



**UNITED STATES TRUSTEE FOR REGION 2 -
NEW YORK, CONNECTICUT AND VERMONT**

To: Bankruptcy Practitioners and *Pro Se* Debtors

From: William K. Harrington, United States Trustee for Region 2

Re: Debtor Identification Program - 11 U.S.C. § 521(h) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4002 (b)(1)

**All debtors are required to provide
picture identification and proof of social security number at the § 341 meeting.**

- Acceptable types of picture identification may include the following **original** documents: (1) drivers license, (2) government ID, (3) state picture ID, (4) student ID, (5) Passport (and current U.S. Visa, if not a U.S. Citizen, (6) military ID, and (7) resident alien card.
- Acceptable forms of proof of social security number may include the following **original** documents: (1) social security card, (2) medical insurance card (3) pay stub (4) W-2 form, (5) IRS Form 1099, and (6) Social Security Administration (SSA) report.
- Consequences for failure to have required documents: If a debtor does not have acceptable documentation, the 341 meeting will be continued to the trustee's next date. Failure to produce the documents may result in a motion to dismiss the case, a motion to compel or other appropriate remedy.
- Goal is to protect innocent third parties from intentional and inadvertent use of SSN: Bankruptcy filings are primarily reported to credit agencies by social security number. The cost and hardship to correct an adverse credit history can be substantial. With your assistance, we should be able to limit the impact on innocent parties when a case has been filed with an incorrect social security number.