



**Opinion Title:** 7/23/15 PUBLISHED In re Hunt v. Steffensen (In re Steffensen), 13-2192, Judge Thurman

**Body:**

Chapter 7 trustee brought an adversary proceeding to deny debtor a discharge and moved for partial summary judgment under 11 U.S.C. § 727(a)(3) and 727(a)(5). The Court denied the Debtor his discharge and found: (1) the term “keep,” as used in discharge exception for debtors who fail to “keep or preserve” adequate financial records, is not synonymous with preserve; (2) debtor-attorney was a sophisticated individual with experience in bankruptcy law and so had no excuse for failing to create and preserve records sufficient to allow trustee and creditors to ascertain his business transactions; and (3) debtor’s explanation that he could not keep records because he could not afford a bookkeeper, did not have time to keep records himself, and his computer hard drive crashed was inadequate.

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**Judge:** [Judge William T. Thurman](#) [2]

**Date:** Thursday, July 23, 2015

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