

INTRODUCTION

[In Re: Chapter 9 Plan Application Packet]

In order to encourage Florida attorneys in private practice to give due and serious consideration to making Chapter 9 Plans a part of their law firm's overall business plan, **John Joseph**, the then incoming Chair of the **Prepaid Legal Services Committee** (the "Committee"), appointed the "**Chapter 9 Plan Application Packet Subcommittee**" (the "Subcommittee") during the course of the Committee's **2010 Annual Meeting** held on **June 24, 2010**.

In general, the Subcommittee was tasked to (1) create a new Committee form, entitled "**Agreement by and between Managing Attorney and Sponsor**"¹ (the "Agreement"), in order to more easily permit a Managing Attorney² to create a Chapter 9 Plan; (2) review and revise, as appropriate, any Committee forms that had been approved by the Committee since adoption of **Chapter 9, as amended, effective April 3, 1998**; and, then, (3) make all of the foregoing available in .pdf *fillable* format on the Committee's website.

Thereupon, after extensive work by the Subcommittee, the Committee ultimately approved all of the following: (1) the final draft of the Agreement during the Committee's **2011 Annual Meeting** held on **June 23, 2011**; (2) the revision of all other Committee forms to be included in the "**Chapter 9 Plan Application Packet**" on **September 22, 2011**; and, (3) the final draft of all of the foregoing in .pdf *fillable* format on **February 3, 2012**.

Finally, on this day, **April 2, 2012**, the "**Chapter 9 Plan Application Packet**"³ is going "live" upon being made available on the Committee's website and, by so doing, the Subcommittee is hopeful that Chapter 9 Plans will now have a wider audience amongst members of The Florida Bar.

In conclusion, the undersigned Chair of the Subcommittee would hereby kindly take this opportunity to thank **John Joseph** for having made this initiative possible and thank, as well, Subcommittee members **Nancy R. Berger** and **Kent A. Showalter, III**, for their dedication and fine efforts with respect to this project.

John Schaefer, Chair
Chapter 9 Plan Application Packet Subcommittee,
Prepaid Legal Services Committee
April 2, 2012

¹ See **Rule 9-2.2(b), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar**, (the "Rules").

² As that term is defined in **Rule 9-1.3(f)** of the Rules.

³ As well as those certain "**Chapter 9 Operating Rules and Regulations**" relevant thereto.