WEBINAR

TIME TO EXPAND YOUR PRACTICE – THE POWER AND ADVANTAGES OF SUB V



Looking to expand your bankruptcy practice? Join us for an engaging and informative panel discussion exploring the unique advantages and powerful tools Subchapter V offers for small business debtors, providing an alternative to traditional Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 filings.

SEPT. 30, 2024 12-1:00 PM PT

This activity has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education by the State Bar of California in the amount of 1.0 hour general CLE credit. The Inland Empire Bankruptcy Forum certifies that this activity conforms to the standards for the approved education activities prescribed by the rules and regulations of the State Bar of California governing minimum continuing legal education.

IEBF is a Bankruptcy Legal Specialist Activity Provider for the State Bar of California.

IEBF.org

Speakers

Hon. Mark D. Houle United States Bankruptcy Court

> Summer M. Shaw Shaw & Hanover, PC

Leonard M. Shulman
Shulman Bastian Friedman & Bui
LLP

Nathan Smith Malcolm Cisneros

By registering for and attending this event, you agree that you will not quote or cite any panelist's comments in any pending or future matters before the Bankruptcy Court or in the course of any bankruptcy case.



The Inland Empire Bankruptcy Forum

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SPEAKER BIOS

HONORABLE MARK D. HOULE

The Hon. Mark D. Houle is a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California, Riverside Division. He was appointed on February 17, 2012, by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Judge Houle attended Salem State College (B.S., summa cum laude, 1993) and Boston College Law School (J.D., 1996).

From 1985 to 1989, Judge Houle served in the United States Air Force. From 1989 to 1993, he served in the Massachusetts Air National Guard. From 1996 to 1998, Judge Houle was the Rotating Law Clerk for the U. S. Bankruptcy Court, Santa Ana Division. In 1998, he joined Winthrop Couchot, PC as an Associate. From 2000 to 2011, he was an Associate, Senior Associate and Counsel for Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP.

SUMMER M. SHAW SHAW & HANOVER, PC

Summer M. Shaw is the founder of Shaw & Hanover PC, a bankruptcy boutique law firm serving Southern California with its main office located in Palm Desert, CA. Summer is a Bankruptcy Specialist certified by the State Bar of California and represents creditors and debtors in Chapter 7, 11, 12, and 13 bankruptcy proceedings and litigation matters and is admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in California, handling appeals in District Court and the 9th Circuit BAP. Summer is also admitted to practice before the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals with experience in handling appeals in both Circuits.

LEONARD M. SHULMAN SHULMAN BASTIAN FRIEDMAN & BUI LLP

Leonard M. Shulman is the Managing Partner of the firm and primarily carries out his practice in the Irvine office. Mr. Shulman's practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions along with creditors' rights and bankruptcy. He also handles all aspects of business litigation, creditors' rights, and trustees, creditor's committees, and the representation of debtor's in the insolvency context. More recently, Mr. Shulman has been hired multiple times as an attorney fee and billing fraud examiner. Mr. Shulman has participated in dozens of mediations as party counsel and has overseen numerous mediations and settlement conferences as a neutral. Based on the recommendation of other attorneys in the Orange County legal community, the legal publication Martindale-Hubbell has awarded Mr. Shulman an AV rating denoting excellence both in legal practice and in professional ethics.

NATHAN SMITH MALCOLM CISNEROS

Mr. Smith is a partner at Malcolm ♦ Cisneros, ALC. His practice primarily involves the representation of bankruptcy trustees and representation of national banks, loan servicers, loan originators, real estate investors, and other financial institutions in bankruptcy proceedings, civil litigation, and appeals in both state and federal court. Mr. Smith also serves as Chapter 11, Subchapter V Trustee in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada and is certified as a bankruptcy specialist by the Board of Legal Specialization, State Bar of California.

Outline of Program

THRESHOLD MATTERS

- Debt limits for Sub V
- No single asset real estate, individual or corporate is okay.
- Consideration of the expenses necessary to fund a Chapter 11, Sub V to completion to determine whether it's feasible to even proceed in Sub V
 - Attorneys' fees & retainer payment to secure services (up front cost?) minmax/expected costs to budget
 - Whether financial advisor/accountant is necessary, and cost of same
 - Sub V trustee's fees
- Can you co-counsel with another firm on a Sub V case?

COMPARISON WITH CHAPTER 11/13 CASES

- Len coming from a Chapter 11 firm perspective, what are the benefits and drawbacks of a Sub V versus a full 11?
 - CHEAT SHEET in materials
 - No committee
 - No disclosure statement unless ordered
 - Streamlined process in other ways
- Summer coming from a Chapter 7/13 consumer perspective, what's the threshold when a debtor would start to consider Sub V?
 - Income level/assets
 - What additional preparation and considerations might a Chapter 13 consumer attorney not expect coming from that practice?
 - Bottom line: Sub V is still fairly involved and has a lot more moving parts than a 13.
- Nathan Academic discussion of the role of the Sub V trustee
 - o Riverside: trustees are mediator-like and facilitate
 - LA/OC: may have a difference of opinion and be more activist or advocates
 - o The statute is somewhat unclear of what the precise role of the Sub V trustee is

REAL LIFE EXAMPLES/PITFALLS

- Keys to success
 - Planning for first-day motions (conversely, not planning or scheduling first-day motions is setting up case for failure)
 - o Attention level of the client
 - Secured debt amount, payments, and litigiousness of secured creditors
- Pitfalls
 - o Going too slow will cause costs to increase and increase chance of failure
 - Not clearly planning and articulating exit strategy in Sub V plan may increase costs when a disclosure statement is subsequently required

ENCLOSURES

- 1. Annotated Cheat Sheet for Subchapter V
- 2. Sample Subchapter V plan from New Jersey (Word version can be found here: https://www.njb.uscourts.gov/forms/chapter-11-subchapter-v-small-business-debtors-plan-reorganization-or-liquidation)
- 3. Prepacks and Subchapter V: An Uneasy Fit (via UST website): https://www.justice.gov/ust/blog/prepacks-and-subchapter-v-uneasy-fit
- 4. Judge Bonapfel from the Northern District of Georgia has an extremely detailed guide to the Subchapter V framework, which is 338 pages long. It can be accessed at the link below:

https://www.flsb.uscourts.gov/sites/flsb/files/documents/Guide to the Small Business
Act_of_2019_%28Hon. Paul Bonapfel_rev._06-2022%29.pdf

Small Business Reorganizations Under Subchapter V are Now Available to More Distressed Companies & Individuals

Most are familiar with the provisions of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which provide emergency and in some cases forgivable SBA loans to individuals and small businesses, payroll tax relief, and other related relief. However, one provision which provides a potentially powerful tool to small businesses and individuals engaged in business has not gained as much attention in the mainstream media. Specifically, the CARES Act opens the door to potentially thousands of businesses and individuals to allow them to take advantage of the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019 (SBRA), which created the "Subchapter V" bankruptcy case. The SBRA which passed in late 2019, but which only took effect on February 19, 2020, is an attempt to make Chapter 11 reorganizations more efficient, streamlined, and less expensive than traditional Chapter 11 reorganizations. The concept behind the SBRA was to make Chapter 11 accessible to those companies and individuals who could restructure a salvageable enterprise were it not for the heavy administrative burden of Chapter 11. A high-level discussion of the provisions of the SBRA are discussed below.

Prior to the enactment of the CARES Act, a company or an individual engaged in commercial or business activities and had less than \$2,725,625 in total non-contingent liquidated debt, including secured and unsecured claims, could elect to file under Subchapter V of Chapter 11. In response to the anticipated economic hardship that will befall many small businesses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, that debt limit has been raised to \$7,500,000 for the next year. Cases filed after March 27, 2021, will be subject to the \$2,725,625 debt limit. This significant raise in the debt limit should provide distressed companies with a very effective tool to help address the damage caused or exacerbated by the pandemic.

Some of the significant benefits of Subchapter V, are as follows:

- No Absolute Priority Rule: In a traditional Chapter 11, if all classes of creditors do not vote in favor of the reorganization plan, and if the plan does not provide for payment in full to creditors, the owners of the company cannot retain their interest unless they put in 'new value' equal to the equity interest they are proposing to retain. This is commonly referred to as the "Absolute Priority Rule." Under the SBRA, there is no Absolute Priority Rule, and pre-bankruptcy equity owners can retain their interest in the company, even if debts are not fully repaid, so long as the plan devotes 3 years (or up to 5 years if the Court so orders) of the debtor's "projected disposable income" to payment of creditor claims.
- No Disclosure Statement Required. In a traditional Chapter 11, before a Debtor may solicit votes on its
 plan, the Court must approve a disclosure statement describing the Plan. Recognizing the desire to
 expedite the process and that a disclosure statement is an expensive document to prepare (and which
 - sometimes leads to months of litigation before its approval), the SBRA eliminates the need for a disclosure statement altogether, unless the court rules that one is necessary.
- No Competing Plans. In a traditional Chapter 11, after the expiration of the Debtor's exclusive periods
 to file a plan, any party in interest can file a plan, sometimes called a creditor's or competing plan. Under
 the SBRA, only the Debtor can file a plan. This provision eliminates the concern that some would-be
 debtors have that a creditor or competitor could undertake a hostile takeover of the company or its
 assets.
- No Creditors Committee (Unless Required by the Court). In a traditional Chapter 11, would-be debtors need to account for the administrative costs associated with a creditors committee, which must be appointed in all cases where there is sufficient interest from unsecured creditors to serve. Committees retain professionals, including lawyers and financial advisors, all of which must be paid as a condition of plan confirmation. Under the SBRA, committees are only appointed in cases where the Court finds cause for such appointment. It is anticipated that this will only occur in rare cases, as there is a standing Subchapter V trustee appointed in the case to provide the oversight traditionally undertaken by a committee. While the Debtor will need to pay for the trustee's compensation, those costs should not approach those of a traditional creditors' committee.
- No Impaired Consenting Class Required. To confirm a plan in a traditional Chapter 11, the Debtor needs to secure the affirmative vote of at least one impaired class of creditors in favor of the plan. That requirement is eliminated in a Subchapter V case.
- No United States Trustee Fees. Another cost that would-be debtors must account for before filing a traditional Chapter 11 are the quarterly fees that are due to the Office of the United States Trustee both pre, and post-confirmation. The fees are measured by the disbursements made by the debtor, including all operating costs and payments to creditors. The minimum quarterly fee is \$325, but can be as much as \$250,000 per quarter. Currently, for cases where quarterly disbursements are more than \$1,000,000, the fee is the lesser of 1% of the disbursements or \$250,000. In a Subchapter V case, these fees are eliminated altogether.
- Administrative Claims Can Be Paid Over Time. Under a traditional Chapter 11, administrative claims, i.e. those claims including professional fees that are incurred post-petition, had to be paid on the effective date of the plan, unless the holders of those claims agreed to be treated otherwise. Under Subchapter V, those claims can be stretched out over time, without the consent of the holders of those claims.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

In re:	
	Case No
,	Hon,
Debtor.	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V Small Business)

SMALL BUSINESS DEBTOR'S PLAN OF REORGANIZATION [OR LIQUIDATION]

This Plan of Reorganization [or Liquidation] is presented to you to inform you of the proposed Plan for restructuring the debt [or liquidating the assets] of [Debtor], and to seek your vote to accept the Plan.

You are encouraged to carefully review the full text of this document, including all exhibits and attachments, before deciding how to vote on the Plan. To assist you in your review, please note that a list of definitions and a section of frequently asked questions appear at the end of this document.

IN ADDITION TO CASTING YOUR VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN, YOU MAY OBJECT TO CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN. IF YOU WISH TO OBJECT TO CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN, YOU MUST DO SO BY [OBJECTION DATE/TIME].

YOUR BALLOT STATING HOW YOU ARE VOTING ON THE PLAN MUST BE RETURNED BY [DEADLINE]. THE BALLOT MUST BE MAILED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: [DEBTOR'S COUNSEL'S ADDRESS].

A HEARING ON THE CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN IS SCHEDULED FOR [HEARING DATE/TIME] IN COURTROOM No._____AT THE [INSERT COURTHOUSE NAME AND FULL COURT ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE].

Your rights may be affected by this Plan. You should consider discussing this document with an attorney.

[DATE]
[COUNSEL FOR DEBTOR]
[CONTACT INFORMATION FOR COUNSEL FOR DEBTOR]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Insert Table of Contents pursuant to D.N.J. LBR 3016-1(a)]

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS

[A concise summary of the Plan, describing with particularity the treatment of each class of Creditors and the source of funding for the Plan, should be stated here.]

ARTICLE 1 HISTORY OF THE BUSINESS OPERATIONS OF THE DEBTOR

1.1. Nature of the Debtor's Business.

[Describe the Debtor's Business here.]

1.2. <u>History of Business Operations of the Debtor</u>

[Describe a brief history of the business operations of the Debtor]

1.3 Filing of the Debtor's Chapter 11 Case.

On [the Petition Date], the Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under the Bankruptcy Code. The Chapter 11 case is pending in the Bankruptcy Court in (Camden)(Newark)(Trenton), New Jersey.

1.4. <u>Legal Structure and Ownership.</u>

[Describe the Debtor's legal structure and ownership here.]

1.5. <u>Debtor's Assets.</u>

[Detail the identity and fair market value of the estate's assets either in this section or in an attached Exhibit. Identify the source and basis for valuation.]

1.6. <u>Debtor's Liabilities.</u>

[Identify the secured Claims, naming the collateral for such debts, priority Claims and unsecured Claims against the estate either in this section or in an attached Exhibit.]

1.7. Current and Historical Financial Conditions.

[The Debtor's relevant financial data, including the Debtor's historical and projected financial performance, should be summarized here, with reference to attached Exhibits like the Debtor's most recent financial statements, if any, a summary of the Debtor's periodic operating reports filed since the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case, etc.]

1.8. Events Leading to the Filing of the Bankruptcy Case.

[Describe what problems compelled the filing of the Chapter 11 petition and, if applicable, how the Debtor has cured those problems for its successful rehabilitation.]

1.9. Significant Events During the Bankruptcy Case.

[Describe significant events during the Debtor's bankruptcy case, which may include:

- Any asset sales outside the ordinary course of business, debtor-inpossession financing, or cash collateral orders.
- The identity of professionals approved by the Bankruptcy Court.
- Any adversary proceedings that have been filed or other significant litigation that has occurred (including contested claim disallowance proceedings), and any other significant legal or administrative proceedings that are pending or have been pending during the case in a forum other than the Bankruptcy Court.
- Any steps taken to improve operations and profitability of the Debtor.
- Other events as appropriate.]

1.10. Projected Recovery of Avoidable Transfers [Choose option]

The Debtor	does not intend to	pursue preference	e, fraudulent	conveyance,	or other
avoidance actions.		-		•	

OR

The Debtor estimates that up to \$ _____ may be realized from the recovery of fraudulent, preferential or other avoidable transfers. While the results of litigation cannot be predicted with certainty and it is possible that other causes of action may be identified, the following is a summary of the preference, fraudulent conveyance and other avoidance actions filed or expected to be filed in this case:

Transaction	Defendant	Amount Claimed

OR

[If the Debtor does not yet know whether it intends to pursue avoidance actions]

The Debtor has not yet completed its investigation with regard to prepetition transactions. The Debtor anticipates completing its investigation by ______. If you received a payment or other transfer of property within 90 days of bankruptcy, the Debtor may seek to avoid such transfer.

ARTICLE 2

THE PLAN

The Debtor's Plan must describe how its Creditors will be paid. Certain Claims are entitled to specific treatment under the Bankruptcy Code and are not placed in a class

for purpose of payment. For example, Administrative Expenses and Priority Tax Claims are not classified.

As required by the Code, the Plan places Claims and Equity Interests in various classes and describes the treatment each class will receive. The Plan also states whether each class of Claims or Equity Interests is impaired or unimpaired. A Claim or Equity Interest can be impaired if the Plan alters the legal, equitable or contractual rights to which the Claimants are otherwise entitled. If the Plan is confirmed, each Creditor's recovery is limited to the amount provided in the Plan.

Only Creditors in classes that are impaired may vote on whether to accept or reject the Plan, and only Creditors holding Allowed Claims may vote. A class accepts the Plan when more than one-half (1/2) in number and at least two-thirds (2/3) in dollar amount of the Allowed Claims that actually vote, vote in favor of the Plan. Also, a class of Equity Interest holders accepts the Plan when at least two-thirds (2/3) in amount of the allowed Equity Interest holders that actually vote, vote in favor of the Plan. A class that is not impaired is deemed to accept the Plan.

2.1. <u>Unclassified Claims.</u>

Certain types of Claims are automatically entitled to specific treatment under the Code. For example, Administrative Expenses and Priority Tax Claims are not classified. They are not considered impaired, and holders of such Claims do not vote on the Plan. They may, however, object if, in their view, their treatment under the Plan does not comply with that required by the Code. As such, the Plan does not place the following Claims in any class:

A. Administrative Expenses

The Debtor must pay all Administrative Expenses in full. If an Administrative Expense is disputed, the Bankruptcy Court must determine the validity and amount of the Administrative Expense, or in other words, "allow" the Administrative Expense. Any Administrative Expense that is undisputed and is due and owing on the Confirmation Date must be paid in accordance with this Plan, or upon such other terms as agreed upon by the Debtor and the Administrative Claimant or court order. If the Administrative Expense is disputed, payment will be made after the Administrative Expense is allowed by the Bankruptcy Court.

There are several types of Administrative Expenses, including the following:

1. If the Debtor trades in the ordinary course of business following its filing of the Chapter 11 Case, Creditors are entitled to be paid in full for the goods or services provided. This ordinary trade debt incurred by the Debtor after the Petition Date will be paid on an ongoing basis in accordance with the ordinary business practices and terms between the Debtor and its trade Creditors.

- 2. If the Debtor received goods it has purchased in the ordinary course of business within 20 days before the Petition Date, the value of the goods received is an Administrative Expense.
- 3. Administrative Expenses also include any post-petition fees and expenses allowed to professionals, including the allowed claim of the Trustee for fees and/or reimbursements, and for attorneys and accountants employed upon Bankruptcy Court authority to render services to the Debtor during the course of the Chapter 11 cases. These fees and expenses must be noticed to Creditors and approved by the Bankruptcy Court prior to payment.

The following chart lists the Debtor's estimated Administrative Expenses, and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

Type	Estimated Amount Owed	Proposed Treatment
Expenses arising in the ordinary course of business after the Petition Date		Payment through the Plan as follows:
Administrative Tax Claim		Payment through the Plan as follows:
The value of goods received in the ordinary course of business within 20 days before the Petition Date		Payment through the Plan as follows:

Professional fees, as approved by the Bankruptcy Court	After Bankruptcy Court approval, Payment through the Plan as follows:
Clerk's Office fees	Paid in full on the Effective Date.
Other Administrative Expenses	Payment through the Plan as follows:
Trustee	Upon application under § 330 and after Bankruptcy Court approval, payment through the Plan as follows:
TOTAL	

B. Priority Tax Claims.

Priority Tax Claims are unsecured income, employment, and other taxes described by § 507(a)(8) of the Code. Unless the holder of such a § 507(a)(8) Priority Tax Claim agrees otherwise, it must receive the present value of such Claim, in regular installments paid over a period not exceeding 5 years from the order of relief.

Each holder of a Priority Tax Claim will be paid as set forth in the chart below:

Name of Taxing Authority and Type of Tax	Estimated Amount Owed	Date of Assessment	Treatment
			Pmt Interval = [Monthly] payment = Begin Date = End Date = Interest Rate % = Total Payment = \$
			Pmt Interval = [Monthly] payment = Begin Date = End Date = Interest Rate % = Total Payment = \$

2.2 <u>Classes of Claims and Equity Interests.</u>

The following are the classes set forth in the Plan, and the proposed treatment that they will receive under the Plan:

A. Classes of Secured Claims

Allowed Secured Claims are Claims secured by property of the Debtor's bankruptcy estate (or that are subject to setoff) to the extent allowed as secured Claims under § 506 of the Code. If the value of the collateral or setoffs securing the Creditor's Claim is less than the amount of the Creditor's Allowed Claim, the deficiency will be classified as a general unsecured Claim. In addition, certain claims secured only by the debtor's principal residence, may require different treatment pursuant to § 1190(3) of the Code as set forth below, if applicable.

The following chart lists all classes containing the Debtor's secured prepetition Claims and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

Class #	Description	Insider? (Yes or No)	Impairment	Treatment
	Secured claim of: Name = Collateral description = Allowed Secured Amount = \$ Priority of lien = Principal owed = \$ Pre-pet. arrearage = \$ Total claim = \$		[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	[Monthly Pmt.] = Pmts Begin = Pmts End = [Balloon Pmt] = Interest rate % = Treatment of Lien [including whether claim is being treated under §1190(3)] = [Additional payment required to cure defaults] = Deficiency in the amount of \$

Secured claim of:	[State whether	Monthly Pmt =
Name =	impaired or	
Colleteral description =	unimpaired]	Pmts Begin =
Collateral description =		Pmts End =
Allowed Secured Amount =		Timo Ena
\$		[Balloon pmt] =
D: :/ CI		T 0/
Priority of lien =		Interest rate %
Principal owed =		Treatment of
\$		Lien
D 4		[including
Pre-pet. arrearage = \$		whether claim is being treated
<u> </u>		under §1190(3)]
Total claim =		=
		[Additional
\$		payment required
		to cure defaults]
		=
		Deficiency in the
		amount of \$ to be classified and
		treated as a general
		unsecured Claim

B. Classes of Priority Unsecured Claims.

Certain priority Claims that are referred to in §§ 507(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (7) of the Code are required to be placed in classes. The Code requires that each holder of such a Claim receive cash on the Effective Date of the Plan equal to the allowed amount of such Claim. However, a class of holders of such Claims may vote to accept different treatment.

The following chart lists all classes containing Claims under §§ 507(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), and (a)(7) of the Code and their proposed treatment under the Plan:

Class #	Description	Impairment	Treatment
	Priority unsecured claim pursuant to Section [insert] Total amt of claims = \$	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	
	Priority unsecured claim pursuant to Section [insert] Total amt of claims = \$	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	

C. Class[es]of General Unsecured Claims

General unsecured Claims are not secured by property of the estate and are not entitled to priority under § 507(a) of the Code. [Insert description of §1122(b) convenience class if applicable.]

The following chart identifies the Plan's proposed treatment of Class[es] __ through ___, which contain general unsecured Claims against the Debtor:

Class #	Description	Impairment	Treatment
	[1122(b) Convenience Class]	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	[Insert proposed treatment, such as "Paid in full in cash on effective date of the Plan or when due under contract or applicable nonbankruptcy law"]
	General Unsecured Class	[State whether	Monthly Pmt =
	[including any claims set forth in Section	impaired or	Pmts Begin =
	2.2.A, above]	unimpaired]	Pmts End =
			[Balloon pmt] =
			Interest rate %
			from [date] =
			Estimated =
			percent of claim paid

D. Class[es] of Equity Interest Holders.

Equity Interest holders are parties who hold an ownership interest (*i.e.*, equity interest) in the Debtor. In a corporation, entities holding preferred or common stock are Equity Interest holders. In a partnership, Equity Interest holders include both general and limited partners. In a limited liability company ("LLC"), the Equity Interest holders are the members. Finally, with respect to an individual who is a debtor, the Debtor is the Equity Interest holder.

The following chart sets forth the Plan's proposed treatment of the class[es] of Equity Interest holders: [There may be more than one class of Equity Interest holders in, for example, a partnership case, or a case where the prepetition debtor had issued multiple classes of stock.]

Class #	Description	Impairment	Treatment
	Equity Interest holders	[State whether impaired or unimpaired]	

2.3. Estimated Number and Amount of Claims Objections.

The Debtor may object to the amount or validity of any Claim within 60 days of the Confirmation Date by filing an objection with the Bankruptcy Court and serving a copy of the objection on the holder of the Claim. The Claim objected to will be treated as a Disputed Claim under the Plan. If and when a Disputed Claim is finally resolved by the allowance of the Claim in whole or in part, the Debtor will pay the Allowed Claim in accordance with the Plan. [Set forth amount and number of Claims in each class that will be objected to.]

Class	Number of Claims Objected To	Amount of Claims Objected To

2.4. Treatment of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases.

Executory Contracts are contracts where significant performance of the contract remains for both the Debtor and another party to the contract. The Debtor has the right to reject, assume (i.e. accept), or assume and assign these types of contracts to another party, subject to the Bankruptcy Court's approval. The paragraphs below explain the Debtor's intentions regarding its Executory Contracts (which includes its unexpired leases) and the impact such intentions would have on the other parties to the contracts.

Check all that apply:
[] Assumption of Executory Contracts.
The Executory Contracts shown on Exhibitshall be assumed by the Debtor Assumption means that the Debtor has elected to continue to perform the obligations under such contracts and unexpired leases, and to cure defaults of the type that must be cured under the Bankruptcy Code, if any. Exhibit also lists how the Debtor will cure and compensate the other party to such contract or lease for any such defaults.

If you object to the assumption of your unexpired lease or executory contract, the proposed cure of any defaults, or the adequacy of assurance of future performance, you must file and serve your objection to the assumption within the deadline for objecting to the confirmation of the Plan, unless the Bankruptcy Court has set an earlier time.

OR

[] Assumption and Assignment of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases.
The Executory Contracts shown on Exhibit shall be assumed by the Debtor and assigned to the party listed in that Exhibit. Assumption and assignment by the Debtor means that the Debtor will undertake the obligations under such contracts and unexpired leases, will cure defaults of the type that must be cured under the Bankruptcy Code, if any, and will assign the contract to the party listed.
If you object to the assumption and assignment of your unexpired lease or executory contract, the proposed cure of any defaults, or the adequacy of assurance of future performance, you must file and serve your objection to the assumption and assignment within the deadline for objecting to the confirmation of the Plan, unless the Bankruptcy Court has set an earlier time.
OR
[] Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases.
The Executory Contracts shown on Exhibit shall be rejected by the Debtor.
Further, the Debtor will be conclusively deemed to have rejected all executory contracts and/or unexpired leases not expressly shown on Exhibit, or not assumed before the date of the order confirming the Plan.
Rejection means that the Debtor has elected not to continue to perform the obligations under such contracts or leases. If the Debtor has elected to reject a contract or lease, the other party to the contract or lease will be treated as an unsecured Creditor holding a Claim that arose before the bankruptcy was filed.
[The Deadline for Filing a Proof of Claim Based on a Claim Arising from the Rejection of an Executory Contract Is Any Claim based on the rejection of an Executory Contract will be barred if the proof of claim is not timely filed, unless the Bankruptcy Court orders otherwise.]
2.5. Means for Implementation of the Plan.

[Describe how the Plan will be implemented, including how the Plan will be funded. For example, if the Plan proposes a sale of the Debtor's assets, describe how the sale will proceed, including anticipated marketing efforts and proposed bidding procedures. Then insert the paragraphs set forth below, if applicable.]

On Confirmation of the Plan, all property of the Debtor, tangible and intangible, including, without limitation, licenses, furniture, fixtures and equipment, will revert, free and clear of all Claims and Equitable Interests except as provided in the Plan, to the Debtor. The Debtor expects to have sufficient cash on hand to make the payments required on the Effective Date.

The Board of Directors of the Debtor immediately prior to the Effective Date shall serve as the initial Board of Directors of the Reorganized Debtor on and after the Effective Date. Each member of the Board of Directors shall serve in accordance with applicable non-bankruptcy law and the Debtor's certificate or articles of incorporation and bylaws, as each of the same may be amended from time to time.

[Additional provisions, if any, for implementing the plan can be inserted here, including provisions necessary to comply with Section 1191(c)(3)(B).]

2.6. Payments.

If the Plan is confirmed under §1191(a), payments to Creditors provided for in the Plan will be made by the Trustee pursuant to §1194(a). Once the Trustee's service is terminated under § 1183(c), the Debtor shall make Plan payments except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in the order confirming the Plan.

If the Plan is confirmed under section § 1191(b), except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in the order confirming the Plan, the Trustee shall make all Plan payments to creditors under the Plan.

2.7. Post-Confirmation Management.

The Post-Confirmation Officers/Managers of the Debtor, and their compensation, shall be as follows:

Name	Position	Compensation

2.8. Tax Consequences of the Plan.

Creditors and Equity Interest Holders Concerned with How the Plan May Affect Their Tax Liability Should Consult with Their Own Accountants, Attorneys, And/Or Advisors.

The following are the anticipated tax consequences of the Plan: [List the following general consequences as a minimum: (1) Tax consequences to the Debtor of the Plan; (2) General tax consequences on Creditors of any discharge, and the general tax consequences of receipt of Plan consideration after Confirmation.]

2.9. <u>Projections in Support of Debtor's Ability to Make Payments Under the Proposed Plan</u>

Debtor has provided projected financial information. Those projections are listed in Exhibit .

ARTICLE 3 FEASIBILITY OF PLAN

The Bankruptcy Court must find that confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation, or the need for further financial reorganization, of the Debtor or any successor to the Debtor, unless such liquidation or reorganization is proposed in the Plan.

3.1. Ability to Initially Fund Plan.

The Debtor believes that the Debtor will have enough cash on hand on the Effective Date of the Plan to pay all the Claims and expenses that are entitled to be paid on that date. Tables showing the amount of cash on hand on the Effective Date of the Plan, and the sources of that cash, are attached hereto as Exhibit ____.

3.2. Ability to Make Future Plan Payments And Operate Without Further Reorganization.

The Debtor must submit all or such portion of the future earnings or other future income of the Debtor to the supervision and control of the Trustee as is necessary for the execution of the Plan.

The Debtor has provided projected financial information. Those projections are listed in Exhibit ____ (referenced in § 2.9, above).

The Debtor's financial projections show that the Debtor will have an aggregate annual average cash flow, after paying operating expenses and post-confirmation taxes, of \$____. The final Plan payment is expected to be paid on ____.

[Summarize the numerical projections, and highlight any assumptions that are not in accord with past experience. Explain why such assumptions should now be made.]

You Should Consult with Your Accountant or other Financial Advisor If You Have Any Questions Pertaining to These Projections.

ARTICLE 4 LIQUIDATION ANALYSIS.

To confirm the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court must find that all Creditors and Equity Interest holders who do not accept the Plan will receive at least as much under the Plan as such Claimants and Equity Interest holders would receive in a Chapter 7 liquidation. A liquidation analysis is attached hereto as Exhibit .

ARTICLE 5 DISCHARGE.

5.1. [Option 1 -- If § 1141(d)(3) is not applicable]

<u>Discharge.</u> If the Plan is confirmed under § 1191(a), on the Confirmation Date of this Plan, the Debtor will be discharged from any debt that arose before confirmation of this Plan, subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, to the extent specified in § 1141(d) of the Bankruptcy Code; or

If the Plan is confirmed under § 1191(b), as soon as practicable after completion by the Debtor of all payments due under the Plan, unless the court approves a written waiver of discharge executed by the Debtor after the order for relief under this chapter, the court shall grant the Debtor a discharge of all debts provided in section 1141(d)(1)(A) of this title, and all other debts allowed under section 503 of this title and provided for in this Plan, except any debt—

- (1) on which the last payment is due after the first 3 years of the plan, or such other time not to exceed 5 years fixed by the court; or
- (2) if applicable, of the kind specified in section 523(a) of this title.

[Option 2– If § 1141(d)(3) is applicable]

No Discharge. In accordance with § 1141(d)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtor will not receive any discharge of debt in this bankruptcy case.

NOTE: If the Debtor is not entitled to discharge under 11 U.S.C. § 1141(d)(3) change this heading to "NO DISCHARGE OF DEBTOR."

ARTICLE 6 GENERAL PROVISIONS.

6.1. <u>Title to Assets.</u>

If a plan is confirmed under § 1191(a), except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in the order confirming the Plan, (i) confirmation of the Plan vests all of the property of the estate in the Debtor, and (ii) after confirmation of the Plan, the property dealt with by the Plan is free and clear of all Claims and Equity Interests of Creditors, equity security holders, and of general partners in the Debtor.

If a plan is confirmed under § 1191(b), property of the estate includes, in addition to the property specified in § 541, all property of the kind specified in that section that the Debtor acquires, as well as earnings from services performed by the Debtor, after the date of commencement of the case but before the case is closed, dismissed, or converted to a case under chapter 7, 12, or 13 of the Bankruptcy Code, whichever occurs first. Except as provided

in § 1185 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan, or the order confirming the Plan, the Debtor shall remain in possession of all property of the estate.

6.2. Binding Effect.

If the Plan is confirmed, the provisions of the Plan will bind the Debtor and all Creditors, whether or not they accept the Plan. The rights and obligations of any entity named or referred to in this Plan will be binding upon, and will inure to the benefit of the successors or assigns of such entity.

6.3. Severability.

If any provision in this Plan is determined to be unenforceable, the determination will in no way limit or affect the enforceability and operative effect of any other provision of this Plan.

6.4. Retention of Jurisdiction by the Bankruptcy Court.

The Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction of this case with regard to the following matters: (i) to make such orders as are necessary or appropriate to implement the provisions of this Plan and to resolve any disputes arising from implementation of the Plan; (ii) to rule on any modification of the Plan proposed under section 1193; (iii) to hear and allow all applications for compensation to professionals and other Administrative Expenses; (iv) to resolve all issues regarding Claims objections, and issues arising from the assumption/rejection of executory contracts or unexpired leases, and (v) to adjudicate any cause of action which may exist in favor of the Debtor, including preference and fraudulent transfer causes of action.

6.5. <u>Captions.</u>

The headings contained in this Plan are for convenience of reference only and do not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Plan.

6.6. Modification of Plan.

The Debtor may modify the Plan at any time before confirmation of the Plan pursuant to § 1193(a). However, the Bankruptcy Court may require additional items including revoting on the Plan.

If the Plan is confirmed under Section 1191(a), the Debtor may also seek to modify the Plan at any time after confirmation only if (1) the Plan has not been substantially consummated *and* (2) the Bankruptcy Court authorizes the proposed modifications after notice and a hearing.

If the Plan is confirmed under Section 1191(b), the Debtor may seek to modify the Plan at any time only if (1) it is within 3 years of the Confirmation Date, or such longer time not to exceed 5 years, as fixed by the court *and* (2) the Bankruptcy Court authorizes the

proposed modifications after notice and a hearing.

6.7. Final Decree.

Once the estate has been fully administered, as provided in Rule 3022 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Debtor, or such other party as the Bankruptcy Court shall designate in the Plan Confirmation Order, shall file a motion with the Bankruptcy Court to obtain a final decree to close the case. Alternatively, the Bankruptcy Court may enter such a final decree on its own motion.

[Insert other provisions, as applicable.]

ARTICLE 7 ATTACHMENTS

The following documents accompany the Plan [check those applicable, and list any other attachments here]:

[]	Debtor's Assets at Fair Market Value, annexed as Exhibit
[]	Debtor's Liabilities, annexed as Exhibit
[]	Financial forecast for the Debtor, annexed as Exhibit
[]	Debtor's most recent financial statements issued before bankruptcy, annexed as Exhibit
[]	Debtor's most recent post-petition operating report filed since the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case, annexed as Exhibit
[]	Summary of the Debtor's periodic operating reports filed since the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case, annexed as Exhibit
[]	Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, to be Assumed annexed as Exhibit .
[]	Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Assumed and Assigned annexed as Exhibit .
[]	Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be Rejected, annexed as Exhibit .
[]	Tables showing the amount of cash on hand as of the Effective Date, and the sources of that cash, annexed as Exhibit .
[]	Liquidation Analysis, annexed as Exhibit .

ARTICLE 8 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What Is the [DEBTOR] Attempting to Do in Chapter 11? Chapter 11 is the principal reorganization chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. Under Chapter 11, a debtor attempts to restructure the claims held against it. Formulation and confirmation of a plan of reorganization is the primary goal of Chapter 11. When reorganization is not feasible, however, a debtor may propose a liquidating plan under Chapter 11. The plan is the legal document which sets forth the manner and the means by which holders of claims against a debtor will be treated.

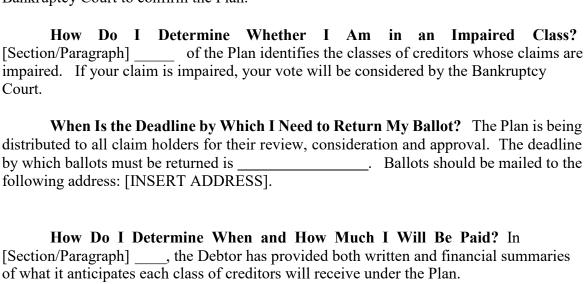
Why Am I Receiving This Plan? In order to confirm a plan of reorganization [or liquidation], the Bankruptcy Code requires that a debtor solicit acceptances of a proposed plan, which it is doing with this Plan. If the creditors are satisfied with the information provided in the Plan and the terms of the Plan as proposed, and have voted for the Plan and returned the requisite number of ballots to counsel for the Debtor, the Bankruptcy Court may confirm the Plan as proposed by the Debtor.

How Do I Determine Which Class I Am In? To determine the class of your claim or interest, you must first determine whether your claim is secured or unsecured. Your claim is secured if you have a validly perfected security interest in collateral owned by the Debtor. If you do not have any collateral, your claim is unsecured. The Table of Contents will direct you to the treatment provided to the class in which you are grouped. The pertinent section of the Plan dealing with that class will explain, among other things, who is in that class, what is the size of the class, what you will receive if the Plan is confirmed, and when you will receive what the Plan has provided for you if the Plan is confirmed. [Paragraph/Section] lists all classes of claimants and their types of claims.

Why Is Confirmation of a Plan of Reorganization [or Liquidation] Important? Confirmation of the Plan is necessary because if the Plan is confirmed, the Debtor and all of its creditors are bound by the terms of the Plan. If the Plan is not confirmed, the Debtor may not pay creditors as proposed in the Plan while the Debtor remains in bankruptcy.

What Is Necessary to Confirm a Plan of Reorganization [or Liquidation]? Confirmation of the Plan requires, among other things, the vote in favor of the Plan of two-thirds in total dollar amount and a majority in number of claims actually voting in each voting class. If the vote is insufficient, the Bankruptcy Court can still confirm the Plan, but only if certain additional elements are shown including that the plan does not discriminate unfairly, and is fair and equitable, with respect to each class of claims or interests that is impaired under, and has not accepted, the plan.

Am I Entitled to Vote on the Plan? Any creditor of the Debtor whose claim is IMPARIED under the Plan is entitled to vote, if either (i) the creditor's claim has been scheduled by the Debtor and such claim is not scheduled as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated, or (ii) the creditor has filed a proof of claim on or before the last date set by the Bankruptcy Court for such filings. Any claim to which an objection has been filed (and such objection is still pending) is not entitled to vote, unless the Bankruptcy Court temporarily allows the creditor to vote upon the creditor's motion. Such motion must be heard and determined by the Bankruptcy Court prior to the date established by the Bankruptcy Court to confirm the Plan.



ARTICLE 9 DEFINITIONS

[Insert/omit definitions as appropriate.]

- **9.1.** The definitions and rules of construction set forth in §§ 101 and 102 of the Bankruptcy Code shall apply when terms defined or construed in the Code are used in this Plan. The definitions that follow that are found in the Code are for convenience of reference only, and are superseded by the definitions found in the Code.
- **9.2. Administrative Claimant**: Any person entitled to payment of an Administration Expense.
- **9.3.** Administrative Convenience Class: A class consisting of every unsecured claim that is less than or reduced to an amount that the Bankruptcy Court approves as reasonable and necessary for administrative convenience.
- 9.4. Administrative Expense: Any cost or expense of administration of the Chapter 11 case entitled to priority under Section 507(a)(2) of the Code and allowed under Section 503(b) of the Code, including without limitation, any actual and necessary expenses of preserving the Debtor's estate, any actual and necessary expenses incurred following the filing of the bankruptcy petition by the Debtor-in-Possession, allowances of compensation or reimbursement of expenses to the extent allowed by the Bankruptcy Court under the Bankruptcy Code, the allowed claim of the Trustee for fees and/or reimbursements, and any fees or charges assessed against any of the Debtor's estates under Chapter 123, Title 28, United States Code.
- **9.5** Administrative Tax Claim: Any tax incurred pursuant to Section 503(b)(1)(B) of the Code.
- **9.6.** Allowed Claim: Any claim against the Debtor pursuant to Section 502 of the Code to the extent that: (a) a Proof of Claim was either timely filed or was filed late with leave of the Bankruptcy Court or without objection by the Debtor, and (b) as to which either (i) a party in interest, including the Debtor, does not timely file an objection, or (ii) is allowed by a Final Order.
- **9.7. Allowed Priority Tax Claim**: A Priority Tax Claim to the extent that it is or has become an Allowed Claim, which in any event shall be reduced by the amount of any offsets, credits, or refunds to which the Debtor or Debtor-in-Possession shall be entitled on the Confirmation Date.
- **9.8.** Allowed Secured Claim: Allowed Secured Claims are claims secured by property of the Debtor's bankruptcy estate (or that are subject to setoff) to the extent allowed as secured claims under § 506 of the Code

- **9.9.** Allowed Unsecured Claim: An Unsecured Claim to the extent it is, or has become, an Allowed Claim, which in any event shall be reduced by the amount of any offsets, credits, or refunds to which the Debtor or Debtor-in-Possession shall be entitled on the Confirmation Date.
- **9.10. Bankruptcy Code or Code**: The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978, as amended and codified as Title 11, United States Code.
- **9.11. Bankruptcy Court**: The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey.
 - **9.12.** Bankruptcy Rules: The Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.
- **9.13.** Cash: Cash, cash equivalents and other readily marketable securities or instruments issued by a person other than the Debtor, including, without limitation, readily marketable direct obligations of the United States of America, certificates of deposit issued by banks and commercial paper of any entity, including interest accrued or earned thereon.
- **9.14. Chapter 11 Case**: This case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in which [DEBTOR] is the Debtor-in-Possession.
- 9.15 Claim: Any "right to payment from the Debtor whether or not such right is reduced to judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured or unsecured; or any right to an equitable remedy for future performance if such breach gives rise to a right of payment from the Debtor, whether or not such right to an equitable remedy is reduced to judgment, fixed, contingent, matured, disputed, undisputed, secured or unsecured." 11 U.S.C. § 101(5).
- **9.16.** Class: A category of holders of claims or interests which are substantially similar to the other claims or interests in such class.
- **9.17. Confirmation**: The entry by the Bankruptcy Court of an order confirming this Plan.
- **9.18.** Confirmation Date: The Date upon which the Bankruptcy Court shall enter the Confirmation Order; provided however, that if on motion the Confirmation Order or consummation of the Plan is stayed pending appeal, then the Confirmation Date shall be the entry of the Final Order vacating such stay or the date on which such stay expires and is no longer in effect.

- **9.19.** Confirmation Hearing: The hearing to be held on ______, 20__ to consider confirmation of the Plan.
- **9.20.** Confirmation Order: An order of the Bankruptcy Court or any amendment thereto confirming the Plan in accordance with the provisions of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- **9.21.** Creditor: Any person who has a Claim against the Debtor that arose on or before the Petition Date.
- **9.22. Debtor** and **Debtor-in-Possession**: [Debtor], the debtor-in-possession in this Chapter 11 Case.
- **9.23. Disputed Claim:** Any claim against the Debtor pursuant to Section 502 of the Code that the Debtor has in any way objected to, challenged or otherwise disputed.
- **9.24. Distributions**: The property required by the Plan to be distributed to the holders of Allowed Claims.
- **9.25.** Effective Date: Pursuant to D.N.J. LBR 3020-1, the effective date of a chapter 11 plan is 30 days after entry of the order confirming the plan unless the plan or confirmation order provides otherwise.
 - **9.26. Equity Interest**: An ownership interest in the Debtor.
- **9.27. Executory Contracts**: All unexpired leases and executory contracts as described in Section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- **9.28. Final Order**: An order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court that has not been reversed, stayed, modified or amended and as to which (a) any appeal that has been taken has been finally determined or dismissed, or (b) the time for appeal has expired and no notice of appeal has been filed.
 - **9.29. IRC**: The Internal Revenue Code
- **9.30. Petition Date**: [DATE], the date the chapter 11 petition for relief was filed.
- **9.31.** Plan: This Plan, either in its present form or as it may be altered, amended, or modified from time to time.
- **9.32. Priority Tax Claim**: Any Claim entitled to priority in payment under Section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- **9.33. Reorganized Debtor**: The Debtor after the Effective Date.
- **9.34. Schedules**: Schedules and Statement of Financial Affairs, as amended, filed by the Debtor with the Bankruptcy Court listing liabilities and assets.
- **9.35. Secured Creditor**: Any creditor that holds a Claim that is secured by property of the Debtor.
- **9.36.** Trustee: [NAME], the trustee appointed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1183(a) and whose duties are prescribed under 11 U.S.C. 1183(b), the Plan, or the order confirming the Plan.
- **9.37. Unsecured Creditor**: Any Creditor that holds a Claim in the Chapter 11 case which is not a secured Claim.

Respe	ctfully submitted,
By:	
Бу	
	[COUNSEL FOR DEBTOR]

EXHIBIT Cash on hand on the Effective Date				
Cash on hand on the	Effective Date:	\$		
Less – Amount of Acon effective d	dministrative Expenses payable ate of Plan		\$	
Amount of sta	ntutory costs and charges	S	\$	
Amount of cu	re payments for executory con-	tracts \$	\$	
Other Plan Payments due on Effective Date Balance after paying these amounts			\$	
			\$	
The sources of the cash the Debtor will have on hand by the Effective Date are estimated as follows:				
\$	Cash in the Debtor's bank account now			
+	Additional cash Debtor will accumulate from net earnings between now and Effective Date [state the basis for such projections]			
+	Borrowing [state separately terms of repayment]			
+	Capital Contributions			

Other

above]

+

\$

Total [This number should match "cash on hand" figure noted

EXHIBIT _____- Liquidation Analysis

[Pursuant to Section 1190(1)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code]

Debtor's Estimated Liquidation Value of Assets

Assets	
a. Cash on hand	\$
b. Accounts receivable	\$
c. Inventory	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
d. Office furniture & equipment	\$
e. Machinery & equipment	\$
f. Automobiles	\$
g. Building & Land	\$
h. Customer list	\$
i. Investment property (such as stocks, bonds or other	\$
financial assets)	
j. Lawsuits or other claims against third-parties	\$
k. Other intangibles (such as avoiding powers actions)	\$
Total Assets at Liquidation Value	\$
Less:	
Secured creditors' recoveries	\$
Less:	
Chapter 7 trustee fees and expenses	\$
Less:	
Chapter 11 Administrative Expenses	\$
Less:	
Priority claims, excluding Administrative Expense claims	\$
[Less:	
Debtor's claimed exemptions]	\$
(1) Balance for unsecured claims	\$
(2) Total dollar amount of unsecured claims	\$
Percentage of Claims Which Unsecured Creditors Would Receive Or Retain in a Chapter 7 Liquidation:	% [Divide (1) by (2)]
Percentage of Claims Which Unsecured Creditors Will Receive or Retain under the Plan:	

rev.6/11/2020