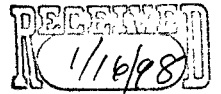


#4717

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

PAUL MANNES
JUDGE

January 9, 1998



98
98-BK-A

U. S. Courthouse
6500 Cherrywood Lane
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
(301) 344-8040

Mr. Peter G. McCabe
Standing Committee on
Practice and Procedure
Administrative Office of
the United States Courts
Washington DC 20544

RE: Small Claims Procedure in Bankruptcy

Dear Mr. McCabe:

This is to request that the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules consider the possibility of a small claims procedure for certain adversary proceedings.

This procedure might be useful for many consumer discharge-ability claims. As with traditional small claims procedures, the process would be less formal, and corporations would not be required to hire attorneys in order to obtain a day in court. Similarly, debtors would not be dealing with a war of attrition waged by house counsel. Discovery would be eliminated. The trial would be conducted in an informal manner.

I suggest that the existence of such a procedure would enable parties to obtain their day in court swiftly and economically.

Sincerely yours,



PAUL MANNES

COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
OF THE
JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

ALICEMARIE H. STOTLER
CHAIR

PETER G. McCABE
SECRETARY

CHAIRS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

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CIVIL RULES

W. EUGENE DAVIS
CRIMINAL RULES

FERN M. SMITH
EVIDENCE RULES

January 23, 1998

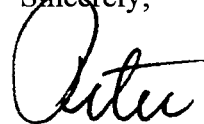
Honorable Paul Mannes
Chief Judge
United States Bankruptcy Court
385A. United States Courthouse
6500 Cherrywood Lane
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

Dear Judge Mannes:

Thank you for your suggestion to consider the possibility of a small claims procedure for certain adversary proceedings. The proposed suggestion was sent to the chair and reporter of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules for their consideration.

We welcome your suggestion and appreciate your interest in the rulemaking process.

Sincerely,



Peter G. McCabe
Secretary

cc: Honorable Alicemarie H. Stotler
Honorable Adrian G. Duplantier
Professor Alan N. Resnick
Professor Daniel R. Coquillette