chapter 7 discharge once every eight years. Other rules may apply if you have previously received a discharge in a Chapter 13 case. No one can make you pay debt that has been discharged, but you can voluntarily pay any debt you wish to pay. You do not have to sign a reaffirmation agreement (see below) or any other kind of document to do this.

Some creditors hold a secured claim (for example, the bank that holds the mortgage on your house or the loan company that has a lien on your car). You do not have to pay a secured claim if the debt is discharged, but the creditor can still take the property.

## WHAT IS A REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT?

Even if a debt can be discharged, you may have special reasons why you want to promise to pay it. For example, you may want to work out a plan with the bank to keep your car. To promise to pay that debt, you must sign and file a reaffirmation agreement with the court. Reaffirmation agreements are under special rules and are voluntary. They are not required by bankruptcy law or by any other law. Reaffirmation agreements -

- must be voluntary;
- must not place too heavy a burden on you or your family;
- must be in your best interest; and
- can be canceled anytime before the court issues your discharge or within 60 days after the agreement is filed with the court, whichever gives you the most time.

If you are an individual and you are not represented by an attorney, the court must hold a hearing to decide whether to approve the reaffirmation agreement. The agreement will not be legally binding until the court approves it.

If you reaffirm a debt and then fail to pay it, you owe the debt the same as though there was no bankruptcy. The debt will not be discharged and the creditor can take action to recover any property on which it has a lien or mortgage. The creditor can also take legal action to recover a judgment against you.

## CREDITORS LIST (Page 1)

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address:
Balance:

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

## CREDITORS LIST (Page 2)

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address:
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address:
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name: $\qquad$
Account\#: $\qquad$
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

Name:
Account\#:
Complete Address: $\qquad$
Balance: $\qquad$

# PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS OFFICE HAS NOT COMMITTED TO REPRESENTATION UNTIL ALL OF THE BELOW INFORMATION AND ENCLOSED INFORMATION IS PROVIDED TO THIS FIRM 

## Bankruptcy Checklist Confirmation

I, $\qquad$ have been advised that the following information is
needed before a Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Petition is filed:

1. A list of all my creditors with their most recent address, account number and account balances;
2. Payroll check stubs or a printout from my employer showing my income for the past six (6) months;
3. Federal and State Income Tax Returns for the past three (3) years;
4. If you are self-employed, I will need your operating reports for the past seven (7) months. (Operating reports are your expenses and income for the business);
5. A list for the make and model of all motor vehicles that are titled in your name or your spouse's name. In addition, I will need the name of the Lienholder and their address;
6. A list of all real property you may have titled in your name, i.e. your home, any unimproved property and any property you may have inherited;
7. A list of all your household furnishings and furniture;
8. If you are self-employed a list of all your tools utilized in your trade; and
9. The name and address of all persons living in your home; and
10. Bank Accounts and copy of statements for past two (2) months.

Also, I understand I must attend Credit Counseling and obtain a Certificate of Counseling from one of the credit counseling agencies approved by the Bankruptcy Court.

Sincerely,
Charles W. Bell

Fill in this information to identify your case:

| Debtor 1 | First Name | Middle Name | Last Name |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Debtor 2 <br> (Spouse, if filing) |  |  |  |
|  | First Name | Middle Name | Last Name |
| United States Bankruptcy Court for the: |  |  | District of |
| Case number (If known) |  |  |  |

## Official Form B61 <br> Schedule I: Your Income

Be as complete and accurate as possible. If two married people are filing together (Debtor 1 and Debtor 2), both are equally responsible for supplying correct information. If you are married and not filing jointly, and your spouse is living with you, include information about your spouse. If you are separated and your spouse is not filing with you, do not include information about your spouse. If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write your name and case number (if known). Answer every question.

## Part 1: Describe Employment

1. Fill in your employment information.

|  | Debtor 1 | Debtor 2 or non-filing spouse |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| Employment status | $\square$ | $\square$ |  |
|  |  | $\square$ | Employed |
| Occupation |  | $\square$ |  |

If you have more than one job, attach a separate page with information about additional employers.


How long employed there? $\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Part 2: Give Details About Monthly Income

Estimate monthly income as of the date you file this form. If you have nothing to report for any line, write $\$ 0$ in the space. Include your non-filing spouse unless you are separated.
If you or your non-filing spouse have more than one employer, combine the information for all employers for that person on the lines below. If you need more space, attach a separate sheet to this form.
2. List monthly gross wages, salary, and commissions (before all payroll deductions). If not paid monthly, calculate what the monthly wage would be.
3. Estimate and list monthly overtime pay.
4. Calculate gross income. Add line $2+$ line 3.

$\qquad$


Fill in this information to identify your case:

| Debtor 1 |  | Middle Name | Lasl Name |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Debtor 2 <br> (Spouse, if filing) | Firsi Name | Middle Name | Lasl Name |
| United States Bankruptcy Court for the: |  | District of |  |
| Case number <br> (If known) |  |  |  |

## Official Form B6J <br> Schedule J: Your Expenses

Be as complete and accurate as possible. If two married people are filing together, both are equally responsible for supplying correct information. If more space is needed, attach another sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write your name and case number (if known). Answer every question.

## Part 1: Describe Your Household

1. Is this a joint case?
$\square$ No. Go to line 2.
$\square$ Yes. Does Debtor 2 live in a separate household?
$\square$ No
Yes. Debtor 2 must file a separate Schedule J.
2. Do you have dependents?

Do not list Debtor $\uparrow$ and Debtor 2.
No
Yes. Fill out this information for
each dependent................................

| Dependent's relationship to <br> Debtor 1 or Debtor 2 | Dependent's <br> age | Does dependent Ilve <br> with you? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | $\square$ |  |

3. Do your expenses include
expenses of people other than $\quad \square$ No expenses of people other than
yourself and your dependents? $\quad \square$ Yes

## Part 2: Estimate Your Ongoing Monthly Expenses

Estimate your expenses as of your bankruptcy filing date unless you are using this form as a supplement in a Chapter 13 case to report expenses as of a date after the bankruptcy is filed. If this is a supplemental Schedule $J$, check the box at the top of the form and fill in the applicable date.
Include expenses paid for with non-cash government assistance if you know the value of such assistance and have included it on Schedule I: Your Income (Official Form B 6I.)
4. The rental or home ownership expenses for your residence. Include first mortgage payments and any rent for the ground or lot.

If not included in line 4:
4a. Real estate taxes
4b. Property, homeowner's, or renter's insurance
4c. Home maintenance, repair, and upkeep expenses
4d. Homeowner's association or condominium dues
Your expenses
4. $\qquad$
$\$$
$\qquad$
$4 b$.
$\qquad$
4d. $\$$
5. Additional mortgage payments for your residence, such as home equity loans
6. Utilities:

6a. Electricity, heat, natural gas
6b. Water, sewer, garbage collection
6c. Telephone, cell phone, Internet, satellite, and cable services
6d. Other. Specify: $\qquad$
7. Food and housekeeping supplies
8. Childcare and children's education costs
9. Clothing, laundry, and dry cleaning
10. Personal care products and services
11. Medical and dental expenses
12. Transportation. Include gas, maintenance, bus or train fare.

Do not include car payments.
13. Entertainment, clubs, recreation, newspapers, magazines, and books
14. Charitable contributions and religious donations
15. Insurance.

Do not include insurance deducted from your pay or included in lines 4 or 20.
15a. Life insurance
15b. Health insurance
15c. Vehicle insurance
15d. Other insurance. Specify: $\qquad$
16. Taxes. Do not include taxes deducted from your pay or included in lines 4 or 20. Specify: $\qquad$
17. Installment or lease payments:

17a. Car payments for Vehicle 1
17b. Car payments for Vehicle 2
17c. Other. Specify: $\qquad$
17d. Other. Specify:
18. Your payments of alimony, maintenance, and support that you did not report as deducted from your pay on line 5, Schedule I, Your Income (Official Form B 6I).
19. Other payments you make to support others who do not live with you.

Specify: $\qquad$

Your expenses
5.
$\$$ $\qquad$

6a. \$ $\qquad$
6b. \$ $\qquad$
$\$$ $\qquad$
6d. \$ $\qquad$
7. \$
8. \$ $\qquad$
9. $\$$
10. \$ $\qquad$
11. $\$$ $\qquad$
\$ $\qquad$
13. $\$$ $\qquad$
14. $\$$ $\qquad$

15a. \$ $\qquad$
15b. $\$$ $\qquad$
15c. \$ $\qquad$
15d. \$ $\qquad$
\$ $\qquad$
16.

17a. \$ $\qquad$
17b. \$ $\qquad$
17c. \$ $\qquad$
17d. \$ $\qquad$
18. $\$$ $\qquad$
19. \$ $\qquad$
20. Other real property expenses not included in lines 4 or 5 of this form or on Schedule l: Your Income.

20a. Mortgages on other property
20b. Real estate taxes
20c. Property, homeowner's, or renter's insurance
20d. Maintenance, repair, and upkeep expenses
20e. Homeowner's association or condominium dues

20a. \$
20b. \$
20c. \$ $\qquad$
20d. \$ $\qquad$
20e. \$ $\qquad$
21. Other. Specify: $\qquad$
22. Your monthly expenses. Add lines 4 through 21.

The result is your monthly expenses.
23. Calculate your monthly net income.

23a. Copy line 12 (your combined monthly income) from Schedule I.
23b. Copy your monthly expenses from line 22 above.

23c. Subtract your monthly expenses from your monthly income.
The result is your monthly net income.
21. + \$
\$
22. $\square$

23a. \$

23b. $-\$$

23c.
24. Do you expect an increase or decrease in your expenses within the year after you file this form?

For example, do you expect to finish paying for your car loan within the year or do you expect your mortgage payment to increase or decrease because of a modification to the terms of your mortgage?
$\square$ No.
$\square$ Yes.
Explain here:

