

2015 COMMITTEE NOTE

Official Form 205, *Involuntary Petition Against a Non-Individual*, replaces Official Form 5, *Involuntary 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 205 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.

Part 1, *Identify the Chapter of the Bankruptcy Code Under Which Petition is Filed*, has been moved to the beginning of the form.

In Part 2, *Identify the Debtor*, instructions pertaining only to individuals have been deleted, and an instruction to include doing-business-as names and assumed names has been added. The references to social security numbers and individual taxpayer I.D. numbers have been deleted. The order of listing the various addresses for the debtor have been rearranged in Line 5, and an address for the location of principal assets is required if different from the principal place of business.

The form has been revised to include a space for listing the debtor's website in Line 6.

Also in Part 2, the options for type of debtor that pertained only to individuals have been deleted, and an instruction that the "partnership" option does not include LLPs has been added. The options regarding the type of debtor's business have been 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." The question regarding pending bankruptcy cases has been revised to remove the reference to spouse and the requirement to list the judge in any other cases.

In Part 3, *Report About the Case*, the question regarding venue has been revised in Line 10 to read "[o]ver the last 180 days before the filing of this bankruptcy, the debtor had a domicile, principal place or business, or principal assets in this district longer than in any other district." In the question for Allegations, "each" has been added to the first allegation, the exact citation to the Bankruptcy Code has been provided for the second allegation, and checkboxes have been provided for the last allegation. Also, in Line 12, petitioners must check "yes" or "no" to answer whether there has been any transfer of any claim against the debtor by or to a petitioner.

The information regarding the petitioner's claims has been moved to Part 3, and the portion listing the amount of the claim is amended to ask about the amount of the claim that exceeds the value of the lien, if any.

Part 4, *Request for Relief*, has been amended to include a warning about making a false statement, and the declaration under penalty of perjury has been revised in order to conform to the language of 28 U.S.C. § 1746. *See* Rule 1008. A statement has been added that each petitioner, or the petitioner's representative, has reviewed the information in the petition and has "a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct." A requirement has

Official Form 5 (Committee Note)

been added for each petitioner's mailing address. Also, petitioners' attorneys must provide their email addresses, bar number, and state of bar membership.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE NOTES