

Effective December 1, 2003, several changes will be implemented to comply with the E-Government Act of 2002 (Pub. L. No. 107-347) which contains provisions relating to privacy protections and electronic access to case file documents. We will be converting to a new version of ECF over the weekend of Nov. 28 - 30, 2003 to implement these changes. Accordingly, the ECF system will not be available during this conversion period.

Amendments to select rules and forms will become effective, thereby permitting implementation of those elements of the policy which do not require amendment to the Bankruptcy Code. Specifically, the following Official Bankruptcy Forms have been amended to require only the last four digits of the debtor's Social Security and financial account numbers: 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16A, 16C, and 19. A new Official Form B21, entitled Statement of Social Security Number, has been created, and is available on our web site. Additionally, rules 1005 and 1007 have been amended to restrict display of a debtor's social security number to only the last four digits. Rule 2002 has been amended to provide that the debtor, creditor, case trustee and United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator receive the debtor's full Social Security Number on their copy of the notice provided pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 341. Any other entity wishing access to the full social security number may file a motion requesting the full number and setting out the rationale for the request.

Attorneys will be expected to comply with these rules, and should ensure that any petition preparation software or other forms that they use are updated to show only the redacted personal identifiers. The Court is not responsible for checking filed documents to verify redaction. The complete social security number will still be entered into the ECF system electronically, however, it will not appear on the docket. A signed copy of the new B21 form shall be retained by the debtor's attorney for the same duration as the signed copy of the petition, in accordance with the Court's Administrative Procedures for Filing, Signing, Maintaining, and Verifying Pleadings and Other Documents in the ECF System. The Clerk's Office will retain the B21 form for *pro se* filers.