

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DEBTORS AND DEBTORS' COUNSEL  
IN CHAPTER 13 AND 7  
AND  
CIVILITY TO OPPOSING COUNSEL

1. Local Rules Committee considerations regarding unbundling of services
  - a. What is happening in the marketplace - is the status quo working?
  - b. Revision Proposals
    - i. No unbundling of services – with ability to withdraw
    - ii. Limited representation in consumer chapter 7 cases
    - iii. Pre and post petition engagement agreements for chapter 7 cases
    - iv. Required and non-required services in chapter 7 & chapter 13 cases
    - v. Unfettered unbundling
    - vi. Other suggestions
  - c. Giving notice in writing if you will not be representing a debtor in a matter so opposing counsel can contact debtor directly
  - d. Will providing instructions to debtors on their responsibilities be helpful?
  
2. Civility
  - a. General Tenor – what are you seeing in the community?
  - b. Responsiveness & communication via email
  - d. Advocating v. Being Upfront
  - e. ABI Report on Standards of Professional Courtesy & Conduct
    1. Be courteous and civil, and make sure staff are also
    2. Avoid litigation or unnecessary motions practice
    3. Be respectful of schedules
    4. Always behave like you would in front of the judge
    5. Do not mislead others