



BROWN BAG BANKRUPTCY BENCH-BAR MEETING AGENDA

Date: August 14, 2026

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Location: Rutland Courthouse & Via Zoom.gov

JUDICIAL UPDATE

Presented by Heather Z. Cooper

- August 25 and August 28 Hearings will be held by Zoom
- Motions to Shorten Time – check to see if you can notice by conventional procedure
- Upcoming Seminars through American Bankruptcy Institute and National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges
 - ABI: Behind the Bench. September 25, 2026 in Washington, D.C.
 - NCBJ: Annual Conference. October 7-10, 2026 in San Diego, CA.

CLERK'S OFFICE UPDATES

Presented by Jody Kennedy

- Hearing times in Chapter 13 cases
 - 10:00 am is for confirmation hearings
 - 11:00 am all other motions
 - If you have a confirmation hearing scheduled, you may set a motion hearing at 10:00 am in the same case
- Motion to Waive Operating Reports
 - Use Local Form S-2 for Chapter 13 cases and S-6 for Chapter 12 cases
 - Consents must be filed within 7 days after filing
 - If all consents are not filed, a Notice of Motion needs to be filed on the 8th day
 - Only file a Notice of Motion if you **DO NOT** have all consents filed
- Operating Reports:
 - Bank statements **DO NOT** need to be attached to operating reports when filed with the court. However, in Order Concerning Chapter 12 & 13 Debtor Operating a Business paragraph 7 it states: The Debtor shall deliver to the Trustee, and to any other party in interest who has requested receipt of the same, copies of the monthly statement of each bank account with each Operating Report.

- Courtroom Deputies
 - Sabrina is the Courtroom Deputy for all Rutland hearings
 - Jody is the Courtroom Deputy for all Burlington hearings

- Notice of Motions
 - Remember not to use Jody's email address or telephone number on Notice of Motions, use the following language:
 - You may appear for the above scheduled hearing (a) in person at the location listed above; *or* (b) if you meet the criteria for appearing at remote hearings set forth in Appendix IX to the Court's Local Rules (available on the Court's website), you may appear virtually by using the Zoom.gov application on an electronic device. If you are eligible for remote participation and choose to appear by Zoom.gov, you must follow the process set forth in Appendix IX, including requirements regarding use of both audio and video components, notice to the courtroom deputy, and limitations of remote participation. If you have any questions regarding this process, you are encouraged to contact the courtroom deputy by email at VTB_CRD@vtb.uscourts.gov or by telephone at (802) 657-6400.

CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE UPDATES

Presented by Raymond Obuchowski

CHAPTER 13 TRUSTEE UPDATES

Presented by Andrea Celli

SECTION CHAIR UPDATES

Presented by Ryan Long and Greg Fox

OPEN FORUM

What is one thing that has improved in bankruptcy practice over the past five years?

What is one challenge that continues to make cases more difficult than they need to be?

If you could change one aspect of bankruptcy practice tomorrow, what would it be?

ADJOURNMENT

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2026 at the Burlington Courthouse.

Bench-Bar meetings are coordinated by the Bankruptcy Court.
 One hour of CLE credit is provided for attendance at each meeting.
 Contact Lisa Clifford at Lisa_Clifford@vtb.uscourts.gov with any questions.