



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Karen Redmond

Bankruptcy Filings Down in Calendar Year 1999

The number of bankruptcy petitions filed in calendar year 1999—the 12-month period ending December 31, 1999—fell 8.5 percent over filings in calendar year 1998, according to data released today by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. Despite this year’s drop, bankruptcy filings in 1999 were 42 percent higher than the number filed in 1995, and the total number of filings remains well above the one million mark. Bankruptcy filings passed the one-million mark for the first time in the 12-month period ending June 30, 1996.

Filings in the calendar year 1999 totaled 1,319,465 while the filings for calendar year 1998 totaled 1,442,549. Only chapters 11 and 12 in bankruptcy filings showed increases in 1999.

The number of bankruptcies filed during the Judiciary’s fiscal first quarter of FY2000 (October 1-December 31, 1999) was 318,634, down 9.8 percent from the 353,108 filings reported in the first fiscal quarter of 1999 (October 1-December 31, 1998).

Business and Non-business Filings CY 1995-99

<u>CY</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Non-business</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1999	37,884	1,281,581	1,319,465
1998	44,367	1,398,182	1,442,549
1997	54,027	1,350,118	1,404,145
1996	53,549	1,125,006	1,178,555
1995	51,959	874,642	926,601

Filings by Chapter

Of the total number of bankruptcy filings for the 12-month period ending December 31, 1999, there were 927,074 Chapter 7 filings, a drop of 10.5 percent from the 1,035,696 filings in the same period in 1998. The next largest group of filings were Chapter 13 filings at 382,214, which dropped 3.9 percent when compared to the 397,619 filings in the same period in 1998. Chapter 11 filings rose to 9,315 in calendar year 1999, up from 8,386 in 1998. Chapter 12 filings also increased slightly in this period, from 807 in 1998 to 834 in 1999.

Non-business filings fell 8.3 percent from 1,398,182 in 1998 to 1,281,581 in 1999. Business filings also fell, down 14.6 percent from 44,367 in 1998 to 37,884 in 1999.

Chapter 7 is designed to allow individuals to keep certain exempt property while the remaining property is sold to repay creditors. Under Chapter 13 bankruptcy, creditors may be repaid in installments, in full or in part, over a 3- to 5-year period. Chapter 11 provides for a business to continue operations while formulating a plan to repay its creditors. Chapter 12 is designed to meet the needs of financially distressed family farmers.

Total Bankruptcy Filings by Bankruptcy Chapter
Calendar Years, Period Ending December 30, 1994-1998

Year	Chapter			
	7	11	12	13
1999	927,074	9,315	834	382,214
1998	1,035,696	8,386	807	397,619
1997	989,372	10,765	949	403,025
1996	810,400	11,911	1,083	355,123
1995	626,150	12,904	926	286,588
1994	567,240	14,773	900	249,877

A breakdown of the latest data on bankruptcy filings follows and also is available on the home page of the Judiciary at www.uscourts.gov.

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Quarterly Bankruptcy Filings*

Ending	Total Filings
DEC. 31, 1999	318,634
SEPT. 30, 1999	323,550
JUN. 30, 1999	345,956
MAR. 31, 1999	330,784
DEC. 31, 1998	353,108
SEPT. 30, 1998	361,205
JUN. 30, 1998	373,460
MAR. 31, 1998	354,118
DEC. 31, 1997	347,685
SEPT. 30, 1997	353,515
JUN. 30, 1997	367,168
MAR. 31, 1997	335,073
DEC. 31, 1996	311,131
SEPT. 30, 1996	303,309
JUN. 30, 1996	297,162
MAR. 31, 1996	266,149
DEC. 31, 1995	244,494
SEPT. 30, 1995	233,593
JUN. 30, 1995	235,302
MAR. 31, 1995	212,626
DEC. 31, 1994	201,618
SEPT. 30, 1994	208,187
JUN. 30, 1994	216,213
MAR. 31, 1994	206,565
DEC. 31, 1993	206,570
SEPT. 30, 1993	215,498
JUN. 30, 1993	229,406
MAR. 31, 1993	222,694
DEC. 31, 1992	228,562
SEPT. 30, 1992	236,810
JUN. 30, 1992	250,622
MAR. 31, 1992	252,733
DEC. 31, 1991	234,383
SEPT. 30, 1991	231,743
JUN. 30, 1991	246,496
MAR. 31, 1991	231,017
DEC. 31, 1990	210,008

*Because of ongoing corrections to the bankruptcy database, the quarterly data may not total to the most recent annual figures.

**TABLE F-2 U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURTS
BUSINESS AND NONBUSINESS BANKRUPTCY CASES COMMENCED, BY CHAPTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE,
DURING THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1999**

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL FILINGS	TOTAL BUSINESS					TOTAL NON BUSINESS							
		CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13		
TOTAL...	1,319,465	927,074	9,315	834	382,214	37,884	22,510	8,609	834	5,903	1,281,581	904,564	706	376,311
DC.....	2,718	1,805	42	-	871	81	34	38	-	9	2,637	1,771	4	862
1ST...	49,850	33,647	316	4	15,879	1,433	958	296	4	171	48,417	32,689	20	15,708
ME.....	4,177	3,863	10	1	303	197	147	10	1	39	3,980	3,716		264
MA.....	18,600	15,976	190	1	2,431	566	332	190	1	41	18,034	15,644		2,390
NH.....	4,104	3,791	23	1	287	348	302	23	1	20	3,756	3,489		267
RI.....	5,060	4,725	20	-	315	116	93	20	-	3	4,944	4,632		312
PR.....	17,909	5,292	73	1	12,543	206	84	53	1	68	17,703	5,208	20	12,475
2ND...	80,698	66,179	824	32	13,653	2,097	1,080	725	32	250	78,601	65,099	99	13,403
CT.....	11,868	10,309	90	2	1,467	142	69	71	2	-	11,726	10,240	19	1,467
NY,N....	14,466	12,084	47	14	2,320	394	244	41	14	94	14,072	11,840	6	2,226
NY,E....	26,449	20,937	248	-	5,264	378	154	215	-	9	26,071	20,783	33	5,255
NY,S....	14,798	12,727	380	1	1,683	565	203	341	1	13	14,233	12,524	39	1,670
NY,W....	11,360	8,527	47	5	2,780	535	364	45	5	120	10,825	8,163	2	2,660
VT.....	1,757	1,595	12	10	139	83	46	12	10	14	1,674	1,549		125
3RD...	89,320	60,101	2,893	15	26,310	4,401	1,375	2,781	15	229	84,919	58,726	112	26,081
DE.....	4,526	1,671	2,103	-	752	2,115	27	2,084	-	4	2,411	1,644	19	748
NJ.....	40,814	27,005	479	1	13,328	877	456	416	1	3	39,937	26,549	63	13,325
PA,E....	21,752	12,682	132	4	8,934	328	184	121	4	19	21,424	12,498	11	8,915
PA,M....	10,212	8,285	59	2	1,866	706	458	58	2	188	9,506	7,827	1	1,678
PA,W....	11,950	10,412	115	8	1,415	363	242	98	8	15	11,587	10,170	17	1,400
VI.....	66	46	5	-	15	12	8	4	-	-	54	38	1	15

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL					TOTAL NON								
	TOTAL FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13
4TH...	116,174	75,095	519	40	40,519	2,522	1,641	457	40	383	113,652	73,454	62	40,136
MD.....	32,273	22,403	159	2	9,709	795	498	145	2	150	31,478	21,905	14	9,559
NC,E....	10,325	4,744	31	11	5,539	263	143	27	11	82	10,062	4,601	4	5,457
NC,M....	8,543	2,876	17	1	5,649	113	91	16	1	5	8,430	2,785	1	5,644
NC,W....	6,996	3,189	21	2	3,784	66	41	21	2	2	6,930	3,148		3,782
SC.....	11,442	5,675	60	7	5,700	191	109	50	7	25	11,251	5,566	10	5,675
VA,E....	28,262	20,181	148	10	7,922	369	207	120	10	31	27,893	19,974	28	7,891
VA,W....	10,182	8,376	37	6	1,763	472	366	35	6	65	9,710	8,010	2	1,698
WV,N....	3,339	3,139	11	1	188	115	93	9	1	12	3,224	3,046	2	176
WV,S....	4,812	4,512	35	-	265	138	93	34	-	11	4,674	4,419	1	254
5TH...	105,093	58,252	762	108	45,967	3,092	1,635	723	108	622	102,001	56,617	39	45,345
LA,E....	7,657	4,893	82	3	2,679	131	51	77	3	-	7,526	4,842	5	2,679
LA,M....	2,680	1,842	13	-	825	29	15	13	-	1	2,651	1,827		824
LA,W....	12,293	5,761	41	15	6,475	429	257	37	15	119	11,864	5,504	4	6,356
MS,N....	5,917	3,589	27	24	2,277	133	66	25	24	18	5,784	3,523	2	2,259
MS,S....	11,833	6,938	31	3	4,861	68	42	22	3	1	11,765	6,896	9	4,860
TX,N....	21,447	11,273	192	34	9,948	921	516	188	34	183	20,526	10,757	4	9,765
TX,E....	9,272	4,555	47	11	4,658	303	149	46	11	96	8,969	4,406	1	4,562
TX,S....	17,506	9,998	209	7	7,292	614	276	199	7	132	16,892	9,722	10	7,160
TX,W....	16,488	9,403	120	11	6,952	464	263	116	11	72	16,024	9,140	4	6,880
6TH...	158,385	106,970	696	61	50,658	2,912	1,725	649	61	477	155,473	105,245	47	50,181
KY,E....	8,996	7,801	20	6	1,169	143	98	20	6	19	8,853	7,703		1,150
KY,W....	11,825	9,468	33	14	2,310	138	85	32	14	7	11,687	9,383	1	2,303
MI,E....	25,824	18,443	147	9	7,225	359	190	140	9	20	25,465	18,253	7	7,205
MI,W....	11,428	8,471	49	9	2,899	275	159	49	9	58	11,153	8,312		2,841
OH,N....	27,716	22,556	35	2	5,123	789	617	35	2	135	26,927	21,939		4,988
OH,S....	26,071	19,897	51	12	6,111	406	243	50	12	101	25,665	19,654	1	6,010
TN,E....	14,944	8,447	58	3	6,436	236	124	53	3	56	14,708	8,323	5	6,380
TN,M....	10,968	6,457	112	4	4,395	251	125	84	4	38	10,717	6,332	28	4,357
TN,W....	20,613	5,430	191	2	14,990	315	84	186	2	43	20,298	5,346	5	14,947

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL							TOTAL NON						
	TOTAL FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13
7TH...	120,692	93,217	381	115	26,978	2,714	1,934	347	115	317	117,978	91,283	34	26,661
IL,N....	44,790	30,534	192	6	14,058	553	358	175	6	14	44,237	30,176	17	14,044
IL,C....	11,765	10,057	21	54	1,633	167	80	21	54	12	11,598	9,977		1,621
IL,S....	7,406	5,402	22	17	1,965	674	491	20	17	146	6,732	4,911	2	1,819
IN,N....	14,288	12,141	33	9	2,105	148	89	30	9	20	14,140	12,052	3	2,085
IN,S....	23,954	19,183	68	9	4,694	353	252	59	9	33	23,601	18,931	9	4,661
WI,E....	12,615	10,573	17	4	2,021	213	171	17	4	21	12,402	10,402		2,000
WI,W....	5,874	5,327	28	16	502	606	493	25	16	71	5,268	4,834	3	431
8TH...	77,736	58,474	221	212	18,829	2,843	1,956	204	212	471	74,893	56,518	17	18,358
AR,E....	10,252	5,662	23	3	4,564	148	72	18	3	55	10,104	5,590	5	4,509
AR,W....	6,281	4,420	13	4	1,844	147	83	13	4	47	6,134	4,337		1,797
IA,N....	3,444	3,315	7	13	109	115	92	5	13	5	3,329	3,223	2	104
IA,S....	5,008	4,588	11	7	402	81	61	11	7	2	4,927	4,527		400
MN.....	15,853	12,462	42	23	3,326	1,584	1,236	42	23	283	14,269	11,226		3,043
MO,E....	15,888	9,991	26	6	5,865	203	140	23	6	34	15,685	9,851	3	5,831
MO,W....	11,141	9,314	53	10	1,764	155	77	52	10	16	10,986	9,237	1	1,748
NE.....	5,500	4,594	36	83	787	158	35	30	83	10	5,342	4,559	6	777
ND.....	2,146	2,016	6	34	90	100	53	6	34	7	2,046	1,963		83
SD.....	2,223	2,112	4	29	78	152	107	4	29	12	2,071	2,005		66
9TH...	283,921	227,426	1,585	92	54,813	10,365	6,840	1,422	92	2,006	273,556	220,586	163	52,807
AK.....	1,492	1,356	17	-	119	115	76	17	-	22	1,377	1,280		97
AZ.....	22,609	18,162	316	2	4,129	781	382	284	2	113	21,828	17,780	32	4,016
CA,N....	26,564	19,253	203	6	7,100	1,308	680	179	6	441	25,256	18,573	24	6,659
CA,E....	34,750	29,675	92	23	4,959	1,144	789	86	23	245	33,606	28,886	6	4,714
CA,C....	102,422	82,613	472	2	19,335	2,387	1,723	413	2	249	100,035	80,890	59	19,086
CA,S....	15,292	11,881	54	-	3,357	175	122	43	-	10	15,117	11,759	11	3,347
HI.....	5,426	4,898	27	-	500	87	56	26	-	4	5,339	4,842	1	496
ID.....	7,285	5,768	43	30	1,444	340	187	38	30	85	6,945	5,581	5	1,359
MT.....	3,386	2,905	10	9	462	121	94	8	9	10	3,265	2,811	2	452
NV.....	14,743	10,767	114	5	3,857	309	157	105	5	42	14,434	10,610	9	3,815
OR.....	18,168	15,059	37	2	3,069	2,939	2,172	36	2	728	15,229	12,887	1	2,341

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL FILINGS	TOTAL				TOTAL NON				CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13
		CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13						
WA,E....	7,823	6,111	37	13	1,662	297	221	34	13	29	7,526	5,890	3	1,633	
WA,W....	23,818	18,854	159	-	4,805	335	159	149	-	27	23,483	18,695	10	4,778	
GUAM....	131	112	4	-	15	21	16	4	-	1	110	96		14	
NMI.....	12	12	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	
10TH..	71,184	56,632	269	95	14,188	2,334	1,614	253	95	372	68,850	55,018	16	13,816	
CO.....	16,165	13,624	81	14	2,446	347	234	80	14	19	15,818	13,390	1	2,427	
KS.....	11,538	9,220	25	22	2,271	172	109	23	22	18	11,366	9,111	2	2,253	
NM.....	7,336	6,250	34	7	1,045	554	438	28	7	81	6,782	5,812	6	964	
OK,N....	5,042	4,340	12	2	688	328	262	11	2	53	4,714	4,078	1	635	
OK,E....	3,550	3,261	9	14	266	104	68	9	14	13	3,446	3,193		253	
OK,W....	11,436	9,392	37	21	1,986	296	197	35	21	43	11,140	9,195	2	1,943	
UT.....	14,108	8,688	57	9	5,354	464	264	55	9	136	13,644	8,424	2	5,218	
WY.....	2,009	1,857	14	6	132	69	42	12	6	9	1,940	1,815	2	123	
11TH..	163,694	89,276	807	60	73,549	3,090	1,718	714	60	596	160,604	87,558	93	72,953	
AL,N....	19,385	7,495	55	3	11,832	254	123	40	3	88	19,131	7,372	15	11,744	
AL,M....	6,500	2,650	15	5	3,830	146	79	15	5	47	6,354	2,571		3,783	
AL,S....	4,679	2,087	20	1	2,570	34	15	17	1	-	4,645	2,072	3	2,570	
FL,N....	5,002	4,031	38	4	929	74	33	33	4	4	4,928	3,998	5	925	
FL,M....	41,855	30,646	278	12	10,919	1,008	617	253	12	126	40,847	30,029	25	10,793	
FL,S....	28,500	20,747	229	3	7,520	641	426	206	3	5	27,859	20,321	23	7,515	
GA,N....	31,871	13,217	116	1	18,537	650	302	100	1	247	31,221	12,915	16	18,290	
GA,M....	14,161	5,664	34	28	8,435	160	65	31	28	36	14,001	5,599	3	8,399	
GA,S....	11,741	2,739	22	3	8,977	123	58	19	3	43	11,618	2,681	3	8,934	

*THESE FIGURES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CASES NOT REFLECTED ELSEWHERE:

MA.....	SECTION 304 = 02	NH.....	SECTION 304 = 02	NY,N...	SECTION 304 = 01
NY,S....	SECTION 304 = 07	NY,W...	SECTION 304 = 01	VT.....	SECTION 304 = 01
NJ.....	CHAPTER 9 = 01	VA,E...	SECTION 304 = 01	LA,W...	CHAPTER 9 = 01
TX,E....	SECTION 304 = 01	TX,W...	SECTION 304 = 02	WI,W...	SECTION 304 = 01
CA,N....	CHAPTER 9 = 01	CA,N...	SECTION 304 = 01	CA,E...	CHAPTER 9 = 01
HI.....	SECTION 304 = 01	OR.....	SECTION 304 = 01	AL,S...	CHAPTER 9 = 01
FL,S....	SECTION 304 = 01				