

TODAY'S DATE: _____

DEBT RELIEF INTAKE QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE PRINT this Questionnaire and answer each question.

If the question does not apply, indicate with N/A to show that you read and addressed the question.

Name: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Have you resided at this address for at least 3 years? Yes _____ No _____

If no, please provide previous address(es) and time period(s) you resided there:

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Cell phone: _____ Other phones: _____

E-mail address: _____

Your SS#: _____ DOB: _____

Marital status: Married _____ Single _____ Divorced _____ (Date _____) Separated _____

If applicable, spouse's name: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Cell phone: _____ Other phones: _____

E-mail address: _____

Your spouse's SS#: _____ Spouse's DOB: _____

*Number of people residing in your household (including yourself): _____

Relationship and ages of people in household: _____

*Have you been a resident of Florida for at least 2 years? _____ Approx how long? _____

*Have you ever filed bankruptcy before, either individually or jointly? _____

If yes, provide date of filing and location of Bankruptcy Court _____

Did you receive a discharge? _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT OUR FIRM?

- www.donnajoseph.com
- Other internet search _____
- Print listing or advertisement – What source _____
- Personal referral - Name of person making referral _____
- www.lawyers.com
- Directory or Bulletin

Following your initial interview, if you agree to hire the Attorney, and the Attorney agrees to represent you, you will both sign a Retainer Agreement. The Retainer Agreement will set forth the terms and conditions of representation. If the Attorney is willing to represent you and you decide not to sign a Retainer Agreement today, you are strongly urged to schedule a second appointment with the Attorney at the earliest possible time or to immediately consult with other legal counsel to protect your rights. If the Attorney does not agree to represent you, this includes not representing you with regard to the matter set forth by you on this information sheet, nor any other matters you may discuss with the Attorney during your consultation.

NOTICE: This office does not represent you with regard to the matters set forth by you herein in this information sheet or discussed during your consultation, unless and until, both you and the Attorney execute a written Retainer Agreement.

Your signature acknowledges only that you received a copy of this completed information sheet and does not mean you have hired the Attorney.

YOUR SIGNATURE _____ Date ___/___/___

SPOUSE SIGNATURE _____ Date ___/___/___

GROSS MONTHLY INCOME

Indicate any GROSS income received during the PREVIOUS SIX MONTHS

(Use another sheet of paper if necessary for more than one job)

1. **Your average gross income** per pay period from employment (including second jobs if applicable)

How often are you paid? Weekly ____ Every 2 weeks ____ Semi-monthly ____

Gross (before taxes) \$_____/pay period Net (take home) \$_____/pay period

How long employed at this job? _____ Your job title: _____

2. **Spouse's average gross income** per pay period from employment (including 2nd jobs, if applicable)

How often paid? Weekly _____ Every 2 weeks _____ Semi-monthly _____

Gross (before taxes) \$_____/pay period Net (take home) \$_____/pay period

How long employed at this job? _____ Job title: _____

Other Income for either you or your spouse (identify whose income):

3. Child support received: \$_____ Is it court ordered? _____

4. Alimony received: \$_____ Is it court ordered? _____

5. Monthly pension: \$_____

6. Monthly social security income: \$_____

7. Monthly disability benefits: \$_____

8. Unemployment compensation: \$_____

9. Worker's compensation: \$_____

10. Rental income: \$_____

11. Monthly assistance received from family members not living with you: \$_____

12. Any other income not listed above: \$_____

TOTAL AVERAGE MONTHLY GROSS INCOME: \$_____

MONTHLY INCOME DEDUCTIONS:

13. If you have money deducted from income for pension, 401K or other **retirement benefit contributions** during the previous six months, indicate monthly amount: \$_____

Is it mandatory or voluntary? _____

14. If you have money deducted monthly for **loan repayments** for loans against a 401K plan or other retirement plan during the previous six months, please indicate which retirement plan and the monthly amount:

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S) UNDER §342(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

In accordance with § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, this notice to individuals with primarily consumer debts: (1) Describes briefly the services available from credit counseling services; (2) Describes briefly the purposes, benefits and costs of the four types of bankruptcy proceedings you may commence; and (3) Informs you about bankruptcy crimes and notifies you that the Attorney General may examine all information you supply in connection with a bankruptcy case.

You are cautioned that bankruptcy law is complicated and not easily described. Thus, you may wish to seek the advice of an attorney to learn of your rights and responsibilities should you decide to file a petition. Court employees cannot give you legal advice.

Notices from the bankruptcy court are sent to the mailing address you list on your bankruptcy petition. In order to ensure that you receive information about events concerning your case, Bankruptcy Rule 4002 requires that you notify the court of any changes in your address. If you are filing a **joint case** (a single bankruptcy case for two individuals married to each other), and each spouse lists the same mailing address on the bankruptcy petition, you and your spouse will generally receive a single copy of each notice mailed from the bankruptcy court in a jointly-addressed envelope, unless you file a statement with the court requesting that each spouse receive a separate copy of all notices.

1. Services Available from Credit Counseling Agencies

With limited exceptions, § 109(h) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that all individual debtors who file for bankruptcy relief on or after October 17, 2005, receive a briefing that outlines the available opportunities for credit counseling and provides assistance in performing a budget analysis. The briefing must be given within 180 days **before** the bankruptcy filing. The briefing may be provided individually or in a group (including briefings conducted by telephone or on the Internet) and must be provided by a nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator. The clerk of the bankruptcy court has a list that you may consult of the approved budget and credit counseling agencies. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the briefing.

In addition, after filing a bankruptcy case, an individual debtor generally must complete a financial management instructional course before he or she can receive a discharge. The clerk also has a list of approved financial management instructional courses. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the course.

2. The Four Chapters of the Bankruptcy Code Available to Individual Consumer Debtors

Chapter 7: Liquidation (\$245 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee, \$15 trustee surcharge: Total fee \$335)

Chapter 7 is designed for debtors in financial difficulty who do not have the ability to pay their existing debts. Debtors whose debts are primarily consumer debts are subject to a “means test” designed to determine whether the case should be permitted to proceed under chapter 7. If your income is greater than the median income for your state of residence and family size, in some cases, the United States trustee (or bankruptcy administrator), the trustee, or creditors have the right to file a motion requesting that the court dismiss your case under § 707(b) of the Code. It is up to the court to decide whether the case should be dismissed.

Under chapter 7, you may claim certain of your property as exempt under governing law. A trustee may have the right to take possession of and sell the remaining property that is not exempt and use the sale proceeds to pay your creditors.

The purpose of filing a chapter 7 case is to obtain a discharge of your existing debts. If, however, you are found to have committed certain kinds of improper conduct described in the Bankruptcy Code, the court may deny

your discharge and, if it does, the purpose for which you filed the bankruptcy petition will be defeated.

Even if you receive a general discharge, some particular debts are not discharged under the law. Therefore, you may still be responsible for most taxes and student loans; debts incurred to pay nondischargeable taxes; domestic support and property settlement obligations; most fines, penalties, forfeitures, and criminal restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; and debts for death or personal injury caused by operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft while intoxicated from alcohol or drugs. Also, if a creditor can prove that a debt arose from fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, or theft, or from a willful and malicious injury, the bankruptcy court may determine that the debt is not discharged.

Chapter 13: Repayment of All or Part of the Debts of an Individual with Regular Income (\$235 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total fee \$310)

Chapter 13 is designed for individuals with regular income who would like to pay all or part of their debts in installments over a period of time. You are only eligible for chapter 13 if your debts do not exceed certain dollar amounts set forth in the Bankruptcy Code.

Under chapter 13, you must file with the court a plan to repay your creditors all or part of the money that you owe them, using your future earnings. The period allowed by the court to repay your debts may be three years or five years, depending upon your income and other factors. The court must approve your plan before it can take effect.

After completing the payments under your plan, your debts are generally discharged except for domestic support obligations; most student loans; certain taxes; most criminal fines and restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; certain debts for acts that caused death or personal injury; and certain long term secured obligations.

Chapter 11: Reorganization (\$1,167 filing fee, \$550 administrative fee: Total fee \$1,717)

Chapter 11 is designed for the reorganization of a business but is also available to consumer debtors. Its provisions are quite complicated, and any decision by an individual to file a chapter 11 petition should be reviewed with an attorney.

Chapter 12: Family Farmer or Fisherman (\$200 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total fee \$275)

Chapter 12 is designed to permit family farmers and fishermen to repay their debts over a period of time from future earnings and is similar to chapter 13. The eligibility requirements are restrictive, limiting its use to those whose income arises primarily from a family-owned farm or commercial fishing operation.

3. Bankruptcy Crimes and Availability of Bankruptcy Papers to Law Enforcement Officials

A person who knowingly and fraudulently conceals assets or makes a false oath or statement under penalty of perjury, either orally or in writing, in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to a fine, imprisonment, or both. All information supplied by a debtor in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to examination by the Attorney General acting through the Office of the United States Trustee, the Office of the United States Attorney, and other components and employees of the Department of Justice.

WARNING: Section 521(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that you promptly file detailed information regarding your creditors, assets, liabilities, income, expenses and general financial condition. Your bankruptcy case may be dismissed if this information is not filed with the court within the time deadlines set by the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the local rules of the court. The documents and the deadlines for filing them are listed on Form B200, which is posted at http://www.uscourts.gov/bkforms/bankruptcy_forms.html#procedure.
