## Notice Regarding Scheduled Hearings Before the Honorable William J. Lafferty, III From March 23, 2020 Through April 30, 2020.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, and in an effort to adhere as closely as possible to the procedures set forth in the Notice Regarding Scheduled Hearings Before the Honorable Charles Novack, Judge Lafferty hereby orders as follows:

- 1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 5 below concerning trials and evidentiary hearings, unless otherwise ordered, counsel and all other individuals who intend to appear at a hearing in this court shall appear telephonically. The court will not permit personal appearances. The instructions for appearing by telephone can be found on the court's website:
  - http://www.canb.uscourts.gov/procedure/district-oakland-san-jose-san-francisco/policy-and-procedure-appearances-telephone.
- 2. Unrepresented parties in a contested matter or adversary proceeding (people who do not have lawyers) or any other individual who wants to attend a hearing should follow these instructions:
  - a. If you want to attend a hearing by telephone, please follow these instructions: http://www.canb.uscourts.gov/procedure/district-oakland-san-jose-san-francisco/p olicy-and-procedure-appearances-telephone. There is NO COST to you for this service.
  - b. If an unrepresented <u>party</u> cannot appear by telephone but still wants to appear at a hearing, contact the courtroom deputy, Cindy Fan, at 510-879-3533. If you do not reach her, leave a message. Your matter will be rescheduled to a date after April 30, 2020, when we hope to resume court proceedings in person. You will be notified of the later hearing date. Unless otherwise ordered, the court will not continue a hearing for non-parties who cannot appear by telephone.
- 3. If an unrepresented <u>party</u> appears at court in person on a calendared hearing and wants to be heard but has not otherwise contacted Cindy Fan, the court will reschedule the hearing to a future calendar to accommodate that appearance. If this occurs, it will be announced at the calendar call and noted on the docket.
- 4. Parties may continue matters that are set for hearing to future hearing dates that are consistent with this Order. Dates are posted on Judge Lafferty's calendar page, http://www.canb.uscourts.gov/judge/lafferty/calendar. Continuances can be requested by uploading an application (for ex parte matters) or stipulation (for contested matters and adversary proceedings) and a proposed order resetting the matter.
- 5. Unless otherwise ordered, the court will not hold evidentiary hearings or trials during this period, and any such hearing that has a hearing/trial date will be rescheduled. You should call Cindy Fan to reschedule these matters. If a party believes that an evidentiary hearing

is urgently and unavoidably needed, they must contact Cindy Fan and explain to her why an evidentiary hearing is required. The court will work with counsel to determine if, how and/or when the evidentiary hearing should be heard.

6. There is no change to all other scheduling procedures, including but not limited to applications for emergency injunctive relief, orders shortening time, and hearings on "First Day" Chapter 11 motions.

THE COURT URGES EVERYONE TO CHECK REGULARLY THE COURT'S WEBSITE TO DETERMINE THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS ORDER.