

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY ADMINISTRATOR  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

JOHN PAUL H. COURNOYER – BANKRUPTCY ADMINISTRATOR  
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January 1, 2026

To trustees and parties in interest in chapter 7 cases:

**Re: Limits on non-professional chapter 7 costs of administration that may be paid without motion or order under Local Rule 5009-1(a)(2)**

Under Local Rule 5009-1(a), chapter 7 trustees are authorized to pay, without motion or order of the court, (1) all bank service fees, bond fees, and postpetition income taxes attributable to the trustee's administration of the estate; and (2) other non-professional chapter 7 costs of administration, up to \$5,000 per payee and \$10,000 in the aggregate in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case.

Under Local Rule 5009-1(b), any such payments will be subject to review in connection with the trustee's final report and accounting.

Sincerely,



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John Paul H. Cournoyer  
U.S. Bankruptcy Administrator  
Middle District of North Carolina