

Good afternoon. Recently we have had several clients who, because of the financial stresses created by their work related injury, have had to file for bankruptcy. Bankruptcy is governed by Federal law with most individuals filing under Chapter's 7 or 13. Many railroaders do not know that a FELA claim and an FRSA claim (as well as other claims and law suits) are considered assets of the Bankruptcy Court and the existence of these claims, and even the possibility of these claims, must be reported to the bankruptcy trustee. If the railroader fails to disclose these types of claims or lawsuits then it is entirely possible (in fact very probable) that the railroader will lose the ability to recover against the railroad. If you know a railroader who may be in this particular situation please let him or her know about the dangers of not disclosing the claim to the bankruptcy trustee. Should you or any of the railroaders that you work with have any questions about this please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks. Bill

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