UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

In re:

BANKRUPTCY NOTICING CENTER SERVICE INTERRUPTION	)))	Administrative Order No. 2026-08

EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AFFECTING SERVICE PROCEDURES DUE TO BANKRUPTCY NOTICING CENTER SERVICE INTERRUPTION

The Bankruptcy Noticing Center ("BNC") is experiencing a nationwide service disruption that prevents it from transmitting notices and orders to parties in the ordinary course. The outage also affects the ability to access the current creditors' matrices through traditional means in the Court's Case Management/Electronic Case Files ("CM/ECF") system. Importantly, the service interruption does not affect Notices of Electronic Filing ("NEFs") transmitted through the CM/ECF system, which continues to function normally.

Due to the uncertainty regarding the timeframe for the BNC's resumption of service, the Court finds that temporary procedures are necessary to ensure the continued administration of bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings, and to ensure that legally sufficient notices are provided to parties in interest. This Order applies to bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings pending in or commenced in this District while this Order remains effective. The Clerk of Court shall continue to enter orders and generate official notices through CM/ECF. The obligations imposed by this Order extend to notices and orders ordinarily served by the Court through the BNC that are not transmitted because of the service interruption. It does not apply to notices transmitted through CM/ECF or to documents for which service is the responsibility of a party other than the Court. Parties shall not presume that a document

transmitted to the BNC after October 8, 2026, for processing has been delivered. The Clerk of Court may identify affected docket entries and issue instructions for corrective service. A party uncertain whether a required notice was delivered shall promptly verify delivery or effectuate service and file an appropriate certificate.

Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 105(a), Rules 2002, 9006, and 9007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), Rule 9013-3 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Alabama (the "Local Rules"), and the Court's authority to administer its docket, and subject in all respects to applicable statutes, rules, and due process, it is hereby **ORDERED** on this 21st day of October 2026 that:

Notice Requirements in Chapter 13 Cases

1. The Clerk of Court will generate and file into the record Official Form 309I, *Notice of Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Case*, containing, among other things, the date and time for the meeting of creditors held pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) and the date and time of hearing on plan confirmation, as well as deadlines to file a complaint to challenge the dischargeability of certain debts and to file proofs of claim. The Clerk of Court will serve the *Notice of Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Case* with the initial *Chapter 13 Plan,* if the plan is filed with the petition, by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system. The Clerk of Court will file a certificate of service within three business days after the Official Form is filed into the record.

2. The Clerk of Court will generate, file into the record, and serve Orders of Discharge pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1328 by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the order is filed into the record.

3. Pursuant to this Court's authority under Bankruptcy Rules 9006 and 9007, all notices of orders confirming chapter 13 plans shall be suspended until the BNC service interruption has been resolved except for notices transmitted through the CM/ECF system. Once the BNC service interruption has been resolved, all backlogged notices should be provided to all persons and entities entitled to notice through BNC.

Notice Requirements in Chapter 7 Cases

4. The Clerk of Court will generate, file into the record, and serve by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system the Official Forms 309A, 309B, 309C, or 309D and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the Official Form is filed into the record.

5. The Clerk of Court will generate, file into the record, and serve Orders of Discharge pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 727 by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the order is filed into the record.

6. Each trustee shall service notice of the trustee's final report on all persons and entities entitled to notice and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the report is filed into the record.

7. Any order issued by the Court dismissing a *pro se* debtor's no-asset, no-distribution case will be served by the Clerk of Court by first-class U.S. Mail upon the debtor only.

Notice Requirements in Chapter 11 Subchapter V Cases

8. The Clerk of Court will generate and file into the record Official Form 309E2 (For Individuals or Joint Debtors Under Subchapter V) or Official Form 309F2 (Corporations or

Partnerships Under Subchapter V), *Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case*, containing, among other things, the date and time for the meeting of creditors held pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) and the deadlines to file a complaint objecting to discharge or to challenge whether certain debts are dischargeable.

9. Subchapter V debtors, proceeding with or without counsel, must serve the *Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case* by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the *Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case* is filed into the record.

Notice Requirements in Chapter 11 Cases

10. The Clerk of Court will generate and file into the record Official Form 309E1 (Individuals or Joint Debtors) or Official Form 309F1 (Corporations or Partnerships), *Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case*, containing, among other things, the date and time for the meeting of creditors held pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) and the deadlines to file a complaint objecting to discharge or to challenge whether certain debts are dischargeable.

11. Chapter 11 debtors, proceeding with or without counsel, must serve the *Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case* by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the *Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case* is filed into the record.

Notice Requirements in Chapter 12 Cases

12. The Clerk of Court will generate and file into the record Official Form 309G

(Individuals or Joint Debtors) or Official Form 309H (Corporations or Partnerships), *Notice of Chapter 12 Bankruptcy Case*, containing, among other things, the date and time for the meeting of creditors held pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) and the deadlines to file a complaint objecting to discharge or to challenge whether certain debts are dischargeable.

13. Chapter 12 debtors, proceeding with or without counsel, must serve the *Notice of Chapter 12 Bankruptcy Case* by first-class U.S. Mail on all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the *Notice of Chapter 12 Bankruptcy Case* is filed into the record.

General Notice Requirements in All Bankruptcy Cases and Adversary Proceedings

14. Any creditor transferring a claim other than for security must complete and file into the record in the case Official Form B-2100A, *Transfer of Claim Other Than for Security ("Transfer of Claim")* and serve that notice by first-class U.S. Mail on the debtor, trustee, and all parties in interest who will not receive electronic notice via this Court's CM/ECF system and file a certificate of service within three business days of the date the *Transfer of Claim* is filed into the record. The Clerk of Court will serve notice of the *Transfer of Claim* on the transferor at the last known addresses as set forth in Rule 3001(e)(2)(B) and file a certificate of service within three business days after the date the *Transfer of Claim* is filed into the record.

15. Any party filing a motion, application, notice of sale or abandonment of estate property, notice of assets, statement that a presumption of abuse has arisen, or other request for relief (a "Request") from and after October 21, 2026, shall serve – in addition to the Request – the notice of hearing issued by the Clerk of Court associated with the Request upon every person or entity entitled to service or notice. Service of the notice from the Clerk of Court

must be completed within three business days after the filing of the Request, consistent with Local Rule 9013-3.[1] This paragraph applies equally to Requests filed in adversary proceedings, without modifying the service requirements governing summonses and complaints.

16. Pursuant to this Court's authority under Bankruptcy Rules 9006 and 9007, all notices of orders granting a Request as defined in paragraph 15 above, or orders dismissing or closing a case, or a final decree, are suspended as of October 8, 2026, through and until the BNC service interruption has been resolved, except for notices transmitted through the CM/ECF system. To the extent a party is represented by counsel and said counsel receives notices of orders through CM/ECF, it is counsel's responsibility to provide notice of these orders to their clients as notices of orders will not be provided through BNC until the service interruption has been resolved, except as set forth in paragraphs 2 and 5 above.

17. All notice and service effectuated under this Order shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (including Rules 2002, 7004, and 9036, as applicable), the Local Rules, and orders entered in individual cases. Service by CM/ECF Notice of Electronic Filing is sufficient only for recipients for whom that method is authorized. All other recipients must be served by a legally permissible means.

18. This Order does not extend, shorten, or alter any statutory or rule-based deadline or dispense with any required notice or service. All existing or scheduled hearings shall remain in effect unless otherwise ordered by the Court. No adverse action should be premised on a failure to respond to a notice whose legally sufficient delivery cannot be established.

[1] Because Local Rule 9013-3 permits the filing of a certificate of service within three business days after filing a motion or application with the Court, the filing party can delay service of that motion or application until the party has accessed the notice of hearing on CM/ECF, which should prevent duplicative mailings associated with the motion or application and the notice of hearing thereon.

19. Any party affected by delayed or unsuccessful noticing may seek a continuance, additional notice, an extension where legally permitted, or other appropriate relief. Any such request must be made through an appropriate motion in the applicable bankruptcy case or proceeding. The motion shall identify the affected notice, explain how the failure to receive notice affected the party, and specify the relief requested. All such motions will be considered by the Court on a case-by-case basis in accordance with applicable law.

Done this the 21st day of October, 2026.

Bess M. Parrish Creswell
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge

Christopher L. Hawkins
United States Bankruptcy Judge