

## **NOTICE: CHAPTER 7 CLAIMS DEADLINES**

Effective 5/1/03, our office procedure for opening and initiating action on Chapter 7 cases will change. The Clerk will identify on the Petition the response regarding estimated assets (Statistical/Administrative Information - Page 1). This response will determine which Notice of Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Case, Meeting of Creditors, & Deadlines form will be noticed by this office. We ask that debtor attorneys exercise special vigilance in responding to the issue of estimated assets. A deadline for submitting claims will be set and noticed at case opening only in cases in which the debtor affirmatively estimates that there will be funds available for distribution.

If the response on the petition estimates that there will be no funds available for distribution, a deadline for claims will not be set, and the Notice of Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Case will state "Please Do Not File a Proof of Claim Unless You Receive a Notice to Do So." Upon subsequent identification of assets, a Notice of Need to File Proof of Claim Due to Recovery of Assets will be noticed to all creditors and parties.

Your assistance in implementing this new procedure is appreciated and will avoid delays in administering cases.