

ETHICS FOR FILING BANKRUPTCY

We are required to give you this notice under 11 U.S.C. Section 527(a)

There are certain ethics and protocols that everyone must adhere to when filing for bankruptcy. We have been helping people file for bankruptcy for more than 20 years and during that time, we have observed that virtually all of our clients have been honest and hardworking people who, due to circumstances beyond their control, cannot repay their debts.

Bankruptcy is a right provided to you under federal law. However, we are required by that same law to provide you with the following information. We do so merely as a reminder that cheating or dishonesty is not permitted under the Bankruptcy Reform Act and could subject you to criminal sanctions such as jail, fines or the dismissal of your case. In order to be in total compliance with the bankruptcy laws, you must adhere to the following ethics and protocols:

- ✓ The verbal and written information you give to an attorney or staff member of this law firm, the Bankruptcy Trustee or any employee of the Bankruptcy Court, as well as all information that is provided with your petition to file bankruptcy, must be complete, accurate, and truthful.
- ✓ **Every** debt you owe and **everything** you own must be disclosed accurately and honestly to us and must appear in the documents we file with the Bankruptcy Court on your behalf. Omitting information or giving partial disclosure is not permitted by federal law. Items that you own must be valued at the replacement rate for an item equal to the one that you presently own.
- ✓ A current monthly budget based on your current income and your monthly expenses has to be provided in your petition to the Bankruptcy Court. The current income amount that you provide to us must include not only income paid to you by your employer but also any income received in the past 6 months, commencing with the first full month before your bankruptcy filing. Examples would be: government assistance; social security; unemployment; or side jobs, etc. The regular expense should be reasonable and accurate.
- ✓ Even after your petition has been filed, you may still be required to provide certain documents or perform certain tasks by the bankruptcy trustee, court, or our office. These requests must be performed in a timely manner and the information you provide must be accurate. If you fail to meet the deadlines imposed, your case will automatically be dismissed and you may be barred from re-filing. We will be assisting you throughout this process.

I understand that all of the information I provide will be subject to audit by the United States Department of Justice and that if I am dishonest about the information I provide as part of my bankruptcy filing, I may be subject to the above mentioned sanctions and may have my case dismissed.

Client's Name (please print)

Client's Initials

Client's Name (please print)

Client's Initials

