

FROM GENERAL PRACTICIONER TO BANKRUPTCY LAWYER  
A FORTY SIX YEAR JOURNEY

Presentation To The Tuscaloosa County Bar Association  
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- I. What is Bankruptcy?
  - A. History
  - B. Difference in BK and District Court
- II. Where is Bankruptcy Court?
- III. Who goes there?
  - A. Judge
  - B. Trustees
  - C. Clerks/ Case workers
  - D. Bankruptcy Administrator
- IV. Secret words used in Bankruptcy Court
  - A. Debtor
  - B. Petition
  - C. Chapter 7/ Chapter 13
  - D. Percentage Plan
  - E. Secured v. Unsecured
  - F. 341
  - G. PACER
  - H. Application for Employment of Professional Person
  - I. Motion for Relief from Stay
- V. What will Bankruptcy do with/ to my \_\_\_\_\_ client?
  - A. Divorce (relief from stay)
  - B. Child support (relief from stay)
  - C. Criminal (get payments made while in jail)
  - D. Car Accident/ Other Tort (get permission)/ (get relief from automatic stay)
  - E. Workers' Comp (get permission)

## What is PACER and who runs it?

Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) is an electronic public access service that allows users to obtain case and docket information from Federal Appellate, District and Bankruptcy courts, and from the U.S. Party/Case Index. differ slightly.

PACER is a service of United States Judiciary. The PACER Service Center is run by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

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## COURT WEBSITES

[www.alnb.uscourts.gov](http://www.alnb.uscourts.gov)

[ecf.alnb.uscourts.gov](http://ecf.alnb.uscourts.gov)

[www.alnba.uscourts.gov](http://www.alnba.uscourts.gov)

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## **Bankruptcy Administrator**

The United States Bankruptcy Administrator Program (USBA) is an agency of the Judiciary, the third branch of the federal government. The USBA oversees the administration of bankruptcy cases and private trustees, and monitors the transactions and conduct of parties in bankruptcy. Separate and distinct from the federal bankruptcy courts, the USBA and its attorneys regularly appear before the United States Bankruptcy Courts on all aspects of bankruptcy matters for the purpose of assisting the Courts in insuring that bankruptcy cases are administered properly, and in conformance with applicable laws and procedures. Additionally, the USBA works in coordination with other government agencies, including the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Internal Revenue Service, to identify and investigate bankruptcy fraud and abuse.

For more information on the United States Bankruptcy Administrator for the Northern District of Alabama, please visit their website at <http://www.alnba.uscourts.gov>.