

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**THIRD GENERAL ORDER**  
**REGARDING COURT OPERATIONS**  
**UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19**

This General Order is being issued in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). This General Order like the General Orders issued on March 16, 2020 and March 20, 2020 are intended to provide important information to parties and the bar.

On March 16, 2020, the United States Trustee issued a notice (the “UST Notice”) continuing all in-person section 341 meetings scheduled through April 10, 2020, in all chapter 7, 12, and 13 cases pending in the District of New Hampshire. A copy of the UST Notice is attached hereto. This General Order provides a rule of construction that will apply to the phrase “first date set for the meeting of creditors” (and other similar phrases) as used in certain parts of the United States Bankruptcy Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”) and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), in light of actions recently taken by the United States Trustee as set forth in the UST Notice.

Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 105(a), in order to carry out the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code during this time of national emergency, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. The phrase “first date set for the meeting of creditors” as used in the Bankruptcy Rules shall be the rescheduled date of all meetings of creditors continued by the UST Notice (the “Rescheduled First Meeting Date”).
2. The deadlines that run from the “first date set for the meeting of creditors” under Bankruptcy Rules 1007(c), 1017(e), 1019(1)(B), 2002(h), 2015.3(b), 4002(b)(3) and (4), 4004(a), 4007(c), 4008(a), and 5009(b) shall be calculated from the Rescheduled First Meeting Date.
3. The deadlines under Bankruptcy Rule 2003(a) for holding section 341 meetings are extended to the extent necessary to accommodate the postponement of the section 341 meetings described in the UST Notice.
4. For purposes of 11 U.S.C. § 521(a)(2)(B), the phrase “the first date set for the meeting of creditors” shall be the Rescheduled First Meeting Date.
5. For purposes of 11 U.S.C. § 704(b)(1)(A), the phrase “the date of the first meeting of creditors” shall be the Rescheduled First Meeting Date.
6. For purposes of 11 U.S.C. § 1308(a) and (b)(1), the phrase “the date on which the meeting of the creditors is first scheduled to be held” shall be the Rescheduled First Meeting Date.

This General Order only applies in cases where the United States Trustee has continued section 341 meetings pursuant to the UST Notice, i.e., all in-person section 341 meetings scheduled through April 10, 2020, in all chapter 7, 12, and 13 cases pending in the District of New Hampshire.

SO ORDERED.

Date: April 2, 2020

/s/ Bruce A. Harwood  
Bruce A. Harwood  
Chief Bankruptcy Judge

**NOTICE FROM THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE CONTINUING  
ALL IN-PERSON SECTION 341 MEETINGS THROUGH APRIL 10, 2020  
IN THE DISTRICTS OF MAINE, MASSACHUSETTS, NEW HAMPSHIRE AND  
RHODE ISLAND  
(EFFECTIVE MARCH 17, 2020)**

Effective immediately, all in-person chapter 7, 12, and 13 section 341 meetings scheduled through April 10, 2020, are hereby continued until a later date to be determined. Section 341 meetings may not proceed during this period except through telephonic or other alternative means not requiring personal appearance by debtors. Appropriate notice will be provided to parties in accordance with bankruptcy law and rules for any telephonic meetings scheduled during this period.

Meetings already scheduled as telephonic meetings may proceed as scheduled.