Docket #0006 Date Filed: 10/1/2025

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

IN RE:

Suspension of Bankruptcy Matters Involving the United States as a Party

**GENERAL ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY AS APPLIED TO BANKRUPTCY CASES AND ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS**

The relief set forth on the following pages, numbered two (2) through three (3), is hereby **ORDERED**.

Dated: October 1, 2025

Christine M. Gravelle, Chief Judge
U.S. Bankruptcy Court
District of New Jersey

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This matter is before the Court due to the lapse of Congressional appropriations funding the federal government, including the Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey (the "U.S. Attorney's Office"). Absent an appropriation, the United States has represented to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey ("District Court") that certain Department of Justice attorneys and employees of the federal government are prohibited from working, even on a voluntary basis, except in very limited circumstances, including "emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property." 31 U.S.C. § 1342. Therefore, the lapse in appropriations requires a reduction in the workforce of the U.S. Attorney's Office and other federal agencies, particularly with respect to civil cases. The Court, in response, and with the intent to avoid any default or prejudice to the United States, debtors or other litigants, with respect to deadlines, motions or adversary proceedings which apply to, or may include the United States as a party, occasioned by the lapse of funding, enters this Order, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that, **effective October 1, 2025**, all litigation in a bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey ("Bankruptcy Court") involving as a party the United States of America, its agencies, and/or any other party represented by the Department of Justice or the United States Attorney's Office is immediately suspended, and held in abeyance continuing either (1) until the federal government is funded through congressional appropriation, or (2) for a period set forth by any relevant District Court Standing Order. This Order includes as to the United States, the Department of Justice, or the U.S. Attorney's Office, the suspension of all pending deadlines to file proofs of claim, objections to discharge, dischargeability, and confirmation of cases under Chapter 11 or Chapter 13 of the Bankruptcy Code for this period; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this order **does not** affect deadlines or other rights concerning motions, adversary proceedings, or appeals involving parties other than the United States; and it is further

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any litigant affected by this Order may seek relief from the Court by motion; and

**FINALLY ORDERED** that the Court may, in any particular matter, vary the effect or operation of this Order by separate ruling.

The Court may renew or modify this Order depending on developments during this period and incorporates by reference any relevant Standing Order entered by the District Court. Should any continued lapse in appropriations impact the ability of the judiciary to continue its operations, the Bankruptcy Court

will follow the District Court's guidance and will enter any additional orders required to continue its operations in the most efficient manner.

The Court shall distribute this Order by:

a. Electronic mail to all registered CM/ECF users;

b. Mail to all self-represented debtors in a bankruptcy case;

c. Mail to all self-represented plaintiffs and defendants in adversary proceedings; and

d. Posting the Order and a Notice to the Bar on the Court's website.

The Court shall clarify the status of affected matters and deadlines upon expiration of this period and dependent on the timing of the funding resolution or further order of this Court.