

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW





Navigating the Waters of Business Bankruptcy in the Wake of the Coronavirus Pandemic

MAY 7, 12 NOON | FREE WEBINAR | REGISTER AT TAMULAWANSWERS.INFO

Overview of Bankruptcy Relief and Tools Available for Business Debtors

Professor Wayne Barnes



Types of Bankruptcy Cases

- Chapter 7 (straight liquidation)
 - (give up (non-exempt) assets, keep future income (if any))
 - Means test (for individuals) determines if allowed to file Ch. 7 vs. Ch. 13
- Chapter 13 (individual repayment plan)
 - (give up 3 to 5 years of income, keep assets)
 - Individuals/sole proprietorships only (not corporations, LLCs)
 - Regular income required
 - Debt limits (if over, required to file Ch. 11 or Ch. 7)z:
 - Unsecured \$419,275
 - Secured \$1,257,850
- Chapter 11 (Business Reorganization)
 - "normal" case (expensive, complex, many players have say, time-consuming)
 - Allows many different plans (selling certain assets, new investment, etc.)
 - new "Small Business Debtor Reorganization" subchapter





Overview of Bankruptcy Benefits

- Automatic Stay
 - Temporarily prevents creditors and other parties from taking collection actions once bankruptcy is filed
- Continuation of Ordinary Business Operations
- Debtor-in-Possession Financing
- Assume or Reject Executory Contracts and Leases
- Stripdown of business secured loans (if underwater)
 - And reduced payoff/discharge of underwater "unsecured" portion over time in plan
- Selling assets "free and clear"
- Extend payment of Unsecured Tax Debts (in plan)
- Collective Remedy
- Discharge of Pre-Bankruptcy Plan Unsecured Debts
 - Except for corporations filing Chapter 7







Questions?

Please also see

Tamulawanswers.info

for more info



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The Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019





Who Qualifies As a Small Business Debtor?

Person or Entity

Must be Engaged in Commercial or Business Activity (must show at least 50% of its pre-petition debt arose from these activities)

Have Aggregated Secured and Unsecured Debts of up to \$7.5 million

Publicly Traded
Corporations and Debtors
that Own Single Asset Real
Estate Not Eligible



What are the Positives of SBRA?





Why Are SBRA Cases More Affordable? No Creditors' Commit

No Creditors' Committee Appointment



No Disclosure Statement Requirement



No U.S. Trustee Quarterly Fees



Administrative Expense Claims Paid Over Plan Term





Why Are SBRA Cases Quicker?





Why Are SBRA Cases Likely More Successful? (Why Are They More Likely to Reach Plan Confirmation?)

Plan Not Subject to Absolute Priority Rule Plan May be Confirmed Even if All Impaired Classes Reject Plan Trustee Facilitates Consensual Plan Only Debtor May File Plan No Creditors' Committee Appointment



How Do SBRA Debtors Maintain More Control?





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