## **Bradley's Bankruptcy Basics** *Creditors' Preliminary Chapter 7 Checklist*



1. Calendar important dates included on notice of bankruptcy
The notice of bankruptcy will include several important dates:  Date of 341 meeting  Deadline to object to discharge and dischargeability
2. Proof of claim
Did the Chapter 7 trustee file an asset report? If yes:  Calendar the deadline to file a proof of claim  Determine to what extent your claim is secured, if at all  Prepare and file your proof of claim and corresponding attachments by the deadline
3. Stay relief
Is there a basis to file a motion for relief from the automatic stay? If yes:  Communicate with the Chapter 7 trustee to determine if he will consent to the stay relief  Draft and file your motion for stay relief  Do not take action against the collateral that was the subject of the stay relief motion until an order is entered granting stay relief  * Do not seek personal payments from the debtor or you may be subject to liability and fines for potentially violating the automatic stay or discharge injunction
4. Objection to discharge or dischargeability
Is there a basis to object to the debtor's discharge or dischargeability of your debt? If yes:  File a complaint initiating an adversary proceeding by the deadline (the deadline is included in the notice of bankruptcy or as extended by court order)
5. Objection to exemptions
Is there a basis to object to the debtor's exemptions? If yes:  File your objection within 30 days after the 341 meeting has concluded or 30 days after any amended schedules are filed, whichever is later
6. Discharge
After entry of discharge, update your records regarding the debtor's account to reflect that the debt has been discharged  * Unless there was a valid reaffirmation, do not take any action to collect the debt from the debtor personally or you may be subject to liability and fines for potentially violating the discharge injunction



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For more information, please explore additional Bradley's Bankruptcy Basics content at financialservicesperspectives.com

# **Bradley's Bankruptcy Basics** *Creditors' Preliminary Chapter 11 Checklist*



1. Calendar important dates included on notice of bankruptcy
<ul> <li>□ Date of 341 meeting</li> <li>□ Deadline to object to discharge and dischargeability (for individual debtors)</li> <li>□ Deadline to file proof of claim</li> </ul>
2. Review your records for the debtor's account
<ul> <li>Identify all documents and instruments that support the debt owed, including evidence of any security interests or establishing perfection of same</li> <li>Determine what collateral, if any, secures your claim</li> <li>Evaluate potential losses associated with your claim against the costs required to participate in the Chapter 11 case</li> <li>Consider reaching out to debtor's counsel early in the case regarding how the debtor plans to treat your claim and to begin negotiations regarding plan treatment, as applicable</li> <li>Determine whether it is in your best interest to retain outside bankruptcy counsel; keep in mind the benefit of retaining counsel early in Chapter 11 cases due to their quick pace and first day motions</li> </ul>
3. Proof of claim
<ul> <li>Determine to what extent your claim is secured, if at all</li> <li>Prepare and file your proof of claim and corresponding attachments by the deadline</li> </ul>
4. First day motions
Do you have a secured or unsecured claim in a material amount? If yes:  Calendar hearing dates and deadlines to respond to first day motions  Analyze first day motions for requested use of collateral securing your claim  If the first day motions seek use of collateral securing your claim or otherwise impact your claim, consider hiring outside bankruptcy counsel to file an objection to the first day motions and to appear on your behalf at the hearing on the first day motions
5. Stay relief
Is there a basis to file a motion for relief from the automatic stay? If yes:  Communicate with the debtor's counsel to determine if the debtor will consent to the stay relief  Draft and file your motion for stay relief  Do not take action against the collateral that was the subject of the stay relief motion until an order is entered granting stay relief  * Do not seek personal payments from the debtor or you may be subject to liability and fines for potentially violating the automatic stay or discharge injunction
6. Objection to discharge or dischargeability (for individual debtors)
Is there a basis to object to the debtor's discharge or dischargeability of your debt? If yes:  File a complaint initiating an adversary proceeding by the deadline (the deadline is included in the notice of bankruptcy or as extended by court order)

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## **Bradley's Bankruptcy Basics** *Creditors' Preliminary Chapter 11 Checklist*



7. Objection to exemptions (for individual debtors)
Is there a basis to object to the debtor's exemptions? If yes:  File your objection within 30 days after the 341 meeting has concluded or 30 days after any amended schedules are filed, whichever is later
8. Plan
<ul> <li>□ Calendar deadline to file ballot accepting or rejecting the plan</li> <li>□ Calendar deadline to file objection to plan</li> <li>□ Calendar date for confirmation hearing</li> <li>□ Evaluate the proposed treatment of your claim and other provisions of the plan that may affect your relationship with the debtor (i.e., releases, injunctions, indemnification, etc.)</li> <li>□ Consider reaching out to debtor's counsel to negotiate better treatment of your claim, as applicable</li> <li>□ Consider hiring outside bankruptcy counsel to file an objection to the plan and appear on your behalf at the confirmation hearing</li> </ul>
9. Post-confirmation
<ul> <li>Adjust your records regarding the debtor's accounts to reflect any changes to your loan/lease records and your relationship under the terms of the confirmed plan; flag the account for any discharges, releases, or injunctions provided for in the plan to ensure you do not expose yourself to liability for violating the plan</li> <li>Calendar applicable deadlines for post-confirmation events, if any</li> </ul>



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# **Bradley's Bankruptcy Basics** *Creditors' Preliminary Chapter 13 Checklist*



1. Calendar important dates included on notice of bankruptcy
<ul> <li>□ Date of 341 meeting</li> <li>□ Deadline to object to discharge and dischargeability</li> <li>□ Deadline to file proof of claim</li> </ul>
2. Review your records for the debtor's account
<ul> <li>Identify all documents and instruments relating to the debt owed, including evidence of those giving rise to any security interests and those establishing perfection of same</li> <li>Determine what collateral, if any, secures your claim</li> <li>Evaluate the costs of the potential losses associated with your claim against the costs required to participate in the Chapter 13 case</li> </ul>
3. Proof of claim
<ul> <li>Determine to what extent your claim is secured, if at all</li> <li>Prepare and file your proof of claim and corresponding attachments by the deadline</li> </ul>
4. Stay relief
Is there a basis to file a motion for relief from the automatic stay? If yes:  Communicate with the debtor's counsel and Chapter 13 trustee to determine if the parties will consent to the stay relief  Draft and file your motion for stay relief  Do not take action against the collateral that was the subject of the stay relief motion until an order is entered granting stay relief  *Do not seek personal payments from the debtor or you may be subject to liability and fines for potentially violating the automatic stay or discharge injunction
5. Objection to discharge or dischargeability
Is there a basis to object to the debtor's discharge or dischargeability of your debt? If yes:  File a complaint initiating an adversary proceeding by the deadline (the deadline is included in the notice of bankruptcy or as extended by court order)
6. Objection to exemptions
Is there a basis to object to the debtor's exemptions? If yes:  File your objection within 30 days after the 341 meeting has concluded or 30 days after any amended schedules are filed, whichever is later

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## **Bradley's Bankruptcy Basics** *Creditors' Preliminary Chapter 13 Checklist*



7. Plan
Is there a basis to object to the plan? If yes:  Calendar deadline to file objection to plan  Calendar date for confirmation hearing  Evaluate the proposed treatment of your claim and other provisions of the plan that may affect your relationship with the debtor  Consider reaching out to debtor's counsel to negotiate better treatment of your claim, as applicable  Consider hiring outside bankruptcy counsel to file an objection to the plan and appear on your behalf at the confirmation hearing
8. Post-confirmation
<ul> <li>Adjust your records regarding the debtor's accounts to reflect any changes to your loan/lease records and your relationship with the debtor in accordance with the terms of the confirmed plan</li> <li>Monitor receipt of payments in accordance with the confirmed plan, and if payments are not received, consider hiring outside bankruptcy counsel to file a motion for stay relief or to dismiss the case</li> <li>After the plan has concluded, flag the account for any discharges, releases, or injunctions to ensure you do not expose yourself to liability for violating the discharge injunction</li> </ul>
9. Residential mortgage creditors
Is the claim secured by the debtor's principal residence? If yes:  File notice of payment change at least 21 days before any payment change File notice of post-petition fees within 180 days of assessing any fee to debtor's account  Monitor case for Chapter 13 trustee's filing of notice of final cure, and file response to same within 21 days



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