

SERVING THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE WITH EX PARTE APPLICATIONS TO EMPLOY PROFESSIONALS

The United States Trustee ("UST") is a party in interest in this chapter 11 bankruptcy case.¹ The debtor is required to transmit to the UST copies of all pleadings, applications, motions, objections, complaints, or similar papers that the debtor files with the court.²

Local Rule 2014-1(b) for the Western District of Washington permits the debtor to file *ex parte* applications for employment of professionals with the court, provided the debtor first gives the UST no less than seven (7) days notice **before filing the application with the court:**

Local Rule 2014-1(b) *Ex Parte* Applications. Professionals seeking appointment on an *ex parte* basis shall, prior to submitting the application for approval to the court through the electronic case filing system or by filing an document, (1) obtain the written endorsement of the United States Trustee's office of the application, or (2) certify that at least 7 days have passed since the application was served upon and received by the United States Trustee's office, and no objection has been made by the United States trustee's Office to the application. For purposes of this rule, the United States trustee's Office will accept service by facsimile or electronically at USTPRegion18.SE.ECF@usdoj.gov. *Ex parte* orders authorizing the appointment of professionals do not constitute approval of the terms of any fee agreement or arrangement.

DO NOT FILE *EX PARTE* APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONALS WITH THE COURT, BY ELECTRONIC CASE FILING (ECF), OR ANY OTHER MEANS, UNLESS YOU HAVE FIRST OBTAINED THE UST'S ENDORSEMENT OR CERTIFY TO THE COURT THAT AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE APPLICATION WAS SERVED UPON AND RECEIVED BY THE UST'S OFFICE, AND NO OBJECTION HAS BEEN MADE BY THE UST TO THE APPLICATION.

Service upon the UST of *ex parte* applications for employment of professionals may be made by regular mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or e-mail:

Mail or Hand Delivery:	Office of the United States Trustee United States Courthouse 700 Stewart Street, Suite 5103 Seattle, WA 98101-1271
Facsimile:	(206) 553-2566
E-Mail:	<u>ustpregion18.se.ecf@usdoj.gov</u>

REMINDER: Section 329 and Rule 2016(b) require an attorney who represents a debtor to file and transmit to the UST a supplemental statement within 14 days after any payment or agreement to share compensation not previously disclosed.

¹11 U.S.C. § 307

²Bankruptcy Rules 2002(k), 2014(a), 5005(b), and 9034