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February 24, 2006

VIA ECF

The Honorable Glen E. Clark
Chief Bankruptcy Judge
United States Bankruptcy Court
350 South Main Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

RE: Chapter 13 Attorney Fees in Chapter 13 Case

Dear Judge Clark:

I feel the need to share my opinions and any useful experience on the subject of raising the presumptive chapter 13-attorney fee award. I have been in practice in this jurisdiction almost 5 years and consider myself quite unseasoned. I also feel that in that amount of time I have learned a lot about bankruptcy practice in this state.

The bankruptcy bar is high and has gotten higher. Bankruptcy is becoming an exclusive filed with the barrier to entry very weighty. The opportunity to learn "on the fly" is all but gone.

I learned chapter 13 practice on the fly and it was hard. I pity the "green" attorney that thinks he can enter bankruptcy at all let alone chapter 13 practice. It's not for the faint of heart.

Not only are we becoming specialists in our field, but we are required to devote more time and resources to researching each case that at any time in the past. Simply we are doing more work and at a higher degree of difficulty. There is no field where more work and a higher degree of focus do not equal increased compensation.

In addition, the reality is that practitioners have already left and will continue to leave this area of practice because if you spend more man-hours on a task you have to pay someone more money to perform that task. This is what I and every other attorney in this area has to deal with. We pay paralegals and support staff more and more while getting paid the same money (which becomes less and less).

In brief, the cost of doing business has risen and the compensation should rise with it. I do not have a specified amount that I can claim applies to me, but I agree with the

presumptive award amount mentioned by Vincent Cameron, Chapter 13 Trustee in his remarks of \$2,750.00.

Thank you in advance for your attention to the remarks that other attorneys and I have filed in this matter.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lou G. Harris".

Lou Gehrig Harris
Attorney and Counselor at Law

cc:

Encl: