

**CHAPTER 7 CASE OPENING in CM-ECF**  
**INDIVIDUAL CONSUMER DEBTOR - PETITION *WITHOUT* SCHEDULES AND STATEMENTS**  
**Effective January 19, 2007**  
**Revised November 30, 2009**

United States Bankruptcy Court  
 District of New Mexico

The following flowchart identifies the steps in CM-ECF to open a case and e-file a petition. Column A lists the steps by number and identifies the CM-ECF “Bankruptcy Event,” to be selected from the Bankruptcy menu. The specific event is **noted in bold capital letters following the number in parenthesis**. Column B describes the lead document to be uploaded in the file format shown in Column C (either pdf or plain text). Please note that there may be several documents included in one pdf file, as is the case with a petition pdf file when you are submitting all schedules and statements with the petition. The description in Column B, therefore, includes documents that should be included in the petition.pdf file. Column D indicates whether or not there is an attachment to be uploaded in addition to the lead document. **Notes are listed at the end of the flowchart.**

A	B	C	D
Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p><b>(1) Select OPEN VOLUNTARY BK CASE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- select “y” (yes) for deficiencies</li> <li>- enter information from the petition</li> <li>- check the boxes for documents that are <u>not</u> being submitted with the petition. Refer to <b>Appendix to Procedures, E-File a Voluntary Bankruptcy Case - Attachment 1, Deficiency Lists in Case Opening</b> for specific instructions on how to indicate which documents are deficient.</li> <li>- browse to the petition.pdf</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- print the “Notice of Electronic Filing” (NEF) to paper or as a pdf file to save as confirmation of the filing. The NEF includes the time and date of filing, the case number and the docket text for the petition docket entry.</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type “upload” into the box</b> to proceed to <b>(2)</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>- Chapter 7 Petition with Exhibit D</p> <p><b>Do not include certificate of counseling as an attachment to Exhibit D in the petition.pdf file. Step (5) explains how to file certificate.</b></p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart - especially (1), item (e) regarding filing schedules and statements within 14 days of filing petition)</b></p>	<p>petition with exhibit D as one pdf file</p>	<p>debtor signature page <b>NM Form 501-7</b>, signed, scanned and printed to / saved as pdf file                      OR                      2) File the signature page as a separate event. (See Step 3)</p>

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p><b>(2) Select <b>UPLOAD A CREDITOR MATRIX FILE</b></b>                      - <b>confirm</b> case number (CM-ECF defaults to the last case number used).                      - browse to the creditor.txt file                      - preview the text file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u>                      - click next button - confirm correct number of creditors                      - click submit button                      - click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "page" into the box</b> to proceed to (3).</p>	<p>There is no “document” in this step. Instead you will upload a plain text file containing the names and addresses of creditors in the case. The contents of the text file are loaded into the case creditor database. The list of creditors uploaded here is used by the Court (through the Bankruptcy Noticing Center) to send notice of the bankruptcy to all creditors.</p>	<p>list of creditors formatted as an ASCII DOS or plain text file   <b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>none</p>
<p><b>(3) To file the signature page as a separate document, Select <b>SIGNATURE PAGE</b>.</b>                      - <b>confirm</b> case number (CM-ECF defaults to the last case number used).                      - select the party                      - browse to the pdf file and preview it – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u>                      - select the category to which your event relates; highlight misc and click next; check the box to the left of the voluntary petition and click next                      - click next then click next on the final warning screen                      - click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "judge/trustee" into the box</b> to proceed to (4). <b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>			
<p><b>(4) Select <b>JUDGE/TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENT</b>.</b> There is no pdf file to upload in this step. The system will ask you to wait for a few seconds before a screen displays the judge, trustee, 341 meeting date, time and location.                      - print screen to paper or pdf to save for your records                      - click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "counseling" into the box</b> to proceed to (5). <b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>			

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p><b>(5) Select CREDIT COUNSELING RECEIVED: CERTIFICATES SUBMITTED</b> - If box #1 on Exhibit D is checked, this step docket the certificate of counseling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Credit Counseling Received: Certificates Submitted</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- browse to the certificate pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "social" into the box</b> to proceed to (6).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Certificate of credit and budget counseling and debt repayment plan, if any</b></p> <p>If this is a joint case and both debtors have checked box #1 on Exhibit D, perform this step for each debtor.</p> <p><b>See also 5a, 5b or 5c below if box 2, 3, or 4 on Exhibit D is selected.</b></p> <p>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</p>	<p>certificate of counseling scanned and printed to / saved as pdf file</p>	<p>none</p>
<p><b>(5a) Select MISCELLANEOUS</b> - If box #2 on Exhibit D is checked, follow steps below to make an entry on the docket report to indicate that the certificate is not yet submitted and to set the 14 day deadline for submission of the certificate. If this is a joint case and both debtors have checked box #2, perform this step for each debtor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Credit Counseling Received: No Certificates</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "social" into the box</b> to proceed to (6).</li> </ul>			

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p>(5b) Select <b>BANKRUPTCY</b>, then select <b>MOTIONS/APPLICATIONS</b> - If box #3 on Exhibit D is checked, file the motion regarding exigent circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number (CM-ECF defaults to the last case number used)</li> <li>- select <b>Determination re exigent circumstances Sec 109 (h)(3)(A)(Motion)</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- browse to the motion pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "social" into the box</b> to proceed to (6).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion for Determination that Debtor's Certification of Exigent Circumstances Which Warrant a Waiver of Requirement for Budget and Credit Counseling Prior to Filing Petition is Satisfactory</b></p> <p>Use NM Form 504 when 11 U. S. C. § 109 (h) (3) (A) applies</p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>NM Form 504 as pdf file</p>	<p>none</p>

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p>(5c) Select <b>BANKRUPTCY</b>, then select <b>MOTIONS/APPLICATIONS</b> - If box #4 on Exhibit D is checked, file the motion regarding exemption from credit counseling requirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Determination re exemption per Sec 109 (h)(4) (Motion)</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- browse to the motion pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type “social” into the box</b> in CM-ECF menu bar to proceed to (6).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion for Determination that Debtor is Unable to Complete Requirements for Budget and Credit Counseling</b></p> <p>Use NM Form 505 when 11 U. S. C. § 109 (h) (4) applies</p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>NM Form 505 as pdf file</p>	<p>none</p>

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p><b>(6) Select STATEMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Statement of Social Security Number</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- browse to the statement of ssn pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "spouse" into the box</b> to proceed to (7)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Statement of Social Security number</b></p> <p>Use Form B21</p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>statement of social security number signed by debtor(s), scanned and printed to / saved as pdf file.</p>	<p>none</p>

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A	B	C	D
Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p>(7) Select <b>NON-FILING SP - STMT NO SPOUSE</b> - Follow this step if this is an individual debtor in a non-joint case <b>DOES NOT HAVE A SPOUSE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Non-Filing sp - Stmt no spouse</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- browse to the stmt no spouse pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "disclosure of compensation" into the box</b> to proceed to (8)</li> </ul> <p>If this is an individual debtor in a non-joint case and the debtor <b>DOES HAVE A SPOUSE</b>, go to Step (7a).</p>	<p><b>Disclosure of Marital Status (no spouse)</b></p> <p>Use NM Form 400 or NM Form 402.</p> <p><b>See 7a below for disclosing non-filing spouse</b></p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>NM Form 400 or 402 signed by debtor, scanned and saved as / printed to pdf file.</p>	<p>none</p>

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p><b>(7a) Select NON-FILING SP - DISCLOSURE OF NON-FILING SPOUSE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Non-Filing Sp - Disclosure of Non-Filing Spouse</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- <b>search</b> non-filing spouse ssn or name.</li> <li>- if name is in database, confirm correct address; if address <i>already in the database</i> is incorrect or if party in the database has no address, <b>Create New Party</b>.</li> <li>- at the <b>Party Information</b> screen, enter only first, middle, and last name, address PO or street, city, zip</li> <li>- select the <b>ROLE Non-Filing Spouse (nfs:pty)</b></li> <li>- <b>DO NOT ENTER</b> ssn, phone number, email address or alias for the non-filing spouse.</li> <li>- select <b>End Party Selection</b></li> <li>- browse to the disclosure of non-filing spouse pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it.</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "disclosure of compensation" into the box</b> to proceed to <b>(8)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Disclosure of Marital Status and Non-Filing Spouse</b></p> <p>Use NM Form 400 to disclose non-filing spouse when you are filing a petition <b>without</b> schedules and statements.</p> <p>See note (1), items (e) and (f) at the end of the flow chart.</p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>NM Form 400 signed by debtor, scanned and saved as / printed to pdf file</p>	<p>none</p>

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Select Event from the Bankruptcy Menu	Description/Name of Lead Document	File to upload	Attachment
<p><b>(8) Select DISCLOSURE OF COMPENSATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Disclosure of Compensation</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- browse to the disclosure of compensation pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> <li>- click on <b>Search in the CM-ECF main menu bar and type "compliance" into the box</b> in CM-ECF menu bar to proceed to <b>(9)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Disclosure of Compensation of Attorney for Debtor</b></p> <p>Use Form B203</p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>disclosure of compensation as a pdf file.</p>	<p>none</p>
<p><b>(9) Select CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- confirm case number</li> <li>- select <b>Certificate of Compliance</b></li> <li>- select party (debtor)</li> <li>- at the screen prompt, <b>"Comply with what?,"</b> type in <b>"LR 1007-5(b) re sending non-filing spouse information to creditors"</b></li> <li>- browse to the disclosure of compensation pdf file</li> <li>- preview the pdf file – <u>if this is correct file, upload it</u></li> <li>- confirm docket entry is correct</li> <li>- click on Next button</li> <li>- print NEF to paper or pdf</li> </ul>	<p><b>Certificate of Compliance with Local Rule 1007-5 (b) Regarding Notice of Non-filing Spouse Information</b></p> <p>use local form 13</p> <p><b>(see Notes at end of flow chart)</b></p>	<p>local form 13 saved as a pdf file.</p>	<p>none</p>

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**NOTES:**

**(1) Open BK Case**

- (a) Refer to the CM-ECF procedures “[E-file a Bankruptcy Petition - Open Voluntary Bankruptcy Case in CM-ECF](#)” for detailed instructions. See also [Appendix to Procedures E-File a Voluntary Bankruptcy Case - Attachment 1, Deficiency Lists in Case Opening](#), for instructions on how to indicate which documents are not being filed with the petition.
- (b) **Notice of Electronic Filing:** CM-ECF creates a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) at the end of each document filing process and automatically sends the NEF via e-mail to attorneys on the case who are registered ECF users at their e-mail address(es) entered in CM-ECF. The NEF lists the names and e-mail addresses of attorneys to whom the e-mail was sent and, therefore, serves as the certificate of notice for attorneys who are registered ECF users. The NEF contains a hyperlink to the document pdf file. Viewing the document pdf file via this hyperlink constitutes the attorney’s free copy of the document.
- The NEF also lists the names and mailing addresses of parties and attorneys on the case who are not registered users (and, therefore, would not receive notice via e-mail). E-filers are responsible for mailing paper copies of filed documents to the parties and attorneys who are not registered users, if entitled to notice, and for filing a certificate of service with the Clerk’s Office of having done so.
- (c) **The petition pdf file should include only the documents listed in the Description/Name of Document column for event (1). All other case initiation documents are filed separately as indicated in this flow chart.** Please note that although Exhibit D directs debtor to attach the certificate of credit counseling to it, these instructions do not require e-filers to include a copy of the certificate of credit counseling in the petition pdf file. Instead, e-filers should file the certificates separately as indicated in step (5) using the docket event “Credit Counseling Received: Certificates Submitted” on the Miscellaneous menu. If debtor checked box #2 on Exhibit D, the certificate must be filed within 14 days of the filing of the petition, using the same event described in step (5).
- (d) **Debtors must sign the signature page.** Use of s/debtor name typed on the line is not acceptable. BE SURE TO USE THE CURRENT VERSION OF THE SIGNATURE FORM APPROPRIATE FOR THE PETITION YOU ARE FILING. See Court Forms on the Court’s website at [www.nmcourt.fed.us/web/BCDOCS/bcindex.html](http://www.nmcourt.fed.us/web/BCDOCS/bcindex.html). Once the form is signed, scan and save it as a pdf file.
- (e) The schedules and statements are due within 14 days of the date of filing the petition. When you file the schedules and statements, use NM Form 502-7 as the signature page for the schedules and statements. NM Form 502-7 must be signed by the debtor, scanned, and printed/ saved as a pdf file. Submit the signature page as an “attachment” to the schedules and statements.
- (f) If you disclosed a non-filing spouse when you filed the petition, you will also need to file NM Form 401, Certificate of Disclosure of Community Information Pursuant to Local Rule 1007-1, signed by the debtor, scanned, and printed/ saved as a pdf file AT THE TIME YOU FILE YOUR SCHEDULES AND STATEMENTS. To file NM Form 401, go to the Bankruptcy - Miscellaneous menu and select [Non-Filing Sp - Certificate of Disclosure of Comm. Info.](#) See notes (6) and (6a) below for a complete explanation.

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**(2) Upload Creditor Matrix**

- (a) A creditor list in text file format is required to be filed WITH THE PETITION - even if you are NOT filing schedules and statements. Failure to submit a creditor list in text file format WITH THE PETITION may cause the case to be dismissed!
- (b) Be sure your file is saved as an ASCII DOS or PLAN TEXT FILE
- (c) If you have problems with the creditor upload, call the CM-ECF help desk at 348-2500 (toll free 866-291-6805), option #3.

**(3) Signature Page - NM Form 500**

- (a) If you use an automatic upload program, set the program to docket the Signature Page as a separate document.
- (b) If you are manually opening the case, you may docket the Signature Page as detailed in step 3, or, you may file the Signature Page as an attachment to the voluntary petition.

**(4) Judge/Trustee Assignment**

- (a) Creditors must be uploaded before you can run the judge/trustee assignment. If there is an error, call the CM-ECF help desk at 348-2500 (toll free 866-291-6805), option #3.
- (b) Refer to the CM-ECF procedures "E-file a Bankruptcy Petition - Open Voluntary Bankruptcy Case in CM-ECF" for special considerations relating to Judge/Trustee Assignment.

**(5), (5a) - (5c) Documents relating to requirement to complete credit counseling prior to filing**

- (a) If box #1 on Exhibit D is checked, submit certificates as described in step (4). **You do not need to submit NM Form 503.** If you submit the certificates for both debtors as one pdf file in a joint case, be sure to select both debtors as parties on the Select Party screen in CM-ECF so that both debtor names will appear in the docket entry.
- (b) If box #2 on Exhibit D is checked because debtor has completed budget and credit counseling but does not have certificates. **BE SURE TO** follow the instructions in step (4a). The docket entry you make here will set a 14 day deadline for the debtor to file the certificates. If you do not make the docket entry, you will receive a notice of error from the Clerk's Office. Follow the instructions in step (4) to file the certificates within 14 days.
- (c) Use appropriate forms (either NM Form 504 or NM For 505) for the debtor's circumstance.

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- (6) **Statement of Social Security Number(s)** - Debtors must sign the Statement of Social Security Number. Use of s/debtor name typed on the line is not acceptable. Once the form is signed, scan and save it as a pdf file.
- (7), (7a) **Disclosure of Marital Status and Non-Filing Spouse, and Debtor's Certification Regarding Property Pursuant to New Mexico Local Bankruptcy Rules 1002-1 and 1007-1.** New Mexico Local Rule 1002-1 requires individual debtor's in a non-joint case to disclose marital status, and if married, the name and address of the non-filing spouse AT THE TIME OF FILING THE PETITION. Local Rule 1007-1 requires a debtor who has a non-filing spouse to certify regarding disclosure of property of the debtor and the non-filing spouse AT THE TIME OF FILING THE SCHEDULES AND STATEMENTS. The following local forms are provided to accommodate debtor's compliance with the local rules:
- (a) Use NM Form 400
    - (i) to declare debtor's marital status **when debtor is not married.**
    - (ii) to disclose non-filing spouse name and address when schedules and statements are NOT filed with petition.
  - (b) Use NM Form 402
    - (i) to declare debtor's marital status **when debtor is not married.**
    - (ii) to disclose debtor's non-filing spouse when schedules and statements are filed with petition.
  - (c) Use NM Form 401 when a debtor who has a non-filing spouse to file the schedules and statements within 14 days of the filing of the petition.
  - (d) Debtors must sign NM Form 402. Use of s/debtor name typed on the line is not acceptable. Once the form is signed, scan and save it as a pdf file.
- (8) **Disclosure of Compensation of Attorney for Debtor**
- (a) Disclosure of compensation of attorney for debtor pursuant to 11 U. S. C. § 362(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2016(b) is required in all cases.
  - (b) This form does not require the debtor's signature.
- (9) **Certificate of Compliance with Local Rule 1007-5 (b) Regarding Notice of Non-filing Spouse Information**
- (a) See Clerk's **sample form 15** for a form of notice of non-filing spouse information referred to in this certificate. The sample form is a notice to creditors disclosing non-filing information and requires the debtor's signature. The notice should not be filed with the Court.
  - (b) The certificate of compliance does not require the debtor's signature.

*Revision history:* November 30, 2009 - the flowchart was changed to conform to the new deadlines, to incorporate the search feature, and to provide instruction for the signature page as a separate document for use with the automated upload features on many bankruptcy software packages.