

## **A WORD OF APPRECIATION TO THE BANKRUPTCY BAR**

I just finished preparing for tomorrow's Chapter 13 calendar. It is a bruising affair, with 11 final hearings and 139 preliminary hearings. It will be a long day, and I see even worse calendars to come in the next several months. Having finished my preparation, my overall feeling is one of pride. I am very proud to preside over a court with so many fine attorneys who appear to be serving our community so well.

A few numbers prompt this expression of appreciation:

There are zero pro se debtors. This tells me that the needs of the community are being met.

There are 24 different attorneys on the calendar, all but two with multiple cases. This tells me debtors have a wide range of attorneys to choose from, with a wide range of experience, expertise and cost, and nobody is being treated as a cog in a mill.

There are 21 mortgage-related motions on the calendar. This tells me that attorneys are knowledgeable and taking full advantage of current laws for their clients, not just sitting back and waiting for Congress to come to the rescue.

There are only a few scattered cases of defective notice or other procedural problems. This tells me there is a high level of competence in the bar as a whole.

In the midst of taking care of your clients and making a living, I hope you will take a moment here or there to feel proud of yourselves for the services you are performing for your clients and our community.

Dated: March 14, 2009



Alan Jaroslovsky  
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge