

## Motion for Joint Administration or to Consolidate Cases

---

### Docketing Event

- Bankruptcy > Motions/Applications/Objections > Motion for Joint Administration
  - Bankruptcy > Motions/Applications/Objections > Motion to Consolidate Cases
- 

**Negative Notice:** N/A

---

**Accompanying Orders:** N/A

---

### Code and Rule References:

[11 U.S.C. § 522](#)

[Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1015](#)

[Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2009](#)

[Local Rule 1015-1](#)

---

**Fee:** N/A

---

**Applicable Chapters:** 7, 11, 12, 13

---

**Implemented:** 3/15/2019

---

**Last Revision:** 8/14/2020 3:22:50 PM

---

### Description

Joint administration is the process of combining of two or more bankruptcy cases in the interest of efficiency and judicial economy. Courts use a single case docket when administering the combined bankruptcy cases.

Consolidation pools the assets and liabilities of separate estates. Consolidation of bankruptcy cases results in the joining of two or more cases together for all purposes, including the combining of assets and liabilities of separate estates into a single pool to pay creditors. It typically involves either the estates of spouses that filed a joint petition or two or more cases filed by or against the same debtor pending in the same court. An initial consolidation order may designate a lead case, and provide for a single case number, caption, claims register, and docket.

---

### Filing Checklist

Local Rule 1015-1 provides specific instructions for joint administration.

Review the proposed order for joint administration to determine if it:

- ☐ Contains “Joint Administration” in the title;
- ☐ Designates which case will be the “Lead Case”;
- ☐ Directs the Clerk of Court will maintain a single case docket using the Lead Case number;
- ☐ States the Clerk of Court will notify all CM/ECF filers and PACER users that all future filings will be filed and docketed in the Lead Case;
- ☐ Includes two sample captions: (1) for when something is filed in the Lead Case generally; and (2) for when something is filed that relates to only one of the debtors;
  - ❖ **Note:** Local Rule 1015-1 provides: “All papers shall be captioned with the name and case number of the [Lead Case] followed by the words (‘Jointly Administered with’) beneath the case number, and shall include the case names and numbers of each case

that is subject to joint administration, unless otherwise ordered. However, a proof of claim shall indicate only the case name and number of the case in which the claim is filed. The caption shall not use the word 'Consolidated' to refer to joint administration."

- ☐ States what, if anything, can be filed in the individual bankruptcy cases; and
- ☐ States that papers and orders that pertain to one or more specific debtor(s) shall be filed in the Lead Case, however, the caption of the paper or order shall designate the specific debtor(s) to which the paper or order applies.

---

**Forms**

[Motion for Joint Administration](#)

[Order Granting Motion for Joint Administration](#)