

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

MAR 18 2022

IN RE:)
)
REINSTITUTING IN-PERSON)
HEARINGS AND PROCEDURE FOR)
REQUESTING REMOTE HEARINGS)

General Order 22-01

DOUGLAS E. WEDGE
CLERK, U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA
BY: _____ DEPUTY

On March 18, 2020, the Court entered General Order 20-6 providing that, because of COVID-19, all hearings will be conducted telephonically until further order of the Court. As the COVID-19 situation evolved, the Court amended General Order 20-6 to provide that some hearings may be held in person at the courthouse; others may be held telephonically; and others may be held by video conference.

As COVID-19 cases decline in Oklahoma, the Court is returning to more in-person hearings beginning May 2, 2022. Specifically, evidentiary hearings and trials will be conducted in person beginning May 2, 2022. The Court will provide notice for evidentiary hearings and trials, and the notice will specify the hearing will be held in the courtroom. Within three days of notice of the hearing, the parties, with every party consenting, may request for the hearing to be held telephonically or by video conference. The Court will consider the request and advise the parties.

Other hearings (e.g., motion dockets, reaffirmation dockets) will continue to be conducted telephonically. The Court will provide notice for these hearings, and the notice will specify the hearing will be conducted telephonically. Dial-in numbers and access codes for each judge are listed on the Court's website, www.okwb.uscourts.gov under the "Judges' Information" tab. For hearings with Chief Judge Janice D. Loyd, call-in information is as follows:

Phone Number: 888-684-8852

Access Code: 3396906

For hearings with Judge Sarah A. Hall, call-in information is as follows:

Phone Number: 866-590-5055

Access Code: 4489321


All counsel and parties are directed (1) that all participants shall mute the phone when it is not their case, (2) that no participant shall use a "speaker" function, and (3) that no participant shall place the call on hold (in order for the Court and other participants to avoid hearing hold music or other noises that detract from the proceeding and audio recording of same).

This Order does not affect the Court's consideration of matters that can be resolved without oral argument.

If future public health issues warrant shifting in-person hearings to being held telephonically or by video conference, the Court will notify the parties with an amended notice.

Effective May 2, 2022, this Order SUPERSEDES General Order 20-6 and its amendments.

SO ORDERED this 18th day of March, 2022.


JANICE D. LOYD
CHIEF U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE