IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ORDER REGARDING THE ASSIGNMENT OF CASES

WHEREAS, a continuing need exists to provide for an orderly assignment of cases filed in this district,

NOW THEREFORE, this <u>5th</u> day of <u>May</u>, 1989, this order regarding the assignment of cases shall supersede and replace the General Order dated October 30, 1987:

- All cases filed in the Erie Division of the Court shall be assigned to Judge Bentz;
- 2) Cases filed in the Pittsburgh Division of the court will be promptly assigned on a random basis, except as otherwise noted, to all bankruptcy judges in the following manner:
 - A. The Clerk shall maintain an appropriate set of case assignment cards for Chapter 7 and 11 cases, consisting of 200 cards for each chapter, randomly shuffled, sealed on three sides, and marked Judge A for Judge Markovitz, Judge B for Judge Cosetti, Judge C for Judge Bentz, and Judge D for Judge Fitzgerald. Each such set of cards shall contain 53 cards for Judges Cosetti, Fitzgerald, and Markovitz, and 41 cards for Judge Bentz. When a Chapter 7 or 11 case is filed, a card shall be drawn from the appropriate set and have the case number of the new case placed on it. The Clerk will also note the assignment in an assignment book, indicating the case number, debtor's

name, and the date filed. When all the cards in a set have been selected, a new set of assignment cards containing the same number of cards for each judge shall be started.

- B. <u>Judge Cosetti</u>: All Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 cases filed by debtors residing in the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland, hereinafter referred to as the "Pittsburgh counties", shall be assigned to Judge Cosetti.
- C. Judge Bentz: Judge Bentz shall receive case assignments in Pittsburgh Division cases only for Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases, and only from the Pittsburgh counties.

Judge Bentz shall be given credit for each case assigned to him in the Erie Division. The Erie Division of the Clerk's Office shall notify the Pittsburgh Division of the Clerk's Office when a new case is filed and report the case number and chapter under which the case is being filed. If a credit exists on Erie cases assigned, the card drawn for Judge Bentz's Pittsburgh assignments shall be so noted and the case assigned by drawing the next card.

D. Judge Markovitz: All Chapter 12 and 13 cases filed by debtors residing in the counties of Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Indiana, Somerset, and Clearfield, hereinafter referred to as the "Johnstown counties", shall be assigned to Judge Markovitz.

In addition to case assignments for Chapters 7 and 11 from the Pittsburgh counties, Judge Markovitz shall also receive case assignments for Chapters 7 and 11 from the Johnstown counties.

- E. Judge Fitzgerald: In addition to case assignments for Chapters 7 and 11 from the Pittsburgh counties, Judge Fitzgerald shall also receive case assignments for Chapters 7 and 11 from the Johnstown counties.
- F. In order to facilitate and insure the random assignment of Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 Johnstown county cases, the Clerk shall maintain separate sets of 50 cards for the Johnstown cases, kept by chapter, and consisting of randomly shuffled cards, 25 marked Judge A for Judge Markovitz and 25 marked Judge D for Judge Fitzgerald. When a Chapter 7 or 11 case is filed for Johnstown counties, the Clerk shall draw a card from the appropriate set and note the assignment on the card and in the assignment book. Judge Markovitz and Judge Fitzgerald shall be given credit for each case assigned to them from the Johnstown county cases so that the ratio of case assignments in the Pittsburgh Division shall be maintained for all judges. Whenever a credit exists, it shall be noted on the Pittsburgh county cards drawn and the case assigned by drawing the next card.

Each Chapter 13 assigned to any judge shall be weighted so that a Chapter 13 case shall be equal to 1.5 Chapter 7 cases. This ratio will be prospectively applied on a monthly basis to Chapter 7 cases normally heard in Pittsburgh (the Pittsburgh county cases). If, for example, a judge has been assigned two Chapter 13 cases during the preceding month, this will mean that three Chapter 7 cases will be assigned to other judges by drawing new cards from the

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Chapter 7 set, thereby using the credits accrued as a re	sult	
of the Chapter 13 assignments.		
JOSEPH LL. COSETTI Chief Bankruptcy Judge WARREN W. BENTZ U.S. Bankruptcy Judge	ntz	
BERNARD MARKOVITZ U.S. Bankruptcy Judge JUDITH K. FITZGERALD U.S. Bankruptcy Judge	R	
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