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SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES FLAT FEE BANKRUPTCY PROGRAM

Service Offers Affordable Bankruptcy Filing Without Hourly Attorney Fees

SAN DIEGO (August 9, 2017) – The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA), through its Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS), is connecting consumers with qualified attorneys who can facilitate their Chapter 7 bankruptcy at a set fee instead of charging by the hour.

Chapter 7 bankruptcy provides for the sale of a debtor’s nonexempt property and the distribution of proceeds to creditors. The flat fee program makes it affordable for individuals to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy with the security of having a bankruptcy attorney guiding the process.

“Filing for bankruptcy can be complicated and confusing,” said Loren Freestone, 2017 SDCBA President. “Having an attorney help you through the process should give consumers confidence that their matter is being handled correctly, without the burden of hourly attorney fees accumulating throughout the process.”

Individuals who file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy on their own will be charged \$1,000, while those who file jointly will be charged \$1,200 under the new program. All matters will be handled by a special panel of bankruptcy attorneys, evaluated and approved through the SDCBA’s Lawyer Referral and Information Service.

“Access to qualified attorneys is a cornerstone of the SDCBA’s Lawyer Referral Service. People may assume that hiring an attorney to help with their bankruptcy is cost-prohibitive,” said SDCBA Executive Director & CEO Ellen Miller-Sharp. “Through the flat free program, we are able to offer access in an affordable way, with the assurance that your matter has been handled by an attorney with expertise in this area.”

Miller-Sharp added that there were plans to further expand the LRIS flat fee program to include areas of family law, business law, and trusts and estates in the near future. The flat fee program does not include filing fees required by the courts. Anyone considering filing for Chapter 7 bankruptcy should contact the LRIS at (619) 231-8585 or www.sdcba.org/inedalawyer.

The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) is the region’s largest law related organization and the hub of the city’s legal community, headquartered in downtown San Diego. As the representative of the legal profession, the SDCBA aims to serve the county’s lawyers and legal professionals, and the greater San Diego community. For more information, please visit www.sdcba.org.

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