

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

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CLERK U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
CLEVELAND

In re:) General Order No. 13-02
)
OPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES) Chief Judge Pat E. Morgenstern-Clarren
BANKRUPTCY COURT, NORTHERN)
DISTRICT OF OHIO, IN THE ABSENCE)
OF AN APPROPRIATION BILL OR)
CONTINUING RESOLUTION)

This order provides for the continued operation of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio if there is a lapse in appropriations.

If funding elapses, the judiciary operates under the terms of the Anti-Deficiency Act which allows "essential work" to continue in the absence of appropriations. The continuation of activities during a lapse in appropriations is defined in the Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 13, Chapter 2, § 220.30.10. According to that section:

Bankruptcy courts, as "units" of the district courts, should continue those operations which may be considered part of the exercise of the judicial power of the United States or which preserve life or property.

The court may determine what portion of the clerk's office staff is needed to support the court in case-resolution activity, including the proper and timely processing of all filings, motions, orders, emergency applications, and other litigation documents. Fees and costs will continue to be collected and deposited into the Treasury. New cases, including both civil and criminal, will be accepted and processed in the normal manner.

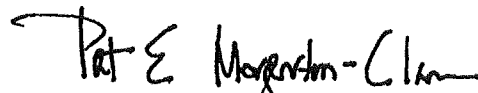
The judges of this court, having carefully reviewed the situation, find that:

1. No new obligations will be incurred and no new personnel will be hired unless absolutely essential. Travel will be undertaken only when essential to support the judges in carrying out their responsibilities.

2. All personnel on staff are deemed essential to the continued operations of the court and are to report to work. This determination is based on the case load, the need to provide relief to debtors, the need to protect the rights of creditors, and the need to remain financially accountable at all times. Further, the number of personnel in the clerk's office has been reduced from 100 staff at the beginning of FY 2012 to 63 full time and 1 part time staff as a result of severe budget cuts. All remaining personnel are dedicated to the court's core functions and are needed to carry out essential work.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat E. Morgenstern-Clarren". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P".

Pat E. Morgenstern-Clarren
Chief Judge