

Consumer Bankruptcy Circle Agenda

1. Introductions/attendance

- Reece Petrik
- Jeff Werstler
- Carla McClung
- Hon. Peter McKittrick
- Hon. David Hercher
- Robert Reeves
- Rich Parker
- Hon. Kathryn Evans
- Chris Kane
- Naliko Markel
- Jonas Anderson
- Andrea Breinholt
- Brian Hemphill
- Hon. Teresa Pearson
- Christian Torimino
- Laura Zaro
- Jordan Hammond
- David Jordan
- Holly Hayman
- Jon Kuni
- Rich Parker
- Laura Donaldson
- Alana Greenslade
- Stephen Gindling
- Brian Wheeler
- Adama Wiener
- Jauna Castro

2. Clerk's office update

- New Staff Updates
 - Rory Schellinger – New Intake Clerk joined court on June 1, 2026
 - Jody Harper – New Case Administrator II joined court on May 18, 2026
 - Sydney Behrends – New Courtroom Deputy Clerk supporting Judge Person joined court on May 4, 2026
- Current Court Recruitments
 - Judge Evans is currently recruiting for a term law clerk in Eugene. This position is available beginning in September of 2027 and is for a one-year term with possibility of a one-year extension. Priority deadline to apply is June 19, 2026.
- Judge Brown Recall Extension
 - Judge Brown will be extending her recall through the end of 2027. We greatly appreciate her service to the court and the bar.

3. Judges' update

- Chief Judge McKittrick
 - District of Oregon Historical Society Event
 - § Ice Cream Social, with ice cream from Salt & Straw (Vegan Options Available)
 - § June 25, 2026, at the Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse in Portland, Oregon.
 - § Open to all Historical Society members.
 - To join, please visit: <https://usdchs.org/membership/>
 - § Senior U.S. Circuit Judge Susan Graber and Senior U.S. District Judge Anna Brown will be sharing excerpts from their oral histories.
- Judge Hercher
 - No updates
- Judge Pearson
 - Welcome to Sydney, our newest CRD, who is fast getting up to speed.
- Judge Evans
 - Currently, there is not a capability to have witnesses appear remotely for Medford evidentiary hearings or trials. All parties and witnesses will be expected to appear in person.

4. UST update

- Jonas Anderson
 - The Attorney General's Honors Program we reopen this year.
 - § Eligibility is limited to graduating law students and recent law grads who are completing judicial clerkships, graduate law programs or qualifying legal fellow ships
 - § Application window will be short this year. Aug 28, 2026 through Sept. 8, 2026.
 - § For more details visit: <https://www.justice.gov/legal-careers/entry-level-attorneys>
 - U.S. Trustee is periodically posting Internship opportunities for undergraduate and law school students, related to paralegals, auditors, and attorneys.
 - § Internships are posted on USAJobs. <https://www.usajobs.gov/>
 - Ramona Elliot just published article with many Trustee Program updates.
 - § <https://www.justice.gov/ust/blog/us-trustee-program-2026>

5. Updates from other trustee offices

- None

6. IRS updates

- Annual reminder about compliance. We encourage folks to file paperless, but there are variety of options.
- Reminder regarding business return. IRS is able to assess payroll returns again trust fund requirements.

7. ODR updates

- NA

8. ODOJ updates

- Carla McClurg
 - Division of child Support has been bringing to our attention and issue with debtors who are obligated to pay support post-petition. Some debtors are filing LBF 525 certifying that they are current on all payments when they are not.
 - § The issue for DCS is that the window between notice of the certification and discharge can be too fast in some cases to ODOJ to object before a discharge is entered.
 - Debtors' counsel can remind clients to contact case manager and confirm that they are current before certifying.
 - Justin Leonard sent an email to the Debtor/Creditor Listserv on 12/30/2025 and 1/14/2025 regarding how attorneys can verify if their client's Oregon child support obligation are current. From Justin's Email:
 - § "Send an email to ChildSupportBankruptcy@doj.oregon.gov (subject line: "CSP Case Review for BK Exemptions") or leave a voicemail at 503-986-6322 with the following information:
 - Your name and contact information
 - Confirming that you are the bankruptcy attorney for the prospective filer
 - Asking whether the filer is current and, if not, how much is due.
 - The prospective filer's FULL NAME, including any AKA
 - The prospective filer's SSN
 - The prospective filer's DOB or mailing address

Even if you know the contact information for the case manager, the procedure above should get you a faster response. Please allow a three-day turnaround, but typically the response time will be much faster."

- This issue is being discussed by the local rules committee.

9. Next Generation of Bankruptcy Lawyers update

- None

10. Updates from anyone else?

- In person participants agreed that the food provided was excellent. (Naliko Markel objected on behalf of all remote participants.)

11. Anything for the good of the order?

- Naliko Markel
 - Cyber Crime Reminder.
 - § Debtors can be susceptible to phishing campaigns. As practitioners, make sure your clients understand that the trustee will never ask for gift cards or bank information. Only way to pay the trustee is through TFS. <https://www.tfsbillpay.com/>
- Reece Petrik

- Succession ideas for leading the Circle
 - § If you or anyone you know might be interested in succeeding Reece as Circle Leader, please reach out to Reece. reece.petrik@bhlaw.com

12. Select next date/who's bringing food

- Next meeting will be September 2, 2026, at 4:30 pm at U.S. Bankruptcy Court, 8th Floor Judges Conference Room.

13. Adjourn