

Gainesville Hybrid Mass Calendar Appearance Procedures *(Beginning February 1, 2026)*

Beginning February 1, 2026, Judge Sacca will hold hearings on mass calendars in Gainesville as set forth below. The procedures for hearings that are not scheduled on a mass calendar will be determined by the Court on a case-by-case basis.

Chapters 7, 11 (non-complex), 12 and 13: The calendar call will be virtual/telephonic via Judge Sacca's Virtual Hearing Room pursuant to the instructions below or in person at the option of the person appearing. Except for the limited categories of hearings set forth below, in person appearances for any matter held ready will be required that day at either 11 a.m or 1 p.m. as mutually announced by the parties at the calendar call in Courtroom 103, United States Courthouse, 121 Spring St., Gainesville, Georgia. If the parties do not mutually agree to 11 a.m., or such other time agreed to by the Court at the mutual request of the parties (such as 11:30 a.m. that day), the matter will be heard in person at 1 p.m. that day.

Exceptions: Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following matters will be heard virtually immediately after the conclusion of the call of the 10:30 a.m. calendar via Judge Sacca's Virtual Hearing Room pursuant to the instructions below or in person at the option of the person appearing:

1. Subchapter V status conferences;
2. Status conferences in adversary proceedings and contested matters;
3. Uncontested Chapter 11 and 12 plan confirmation hearings;
4. Uncontested Chapter 11 Disclosure Statement hearings;
5. Uncontested First Day Hearings in Chapter 11 cases scheduled on mass calendars;
6. Other matters in which the parties are not seeking a ruling, such as the parties requesting a specially set hearing date; and
7. Uncontested matters in which a party wishes to apprise the judge of something. For example, and without limiting same, the parties can appear virtually if the parties merely want to advise the Court of a change of the terms of an otherwise uncontested sale or settlement so the Court can understand why the order will reflect different terms than the motion or if a Trustee is merely seeking direction with respect to how to disburse money in regard to an otherwise unopposed motion.

Regarding matters held ready to be heard in person, a party in interest or their counsel whose participation in the hearing will be limited to monitoring the hearing or otherwise are only appearing only to advise the Court of their support of or opposition to the matter and otherwise will not be making any substantive argument or presentation of evidence other than to say they support the position of one party or another, may request permission to attend the hearing virtually from the Court via email to Chambers, JRSChambers@ganb.uscourts.gov, at least 30 minutes in advance of the hearing. In addition, “no opposition” announcements at the calendar call earlier in the day will alleviate the need for that party in interest to make a further appearance at the in person hearing.

Parties are encouraged to use the Voluntary Notice Procedure set out in the Fifth Amended and Restated General Order 24-2018, as amended and restated from time to time, and allow sufficient time between the objection deadline and the hearing date to plan accordingly.

Complex Chapter 11 cases: To be determined at first day hearings.

Telephonic Dial-In Instructions

- * Toll Free Number: 833-568-8864
- * Meeting ID: 161 418 0533
- * Dial in at least 10 minutes before the hearing time
- * Place all phones on mute until your matter is called. DO NOT place this call on hold.
- * Pursuant to BLR 5073-1, you are prohibited from recording or broadcasting the proceedings
- * Each time you speak, identify yourself for the record

Virtual Hearing Room Instructions

The Link to connect to Judge Sacca’s “Virtual Hearing Room” is

<https://www.ganb.uscourts.gov/content/honorable-james-r-sacca>. The Virtual Hearing Room can also be accessed through the link on the Chambers’ webpage or by clicking the link "Dial-In and Virtual Bankruptcy Hearing Information" in the middle of the top half of the Court's main webpage and then the link to Judge Sacca's Virtual Hearing Room. You should connect via this link each time you have a virtual hearing with Judge Sacca until further notice from the Court.

The link is best used on a desktop or laptop computer but may be used on a phone or tablet as well. Your device must have a camera and audio. You will have the greatest success by being connected to reliable Wi-Fi with a connection speed greater than 3mb/s. The first time you click the link you may be instructed to download the zoom application. It will only take a couple of minutes. When you are connected via your device, you will be in Judge Sacca's "Virtual Hearing Room".

PLEASE JOIN THE VIRTUAL ROOM SUFFICIENTLY PRIOR TO YOUR HEARING IN CASE YOU HAVE A PROBLEM ACCESSING THE VIRTUAL HEARING ROOM. IF YOU EXPERIENCE DIFFICULTY IN CONNECTION, PLEASE CONTACT THE COURTROOM DEPUTY OR LAW CLERK VIA EMAIL.

When you join the Virtual Hearing Room, please place yourself on mute until your matter is called. You may also turn your video off until your matter is called. Be aware that the courtroom deputy may place you on mute, in which case she will need to invite you to unmute yourself. It is best to mute yourself so you are in control. Remember you are on video, even as you wait your turn. **The Judge will be in the courtroom and since this is a court proceeding, the Judge expects all participants to dress and act as if they are in the courtroom. Any person who does not follow proper courtroom decorum may be removed from the virtual courtroom without any notice.**

As with the phone appearances, identify yourself for the record each time you speak. Also make sure your Zoom profile matches your legal name. **You are prohibited from recording or broadcasting the proceedings conducted by the bankruptcy court. BLR 5073-1.**

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Gillespie at 678-450-2713.