

COMMITTEE NOTE

Official Form 201, *Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy*, replaces Official Form 1, *Voluntary Petition*, for non-individual debtors. It is renumbered to distinguish it from the forms used by individual debtors and includes formatting and stylistic changes throughout the form.

Official Form 201 is revised as part of the Forms Modernization Project, making it easier to read and, as a result, likely to generate more complete and accurate responses. The goals of the Forms Modernization Project include improving the interface between technology and the forms so as to increase efficiency and reducing the need to produce the same information in multiple formats.

The Forms Modernization Project made a preliminary decision that separate forms should be created for individual debtors and for non-individual debtors because separate areas of inquiry apply to each group. The forms for non-individuals do not include questions that pertain only to individuals and use a more open-ended response format. Also, where possible, the forms for non-individuals parallel how businesses commonly keep their financial records.

Official Form 201 has been substantially reformatted and reorganized. References to Exhibits B, C, and D, and the exhibits themselves, have been eliminated because the requested information is now asked in the form or is not applicable to non-individual debtors. Official Form 201A, *Attachment to Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy Under Chapter 11*, has replaced Exhibit A. The debtor is instructed to file Official Form 201A if the debtor is filing under chapter 11 and is required to file periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission. A checkbox has been added to the form to indicate whether it is an amended filing.

In Question 2, *All other names debtor used in the last 8 years*, instructions pertaining only to individuals have been deleted, and an instruction to include *doing business as* names and assumed names has been added. In Question 3, *Debtor's federal Employee Identification Number (EIN)*, references to social security numbers and individual taxpayer I.D. numbers have been deleted. In Question 4, *Debtor's address*, the order of listing the various addresses for the debtor has been rearranged, and an address for the location of principal assets is required if different from the principal place of business. Also, the form has been revised to include a space for listing the debtor's website in Question 5.

In Question 6, *Type of Debtor*, options pertaining only to individual debtors have been deleted, and an instruction that the "partnership" option does not include LLPs has been added. Question 7, *Describe debtor's business*, is revised to include a statutory citation for each business type, to add an option for "none of the above," and to delete the option for "other." A new instruction requires the debtor to indicate if the debtor is an investment company, including a hedge fund or pooled investment vehicle; an investment advisor; or a tax exempt entity. The definition of "tax exempt entity" has been removed and replaced with a statutory citation. Additionally, an instruction has been added to require the debtor to list its North American Industry Classification System 4-digit code. A hyperlink is provided for information on finding the correct code.

In Question 8, *Under which chapter of the Bankruptcy Code is the debtor filing*, several separate boxes have been combined, and the options for Chapter 13 and Chapter 15 have been deleted. More detailed options have been added for Chapter 11. The question regarding the nature of the debtor's debts has been removed.

Question 9, *Were prior bankruptcy cases filed by or against the debtor within the last 8 years*, has been revised

to instruct the debtor to include prior bankruptcy cases filed against the debtor and to list the district rather than location of the prior filings. In Question 10, *Are any bankruptcy cases pending or being filed by a business partner or an affiliate of the debtor*, the reference to spouse and the requirement to list the judge in any other cases have been removed.

Question 11, *Why is this case filed in this district*, has been revised to delete references that pertain only to individuals.

Question 12, *Does the debtor own or have possession of any real property or personal property that needs immediate attention*, replaces Exhibit C from Official Form 1. The category of “property that needs immediate attention” has been added, as well as options to indicate why the property needs immediate attention. Additionally, the form has been revised to require the debtor to list the location of the property and whether or not the property is insured and, if so, the insurance details.

Statistical and administrative information has been moved to immediately above the signature line, and the reference to exempt property has been removed. The maximum values for “Estimated Assets” and “Estimated Liabilities” have been increased from “more than \$1 billion” to “more than \$50 billion.” *Request for Relief, Declaration, and Signatures* has been reformatted and the signature lines for individual debtors and non-attorney bankruptcy petition preparers have been removed.