

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

**ADOPTION OF INTERIM RULES OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE IMPLEMENTING
THE SMALL BUSINESS REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2019
EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 19, 2020**

On August 23, 2019, the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019 (the “SBRA”) was enacted into law. The SBRA makes many substantive and procedural changes to the Bankruptcy Code and requires changes to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure to implement those changes. However, the February 19, 2020 effective date of the SBRA occurs long before the Bankruptcy Rules can be amended under the three-year process required by the Rules Enabling Act. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules drafted, published for comment, and subsequently approved interim bankruptcy rules (the “Interim Rules”) for distribution to the courts. The Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure approved the Interim Rules, and the Judicial Conference authorized distribution of the Interim Rules to courts for adoption locally to facilitate uniform implementation of the changes mandated by the SBRA.

Accordingly, on December 27, 2019, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania issued Standing Order #19-217, adopting the Interim Rules, effective as of February 19, 2020. Standing Order #19-217 is available on the Court’s website at:

<http://www.pawb.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/staorders/so19-217.pdf>

Additional information about the Interim Rules and Official Form Changes Required by the SBRA is available at:

<https://www.uscourts.gov/rules-policies/pending-rules-and-forms-amendments>