# Bankruptcy CEU



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# I. How did we get here: a short history of bankruptcy

- **A.** Origins
- **B.** New developments
- **C.** The creditor/debtor tug-of-war

## II. The bankruptcy process

- A. Chapter 7
  - 1. The premise
  - 2. The petition
  - 3. The "meeting of creditors"
  - 4. The discharge
- **B.** Chapter 13
  - 1. The premise
  - 2. The petition
  - 3. The bankruptcy trustee
  - 4. The discharge
- C. Benefits and limitations of Chapter 7
  - 1. The automatic stay
  - 2. What debts are dischargeable?
  - 3. What property is exempt?
- **D.** Benefits and limitations of Chapter 13
  - 1. Protecting your property
  - 2. "Stripping down" the debt
  - 3. Splitting the debt
  - 4. The anti modification clause
  - 5. Priority Claims

### III. Understanding the new bankruptcy law

- A. BAPCPA What's in a name?
- B. Chapter 7 Eligibility
  - 1. The means test
  - 2. Pre-bankruptcy counseling
  - 3. Mandatory Chapter 13
- C. A new kind of client
- **D.** Counseling guidelines from the DOJ
  - 1. Analyzing the current financial condition
  - 2. Discussing the factors that caused the condition
  - 3. Evaluating all the alternatives
  - 4. Developing a plan

### IV. The last resort

- A. Causes of bankruptcy filings
  - 1. Job loss
  - 2. Medical bills
  - 3. Unexpected large expenses
  - 4. Marital problems

- B. Avoiding bankruptcy
  1. Controlling spending
  2. Having a plan
  C. Scenarios and options
- **D.** Financial education before discharge

  - Budget development
     Money management
     Using credit wisely

  - 4. Consumer resources