NOTICE

The Judicial Conference of the United States has amended the Bankruptcy Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule to add a \$25 fee for filing a Transfer of Claim. This new fee will take effect on May 1, 2013.

In conjunction with implementation of this new fee, and in light of budgetary restrictions, the judges of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio have approved the use of an automated lockout feature within ECF to address delinquent payments. 28 U.S.C. § 1930 requires that fees be paid at the time of filing.

The <u>Administrative Procedures Manual</u>, promulgated by <u>LBR 5005-1</u>, provides in section II E (1), "All transactions that require a payment shall be paid on-line through the Pay.gov program on the same day that the transaction is docketed." Effective May 1, 2013, failure to timely pay any fee within ECF will result in the automatic suspension (lockout) of the user's ECF account. When an account is locked, viewing and filing capabilities are suspended until all outstanding filing fees are paid. Users can still access the ECF "Utilities" menu to make a payment; however, a message will be displayed indicating that the account is locked. Once all fees are paid, electronic filing privileges will be automatically reinstated. An email notice advising users of the consequences of nonpayment will be sent at midnight to all accounts with outstanding fees from the previous day.

The <u>Bankruptcy Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule</u> is located on the "Fees" menu of the court's website at <u>www.ohnb.uscourts.gov</u>. Questions regarding either the new fee to file a Transfer of Claim or the ECF lockout function should be directed to one of the court's <u>Help Desks</u>.

Kenneth J. Hirz Clerk

Date of Issuance: April 17, 2013