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June 14, 2010

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TO: All Attorneys General
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All Bankruptcy Contacts

FROM: James E. McPherson, Executive Director
Karen Cordry, NAAG Bankruptcy Counsel

RE: **NAGTRI Training – NAAG/SABA “Bankruptcy from
a Government Perspective” Seminar
September 12-15, 2010, Santa Fe, NM**

The National Attorneys General Training & Research Institute (NAGTRI) is pleased to announce that limited scholarship funding from the NAAG Mission Foundation is available to help defray costs for attendees from offices of the Attorneys General. Funding is available for one scholarship per state, to cover a maximum of four nights at the hotel, plus up to \$400 in plane fare. Requests, including completed nomination and registration forms, must be received by July 9. Funds not requested by a State by that date will be reallocated to other States that have nominated more than one person. Additional information is provided separately.

We are pleased to announce that the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) will be joining the States' Association of Bankruptcy Attorneys (SABA) to hold their annual seminar on Bankruptcy from a Government Perspective under the auspices of the National Attorneys General Training and Research Institute (NAGTRI). The program will be held at the Hotel Santa Fe in Santa Fe, New Mexico. We will also be coordinating with the federal Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Justice to hold combined sessions on environmental issues as they affect enforcement actions by governmental entities at all levels

The continued struggles of the economy continue to affect governmental entities in all of their roles from tax collector, to regulator in numerous sectors, to protector of its citizenry, and even in its own capacity as an economic actor that has monetary obligations to other parties. Among the most active areas this year are the numerous issues arising out of the origins of the housing and mortgage loan crisis, including underlying fraud in the mortgages, efforts by the States and other parties in the system to assist homeowners and to deal with abusive practices by lenders and servicers in and outside of bankruptcy and proposed legislative solutions to these

problems. We will have an extended panel discussion of this panoply of issues. We will also have a presentation by counsel dealing with the unique issues arising out the complex issues arising from the derivative and credit swap transactions in the field of municipal bonds. Another “hot topic” will be an in depth look at the filing of “Chapter 9” cases; i.e., bankruptcy filings by cities, counties, or operating subdivisions such as hospital or water districts faced with growing need and declining revenues. All of these new and highly topical areas are on top of the wealth of standard ways in which the government must interact with the bankruptcy system in areas ranging from environmental and consumer protection, to child support, and to collector of taxes and student loans. As a result, the need to have counsel with bankruptcy training and experience in place in your offices has become ever more clear.

The discussion at this conference will be an invaluable opportunity for your staff and staff in your client agencies to learn about the Bankruptcy Code, the statutory changes made in 2005, and the way those provisions, old and new, are playing out in the new current economic climate. The seminar runs for three and a half days and is designed to be helpful to everyone in your office, from the bankruptcy novice to the experienced practitioner. It is open to attorneys, paralegals, and other staff members in the offices of Attorneys General as well as those in other government agencies, such as revenue offices, and in private practice who work on government bankruptcy issues. It will provide an in-depth education for bankruptcy novices about the entire Bankruptcy Code as it applies to governmental entities. At the other end of the scale, it will allow your experienced counsel to engage with their peers in other States, as well as local and federal counsel, to determine how to confront the new challenges in protecting the interests of the States and your constituents. We urge you to distribute this invitation as widely as possible within your office and related agencies, as bankruptcy issues arise in every substantive area.

The seminar will begin Sunday afternoon with an optional session providing a quick overview of bankruptcy topics as a base for the more detailed discussions during the remainder of the conference. In addition, since much of bankruptcy law builds on existing state law, there will be a session on legislative drafting tactics to help ensure that your laws are structured so that there is the best chance they will survive their encounter with the bankruptcy courts. Over the next three days, we will work through the bankruptcy process from the initial filing through plan confirmation and thereafter. We will have a number of breakouts: some will split into beginning and advanced reviews of a topic, while others will focus separately on the interests of taxing agencies and regulatory offices.

We will have a distinguished panel of presenters for the seminar, including bankruptcy judges, trustees, private attorneys, and experienced bankruptcy counsel from state, local, and federal agencies. Each has been selected based on his or her experience and expertise with respect to the unique issues faced by governmental counsel in bankruptcy court. A tentative agenda is attached hereto with generalized descriptions that will be updated and expanded as we get closer to the program dates. We will run through Wednesday afternoons, so travel plans should be made accordingly.

The fee for the seminar is \$500; a reduced fee of \$450 will be available until August 20, 2010. In addition, to encourage the greatest possible participation from your offices, we will be offering a discount of \$100 per registration for groups of three or more persons from the same office, registering at the same time. Enclosed is a seminar registration form, which should be

returned to **attention of Marland Holloway, Bankruptcy Project Assistant** on or before that date. Although we will continue to accept registrations as late as possible, we may not be able to accommodate participants after the cut-off date, depending on the numbers already registered. In order to assist our planning, please have staff return the registration form as early as possible.

In addition to the regular registration, a limited amount of scholarship assistance will be available through NAGTRI for registrants from Offices of the Attorneys General. information on the scholarships will be provided separately in an accompanying memorandum.

Hotel Information

We have reserved a block of guest rooms at the Hotel Santa Fe, located at 1501 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM, 87601. Please call toll free to 1-800-825-9876 to make reservations. The special government group rate is \$88 plus 14.9375% tax for single or double occupancy (and children stay free in the same room). Rooms are reserved under the conference block from Saturday through Thursday night, a discounted rate of \$139 per night is available for days before and after the reserved dates. Hotel space can be limited for those periods, so we strongly urge attendees to reserve their rooms early, particularly if they would like to stay before or after the conference dates. Be sure to mention the NAAG/SABA Bankruptcy Seminar when making reservation to get the special rates. ***The cut-off for reservations is Thursday, August 19, 2010.*** After that date, the rooms will be released to the general public and the rate may increase substantially, so make reservations now even if the final clearance to attend is still pending. Reservations must be made with a credit card (with a one-night deposit charged and **may be canceled up until 48 hours in advance without penalty.**

What's Included in the Registration; Other Activities

In addition to the course and materials, the seminar registration will cover breakfasts on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; breaks each day, an opening reception on Sunday night, and, tentatively, lunch on Monday. We are also arranging an optional outing (probably for a reception at a local museum – last time we visited the Georgia O’Keefe museum) on Monday evening. Registration for that event must be made on a separate activity form that will be sent to registrants. A charge of \$50 will be made for guests of the participants who wish to attend the opening reception and the breaks. If staff will not be attending the conference, but are interested in purchasing a copy of the briefing materials, please so indicate on the attached reservation form, and return it to us by the registration deadline, so we can prepare extra copies of the materials if necessary.

Travel Information

Santa Fe does have a small local airport, but it is generally reached by flying into Albuquerque and taking transportation from there. There are shuttle buses, such as the Santa Fe Shuttle (\$21 one way, \$38 round trip) 1-888-833-2300 for required 24-hour advance reservation, Sandia Shuttle Xpress Shuttle (\$27 one way, \$47 round trip), 505-474-5696, www.sandiashuttle.com, which also requires advance reservations. Both have multiple trips daily and have drop-off and pick-up at the hotel. There is also a new train running to Santa Fe, the Rail Runner Express, that costs \$7 each way with a number of departures in the morning and evening and lets off only

a short walk from the hotel. It leaves from downtown Albuquerque and there is a shuttle to the train station from the airport. Both the bus and the train take about an hour and a half or less (through beautiful country) to make the trip. Parking is free at the hotel.

Cancellation Policy

For attendees who do not receive a scholarship, if a cancellation is made within one week of the start of the seminar, a cancellation fee of \$200 will be assessed (absent a showing of a genuine emergency) to cover the costs of production of materials, catering guarantees, and the like. The State may substitute a new attendee for the prior registrant at any time without cost. Information for scholarship attendees will be provided with their acceptance confirmation.

We look forward to seeing participants in Santa Fe. If there are any questions about the seminar, please call NAAG Bankruptcy Counsel Karen Cordry at (202) 326-6025 or by email at kcordry@naag.org, or contact Project Assistant Marland Holloway at (202) 326-6262 or by email at mholloway@naag.org.



**NATIONAL ATTORNEYS GENERAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL
 STATES ASSOCIATION OF BANKRUPTCY ATTORNEYS
 BANKRUPTCY FROM A GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE
 SANTA FE, NM
 SEPT. 12-15, 2010
 REGISTRATION FORM
 Meeting ID: 1009 _BANKR**

IMPORTANT:

Please use one form per registrant. Complete *all* sections. **Completed forms must be received by NAAG no later than August 20, 2010 in order to receive the reduced registration fee. Please return form to:** National Association of Attorneys General, Attn: Marland Holloway, 2030 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 or FAX to (202) 331-1427

Name (as it should appear on badge): _____ **Full Mailing Address:*** _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____ Billing Address (if different from mailing address): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Name of Person Completing Form: _____

Phone Number of Person Completing Form: _____

State Bar registration numbers(s) (for CLE credit):

State _____ Number _____ State _____ Number _____

State _____ Number _____

- Registration Fee:**
- Early Registration: \$450 (on or before August 20, 2010)**
 - Regular Registration: \$500 (after August 20, 2010)**
 - Discounted Group Registration \$350/\$400 (early/late registration)**
 - NAGTRI Scholarship Registrant – Fee Waived**

- [] **Check or purchase voucher enclosed, payable to “NAAG” [Federal Tax ID No. 52-1322260]**
- [] **Will Pay at Meeting (no credit cards accepted)**

Registrant Signature _____ **Date** _____

Special Requests - If you require any special services or auxiliary aids to assist you while attending the conference, such as sign-language interpreters, note takers, large print materials or Braille materials, please advise us when making your reservation. NAAG will work with you in making suitable arrangements to enable you to participate.

*This is the address we will list for you in the NAAG database, and will update any existing listing for you, unless you advise us otherwise. If you want to use another address for general mailings, please attach a note, so indicating.

Additional Information
Meeting ID:1009 _BANKR

Registrant Name: _____

1. Date of arrival _____ Time _____

Date of departure _____ Time _____

2. Have you confirmed your hotel reservations? _____

Dates: _____

3. Do you have any special dietary restrictions? (*Please specify*) _____

4. I am generally interested in attending ____ tax breakouts ____ regulators breakouts

____ beginners breakouts ____ advanced breakouts (see attached agenda for topic listings);

check all that apply.

5. I want to purchase ____ guest tickets for the Sunday reception and breaks at \$50 per person.

BRIEFING MATERIALS

I cannot attend, but I would like to request _____ copy(ies) of the briefing materials, prepared for the seminar.

The cost of the briefing materials (notebooks and accompanying disks) will be \$90 per set; they will be sent after the seminar is held; *but payment for all materials must be received in advance. Please enclose your check or purchase order along with the order form. Orders received after August 20, 2010 will be filled only to the extent that extra materials are available.*

Please send the materials to:

Billing Address, if different:
