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United States Bankruptcy Court Middle District of Florida

In re:

Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp.
Debtor

Case No. 09-07047-JAF

Chapter 11

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

District/off: 113A-3

User: pcathyl Form ID: pdfdoc

Page 1 of 8 Total Noticed: 1 Date Rcvd: Oct 01, 2012

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Oct 03, 2012.

cr +Dean L. and Marciell Jacobs, 305 Rolling Hills Place, Parker, CO 80138-4905

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center. NONE. $\,$ TOTAL: 0

***** BYPASSED RECIPIENTS *****

NONE. TOTAL: 0

Addresses marked $^{\prime +\prime}$ were corrected by inserting the ZIP or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.

I, Joseph Speetjens, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 9): Pursuant to Fed. R. Bank. P. 2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Oct 03, 2012 Sign

re: Joseph Spertjens

District/off: 113A-3 User: pcathv1 Page 2 of 8 Date Rcvd: Oct 01, 2012 Form ID: pdfdoc Total Noticed: 1 The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on October 1, 2012 at the address(es) listed below: A Richard Feldman on behalf of Creditor ACE American Insurance Company rfeldman@bazless.com Adina L Pollan on behalf of Creditor Greg Hicks adina.pollan@akerman.com, nicole.frierson@akerman.com;susan.scott@akerman.com;jennifer.meehan@akerman.com Alan L Landsberg on behalf of Defendant Trantalis Law offices $\verb| alan.landsberg@kellerlandsberg.com| \\$ Alan M. Weiss on behalf of Creditor BNP Paribas alan.weiss@hklaw.com Alessandro A Apolito on behalf of Defendant Dimension Data aaapolito@bmdpl.com, $\verb|hnewcomer@bmdpl.com||$ Alicia M Hunt on behalf of Creditor United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Alicia.M.Hunt@usdoj.gov Alisa Paige Mason on behalf of Attorney Berger Singerman, P.A. pmason@bergersingerman.com, efile@bergersingerman.com;SMarquez@bergersingerman.com Allan C Watkins on behalf of Defendant Huston Motors, Inc. court@watkinslawfl.com Amir Ali Patrick Guerami on behalf of Counter-Defendant Joe Johnson amir@gueramilaw.com Amy Denton Harris on behalf of Debtor Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. aharris.ecf@srbp.com, srbpecf@srbp.com;mclift@srbp.com Ana-Laura Diaz on behalf of Creditor Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. adiaz@aclawllp.com, FLECF@aclawllp.com Andrea Teves Smith on behalf of Defendant Columbia Air Services BHB, LLC asmith@petersonmyers.com, gcorda@petersonmyers.com;pbush@petersonmyers.com Andrew L Fivecoat on behalf of Creditor American Home Mortgage Servicing, Inc. afivecoat@albertellilaw.com, bkfl@albertellilaw.com
Angelina E. Lim on behalf of Creditor Nationwide Title Clearing angelinal@jpfirm.com, minervag@jpfirm.com Antonio Alonso on behalf of Creditor Bank of America NA antonio.alonso@marshallwatson.com, jairo.garcia@marshallwatson.com;BKMailFromCourt@MarshallWatson.com Arnold D Levine on behalf of Defendant Dine Design Group, Inc. alevine@lhsblaw.com, tsouthworth@lhsblaw.com Arthur C Neiwirth on behalf of Defendant Eugene Fenasci aneiwirthcourt@qpwblaw.com Arthur J Spector on behalf of Accountant Crowe horwath aspector@bergersingerman.com, efile@bergersingerman.com on behalf of Other Prof. BMC Group ecf@bmcgroup.com Barry Jay Warsch on behalf of Creditor Land Settlement Services, Inc. bwarsch@boydlawgroup.com, warsch13@aol.com;scastro@boydlawgroup.com;jriopelle@boydlawgroup.com;scothron@boydlawgroup.com;et oribio@boydlawgroup.com;nkhani@boydlawgroup.com;tboyd@boydlawgroup.com;ntorrado@boydlawgroup.com Bart T. Heffernan on behalf of Creditor American Home Mortgage Servicing, Inc. bheffernan@mlg-defaultlaw.com, astojkovick@mlg-defaultlaw.com; sbeach@mlg-defaultlaw.com; jfagan@mlg-defaultlaw.com; mkepler@mlg-de faultlaw.com Bethany R Reichard on behalf of Defendant Ring Power Corporation breichard@hacsr.com Betsy C Cox on behalf of Creditor MBIA Insurance Corporation bcox@rtlaw.com, aruff@rtlaw.com Brad W. Hissing on behalf of Creditor Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc. bankruptcynotices@kasslaw.com, bankruptcynotices@yahoo.com Bradford Petrino on behalf of Defendant The Dorchester Group, LLC bpetrino@korshaklaw.com Bradley Pack on behalf of Interested Party Engelman Berger, P.C. bdp@engelmanberger.com Bradley M Saxton on behalf of Mediator Bradley Saxton bsaxton@whww.com, scolgan@whww.com;breece@whww.com Bradley R Markey on behalf of 3rd Party Plaintiff United State Fire Insurance Company brm@stmlaw.net, rrt@stmlaw.net;enm@stmlaw.net;blc@stmlaw.net;sad@stmlaw.net Brian D. Zinn on behalf of Creditor Lee County Tax Collector (TM) brian@zinnlaw.net Brian J Gillis on behalf of Creditor Direct Mortgage Corporation bgillis@marklawfirm.com, swebb@boginmunns.com Brian M McKell on behalf of 3rd Party Plaintiff National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA brian.mckell@wilsonelser.com, frances.weiss@wilsonelser.com;stefan.dandelles@wilsonelser.com Brigham Cannon on behalf of Intervenor United States Department of Justice Criminal Division brigham.cannon@usdoj.gov on behalf of Creditor Locke Lord LLP bchadeayne@lockelord.com, Brooke Bornick Chadeayne kwest@lockelord.com CS Office of Schuyler S Smith on behalf of Creditor Mountain View Condominium Association of Vernon, Conn courtmail@schuylaw.com Cameron H P White on behalf of Creditor Cameron White cwhite@southmilhausen.com, spode@southmilhausen.com;kbrown@southmilhausen.com Camille J Iurillo on behalf of Creditor Microsoft Corporation and Microsoft Licensing GP ciurillo@iurillolaw.com, vborgianini@iurillolaw.com;cdean@iurillolaw.com;gpellegrino@iurillolaw.com;sbeavens@iurillolaw.co Carolyn P Richter on behalf of Spec. Counsel Troutman Sanders LLP carolyn.richter@troutmansanders.com Charles J Meltz on behalf of Defendant Friese & Price Law Firm, LLC gk@growerketcham.com, cjmeltz@growerketcham.com Charles W. McBurney on behalf of Creditor Aurora Loan Services, LLC cmcburney@bellsouth.net, sgeiger@mcburneylaw.net;jbradley@mcburneylaw.net Chester J. Trow on behalf of Defendant DWC Maintenance Services chester@ocalalawfirm.com Christian P George on behalf of Defendant Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company

christian.george@akerman.com, kim.gibbons@akerman.com;jennifer.meehan@akerman.com Christopher Emden on behalf of 3rd Pty Defendant Government National Mortgage Association

christopher.j.emden@usdoj.gov

District/off: 113A-3 User: pcathv1 Page 3 of 8 Date Royd: Oct 01, 2012 Form ID: pdfdoc Total Noticed: 1 The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system (continued) Clay Naughton on behalf of Defendant Camper & Nicholsons USA, Inc. cnaughton@moore-and-co.com Clive N. Morgan on behalf of Creditor GMAC Mortgage, LLC clive@clivemorgan.net, ecfnotifications@penderlaw.com Collette B Cunningham on behalf of Creditor United States Attorney Collette.Cunningham@usdoj.gov, dee.jackson@usdoj.gov Craig A Raby on behalf of Defendant Arizona Department of Financial Institutions craig.raby@azag.gov Craig I Kelley on behalf of Creditor Wachovia Bank, N.A. cik@kelleylawoffice.com, $\verb| ecf@kelleylawoffice.com|, kelleyecfmiddle@gmail.com|, kristin@kelleylawoffice.com| | the complex of the co$ Dana S Plon on behalf of Creditor G&I VI 655/755 Business Center FE, LLC dplon@sirlinlaw.com Daniel A Caldwell on behalf of Interested Party United States of America dan.caldwell@usdoj.gov Daniel C Wolters on behalf of Creditor Integrity Field Services, Inc. dwolters@cavitch.com on behalf of Attorney McGuireWoods LLP dblanks@mcguirewoods.com, Daniel F Blanks aabbott@mcguirewoods.com Daniel T O'Connor on behalf of Defendant Bank of America dan.oconnor@bryancave.com Danielle S Kemp on behalf of Counter-Plaintiff Sovereign Bank kempd@gtlaw.com, ${\tt devlind@gtlaw.com; tpalitdock@gtlaw.com; allens@gtlaw.com}$ Darryl S Laddin on behalf of Defendant Verizon Communications, Inc. bkrfilings@agq.com, mark.stern@agg.com David A Lerner on behalf of Creditor Plunkett Cooney dlerner@plunkettcooney.com
David Allen Burt on behalf of Defendant Knott, Consoer, Ebelini, Hart & Swett, P.A. dburt@knott-law.com, knunnally@knott-law.com David D Burns on behalf of Defendant Hawker & Beechcraft Services, Inc. david.burns@fowlerwhite.com, David E Hicks on behalf of Defendant Solar Designs, Inc. theresa.byington@gmail.com David E. Otero on behalf of Creditor Akerman Senterfitt david.otero@akerman.com, susan.scott@akerman.com;jennifer.meehan@akerman.com;sandra.bohanan@akerman.com David E. Peterson on behalf of Creditor Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation david.peterson@lowndes-law.com David J Lienhart on behalf of Defendant Jumbolair, Inc. dlienhart@ralaw.com, ksphillips@ralaw.com;yhibbert@ralaw.com;gjensen@ralaw.com;cgibson@ralaw.com;dperrow@ralaw.com;jol iva@ralaw.com David J. Miller on behalf of Creditor U.S. Bank National Association dmiller@albertellilaw.com David L Gay on behalf of Creditor Committee Creditors Committee dgay@bergersingerman.com, ${\tt efile@bergersingerman.com; jalvarez@bergersingerman.com}$ David W Barrett on behalf of Creditor Michael Cabassol heidi.stembridge@fowlerwhite.com, amy.intorcia@fowlerwhite.com Dayle M Van Hoose on behalf of Defendant Nevada Association Services, Inc dvanhoose@sessions-law.biz, evap@sessions-law.biz Dean J Trantalis on behalf of Defendant Trantalis Law offices brian@trantalis.com
Debi Evans Galler on behalf of Attorney Berger Singerman, P.A. dgaller@bergersingerman.com, efile@bergersingerman.com; jalvarez@bergersingerman.com Denise D Dell-Powell on behalf of Counter-Defendant Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London and London Market Insurance Companies, et al. ddpowell@burr.com, dkelley@burr.com;greid@burr.com;jlindval@burr.com Dennis J. LeVine on behalf of Defendant Mortgage Support Services, Inc. theresa.byington@gmail.com Dock A Blanchard on behalf of Creditor Barfield & Associates of Ocala, Inc. dblanchard@bmaklaw.com Donald A Workman on behalf of Creditor Lender Processing Services, Inc. dworkman@bakerlaw.com Douglas Goldin on behalf of Creditor Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC dgoldin@broadandcassel.com, srowland@broadandcassel.com Douglas C Zahm on behalf of Creditor Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. bk@dczahm.com Douglas R Gonzales on behalf of Creditor City of Miramar dgonzales@wsh-law.com

E. Colin Thompson on behalf of Creditor Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, as Receiver for Colonial Bank, Montgomery, Alabama colin.thompson@dlapiper.com, $\verb|docketingchicago@dlapiper.com;| ar lene.vice@dlapiper.com;| deborah.boyle@dlapiper.com;| evelyn.rodrigue | for the constant of the constan$ z@dlapiper.com;william.coleman@dlapiper.com Earl M. Barker on behalf of Creditor Compu-Link Corporation d/b/a Celink embarker@sbnjax.com, cchestnut@sbnjax.com Edmund S Whitson on behalf of Defendant Progress Energy, Inc. ewhitson@bmolaw.com, mroessel@bmolaw.com Edsel F Matthews on behalf of Defendant Edsel F. Matthews, Jr., P.A. efmlaw@bellsouth.net Edward J. Peterson on behalf of Debtor Home America Mortgage, Inc. epeterson@srbp.com, epeterson.ecf@srbp.com;srbpecf@srbp.com Elaine Johnson James on behalf of Defendant Taylor Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corporation ejames@bergersingerman.com Elena L Escamilla on behalf of U.S. Trustee United States Trustee - JAX 11 elena.1.escamilla@usdoj.gov Elena L Escamilla TB on behalf of U.S. Trustee United States Trustee - JAX 11 ustp.region21.or.ecf@usdoj.gov Eric N Assouline on behalf of Defendant ACES Risk Management Corporation ena@assoulineberlowe.com Erin K Mautner on behalf of Creditor Deutsche Bank AG erin.mautner@bingham.com
Esther A McKean on behalf of Plaintiff The Travelers Indemnity Company on it's own behalf and

on behalf of certain affiliates esther.mckean@akerman.com

District/off: 113A-3 User: pcathv1 Page 4 of 8 Date Rcvd: Oct 01, 2012 Form ID: pdfdoc Total Noticed: 1 The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system (continued) Eyal Berger on behalf of Defendant Advantage Systems, Inc. eyal.berger@akerman.com, jeanette.martinez@akerman.com Ezra H Cohen on behalf of Spec. Counsel Troutman Sanders LLP ezra.cohen@troutmansanders.com Francis L Carter on behalf of Mediator Francis Carter flc@katzbarron.com, lcf@katzbarron.com Frank F McGinn on behalf of Creditor Iron Mountain Information Management, Inc. ffm@bostonbusinesslaw.com Frederic J DiSpigna on behalf of Creditor Brock & Scott, PLLC frederic.dispigna@brockandscott.com, ~~flbkecf@brockandscott.comGeorge B Cauthen on behalf of Creditor Avista Solutions, Inc. george.cauthen@nelsonmullins.com, joan.kishline@nelsonmullins.com;jody.bedenbaugh@nelsonmullins.com;linnea.hann@nelsonmullins.com Gill R Geldreich on behalf of Creditor Tennessee Dept. of Financial Institutions agbankflorida@ag.tn.gov Glen M Lindsay on behalf of Creditor Bank of America, N.A., et. al. glindsay@smith-hiatt.com Glenn S Banner on behalf of Defendant Impact Realty - Melton and Associates, Inc , lkipp@hinshawlaw.com Gregory S Grossman on behalf of Defendant Metlife, Inc. ggrossman@astidavis.com
Harold F X Purnell on behalf of Defendant Beverage Law Institute, Inc. harry@reuphlaw.com on behalf of Creditor Sunrise Landing Condo. Assn of Brevard Cty, Helena Gutierrez Malchow Inc. hgmalchow@wmlo.com Hollyn J Foster on behalf of Creditor Compu-Link Corporation d/b/a Celink hollynf@bellsouth.net Hywel Leonard on behalf of Defendant AIG Insurance Management Services, Inc. hleon@carltonfields.com, lrodriguez@carltonfields.com;tpaecf@cfdom.net J. Ellsworth Summers on behalf of Creditor Coda Roberson jes@rtlaw.com, Jacob A Brown on behalf of Attorney Akerman Senterfitt jacob.brown@akerman.com, jennifer.meehan@akerman.com;kayla.gothier@akerman.com;sandra.bohanan@akerman.com;katherine.fackle r@akerman.com;adina.pollan@akerman.com;april.davidson@akerman.com Jacob D. Flentke on behalf of Defendant Greg Weaver jflentke@broadandcassel.com, cpage@broadandcassel.com Jacqueline J Brown on behalf of Creditor American Home Mortgage Servicing, Inc. jbrown@ffapllc.com, dgoulet@ffapllc.com James A Timko on behalf of Defendant Pulte Mortgage LLC jtimko@shutts.com James C Cunningham on behalf of Plaintiff Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp., on behalf of Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. jcunningham@bergersingerman.com, ngracey@bergersingerman.com James D Dantzler on behalf of Debtor Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. david.dantzler@troutmansanders.com, kelley.wade@troutmansanders.com

James D Gassenheimer on behalf of 3rd Pty Defendant Taylor Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corporation jgassenheimer@bergersingerman.com, efile@bergersingerman.com;skegerreis@bergersingerman.com;MHines@bergersingerman.com;ggaukroger@be rgersingerman.com James E Sorenson on behalf of Creditor Atlantic Coast Bank bk@wggdlaw.com, jsorenson@wggdlaw.com on behalf of Creditor Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. jpost@smithhulsey.com, kstewart@smithhulsey.com;sbusey@smithhulsey.com;tcopeland@smithhulsey.com;cdix@smithhulsey.com James M Liston on behalf of Creditor Braintree Hill Office Park jml@bostonbusinesslaw.com, sas@bostonbusinesslaw.com;sjm@bostonbusinesslaw.com James W Carpenter on behalf of Creditor RBC Bank (USA), Successor By Merger to Florida Choice Bank jwc@angelolaw.com Jason B. Burnett on behalf of Creditor Wells Fargo Bank NA jburnett@gray-robinson.com, ldean@gray-robinson.com;pwagner@gray-robinson.com;kjacobs@gray-robinson.com;kim.miller@gray-robin son.com on behalf of Creditor Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation jason.johnson@lowndes-law.com, joann.anderson@lowndes-law.com Jeffrey Ainsworth on behalf of Defendant Actuarial & Technical Services jeff@mangum-law.com Jeffrey N Rich on behalf of Creditor Natixis Real Estate Capital Inc. jeff.rich@klgates.com Jeffrey T Kucera on behalf of Creditor Natixis Real Estate Capital Inc. jeffrey.kucera@klgates.com, linda.vasserot@klgates.com;david.weitman@klgates.com;miamidocketing@klgates.com Jeffrey W Kelley on behalf of Counter-Claimant Sovereign Bank jeffrey.kelley@troutmansanders.com, bonnie.feuer@troutmansanders.com; stephen.roach@troutmansanders.com Jeffry R Jontz on behalf of Defendant Emerson Network Power, Liebert Services, Inc. jjontz@swannhadley.com, dbandemer@swannhadley.com; jday@swannhadley.com Jennifar M. Hill on behalf of Creditor American Express Bank, FSB jmh@lkllaw.com, cag@lkllaw.com Jennifer Hayes on behalf of Creditor Bank of America, National Association as Successor by Merger to LaSalle Bank National Association as Trustee for First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust Jennifer Haves 2007-1, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Ser jhayes@foley.com, KCavanaugh@foley.com Jerrett M. McConnell on behalf of Defendant The Royal Gulf Beach and Racquet Club Condominium Owners Association, Inc. jmcconnell@fandmlaw.com Jerrold J. Golson on behalf of Creditor American Home Mortgage Servicing, Inc jgolson@ffapllc.com, rjohansen@ffapllc.com;gdeangelo@ffapllc.com;thefflinger@ffapllc.com John B Rosenquest on behalf of Defendant MERSCORP, Inc. jrosenquest@morganlewis.com, pmartinez@morganlewis.com;dthomas@morganlewis.com John C Brock on behalf of Creditor The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation bkfl@albertellilaw.com on behalf of Interested Party GreatAmerican Leasing Corporation John C Hanson

ihanson@barthet.com

District/off: 113A-3 User: pcathv1 Page 5 of 8 Date Royd: Oct 01, 2012 Form ID: pdfdoc Total Noticed: 1 The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system (continued) John H. McCorvey on behalf of Creditor Bradford Village Condominium Trust john@jacksonvillefloridalawyers.com, john@jacksonvillefloridalawyers.com
John P Dillman on behalf of Creditor Cypress Fairbanks ISD houston_bankruptcy@publicans.com John S Sarrett on behalf of Creditor Integrity Field Services, Inc. jsarrettlaw.com
John S Schoene on behalf of Creditor General Electric Capital Corporation schoenej@earthlink.net, snydercd@earthlink.net John T Rogerson on behalf of Creditor GreatAmerica Leasing Corporation jrogerson@vbwr.com, rboudrow@vbwr.com John W Kozyak on behalf of Creditor MBIA Insurance Corporation jk@kttlaw.com, ypaz@kttlaw.com, la@kttlaw.com Jonathan Tolentino on behalf of Creditor Matthew Naufel jtolentinopa@yahoo.com, ionalhant@vahoo.com Jonathan L Blackmore on behalf of Creditor Phelan Hallinan & Schmieg, P.C. and Phelan Hallinan & Schmieg, LLP FLMD.bankruptcy@phelanhallinan.com Jonathan T Edwards on behalf of Creditor Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Master Servicer jonathan.edwards@alston.com Joseph D Foley on behalf of Creditor Urban Trust Bank Holdings, Inc., aka jfoley@josephfoleylaw.com Joseph D Wargo on behalf of Defendant RLI Insurance Company jwargo@wargofrench.com, mrochman@wargofrench.com; jrobison@wargofrench.com Joseph E Shickich on behalf of Creditor Microsoft Corporation and Microsoft Licensing GP jshickich@riddellwilliams.com, mmilano@riddellwilliams.com;ctracy@riddellwilliams.com Joseph R Zapata on behalf of Creditor National Alliance Captial Markets jrzapata@nmmlaw.com Joshua D McKarcher on behalf of Creditor Promontory Financial Group, LLC jmckarcher@cov.com
Judy Simmons Henry on behalf of Creditor Stephens, Inc. jhenry@wlj.com
Jules S Cohen on behalf of Plaintiff The Travelers Indemnity Company on it's own behalf and on behalf of certain affiliates jules.cohen@akerman.comKay D Brock on behalf of Defendant Travis County Tax Collector kay.brock@co.travis.tx.us Keith T Appleby on behalf of Defendant Express Services, Inc. kappleby@fowlerwhite.com, $\verb|kthompson@fowlerwhite.com|, anita.flowers@fowlerwhite.com|, deborah.lester@fowlerwhite.com|, de$ Kenneth B Jacobs on behalf of Defendant Capital Markets Cooperative, LLC kjacobs@gray-robinson.com, zhosseini@gray-robinson.com;jburnett@gray-robinson.com Kenneth M Hesser on behalf of Defendant All Air Heating and Cooling, Inc. khesser@schatthesser.com Kevin A Reck on behalf of Creditor Seaside National Bank & Trust kreck@foley.com, khall@folev.com Kevin Alan Comer on behalf of Creditor CitiMortgage, Inc bkfiling@consuegralaw.com
Kevin B Paysinger on behalf of Creditor Five Brothers Mortgage Company Services & Securing, Inc. court@jacksonvillebankruptcy.com Kevin E Mangum on behalf of Creditor Jose Maldonado kevin@mangum-law.com, elizabeth@mangum-law.com on behalf of Creditor JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association khing@logs.com, Kevin L Hing Electronicbankruptcynotices@logs.com Kevin M Eckhardt on behalf of unknown Bank of America, National Association, as successor in interest through merger to LaSalle Bank, National Association and LaSalle Global Trust Services, and in its capacity as Collateral Agent keckhardt@fulcruminv.com, dparry@hunton.com Kevin M Eckhardt on behalf of Interested Party Bank of America National Association keckhardt@hunton.com, mmannering@hunton.com;dparry@hunton.com;acapo@hunton.com;probson@hunton.com Kevin Patrick Robinson on behalf of Creditor MICHAEL PAPE & ASSOC., P.A. krobinson@zkslawfirm.com Kevyn D Orr on behalf of Defendant State Regulatory Registry, LLC korr@jonesday.com Kimberly H. Israel on behalf of Creditor Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriting Ass'n khisrael@hilawfirm.com, khisrael@hilawfirm.com Kristopher E Aungst on behalf of Debtor Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. kaungst@bergersingerman.com, efile@bergersingerman.com;sochoa@bergersingerman.com Kristopher E. Pearson on behalf of Creditor Premier Corporate Centre, LLC kpearson@stearnsweaver.com, $\verb|mmasvidal@stearns|| we aver.com; \verb|rross@stearns|| we aver.com; \verb|mmesones-mori@stearns|| we aver.com; \verb|jmartinez@stearns|| we aver.com; we aver.com$ arnsweaver.com on behalf of Counter-Claimant Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Kyle Lonergan klonergan@mckoolsmith.com Lance Paul Cohen on behalf of Defendant Henley Holdings, LLC cohenthurston@cs.com Lara Roeske Fernandez on behalf of Defendant Allure Global Solutions, Inc. lrfernandez@trenam.com, lkfloyd@trenam.com;jfollman@trenam.com on behalf of Creditor Republic Bank bankruptcynotices@kasslaw.com, Larry M Foyle bankruptcynotices@yahoo.com Laura A Price on behalf of Creditor IRS laura.a.price@irscounsel.treas.gov Laura L Walker on behalf of Creditor James B Nutter & Company lwalker@flaforeclosureattorneys.com, debbieg@flaforeclosureattorneys.com Lawrence Weisberg on behalf of Creditor GMAC Mortgage LLC bankruptcy@lmwlegal.com
Lawrence J Bernard on behalf of Creditor Johnson Bank, a Wisconsin Banking corporation belinda@bernardlaw.net, jamie@bernardlaw.net;courtmail@schuylaw.com Leanne McKnight Prendergast on behalf of Attorney Smith Hulsey & Busey lprendergast@smithhulsey.com, tcopeland@smithhulsey.com

Lee County Tax Collector (TM) bankruptcyecfdocs@leetc.com

Leonard H Gilbert on behalf of Mediator Leonard Gilbert leonard.gilberte

on behalf of Mediator Leonard Gilbert leonard.gilbert@hklaw.com,

kathleen.goelz@hklaw.com

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The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email)
system (continued)
               Leonora K Baughman on behalf of Creditor Oakland County Treasurer lbaughman@kaalaw.com
Lincoln B Quintana on behalf of Creditor Liwayway Delino lincoln.quintana@QMSLaw.com
               Linda M Leali on behalf of Creditor Assured Guaranty Corp. lleali@whitecase.com,
                avenes@whitecase.com
               Linda S Finley on behalf of Creditor Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation
                lfinley@bakerdonelson.com,
                kstine@bakerdonelson.com;crochester@bakerdonelson.com;kfurr@bakerdonelson.com;ksdavis@bakerdonels
                on.com
               Lloyd H Randolph
                                   on behalf of 3rd Pty Defendant Government National Mortgage Association
                lloyd.randolph@usdoj.gov
               M Lee Johnsey on behalf of Defendant NV Energy, Inc ljohnsey@balch.com
Marc G Granger on behalf of Creditor U.S. Bank National Association,
                mgranger@kahaneandassociates.com,
                JOliveira@kahaneandassociates.com; jbuchanan@kahaneandassociates.com; wsambolin@kahaneandassociates
                .com
               Marcy Ford on behalf of Creditor Trott and Trott, PC dstefaniak@trottlaw.com
                                  on behalf of Defendant Jackson Walker, L.L.P. bankruptcynotice@lseblaw.com,
               Mariane L Dorris
                mdorris@lseblaw.com
               Mark J. Wolfson on behalf of Creditor Bank of America, National Association as Successor by
                Merger to LaSalle Bank National Association as Trustee for First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust
                2007-1, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Ser mwolfson@foley.com,
                KCavanaugh@foley.com; jhayes@foley.com
               Mark S Mitchell on behalf of Defendant The Carlisle Group, Inc. MMitchell@rtlaw.com,
                SPeirpoint@rtlaw.com
               Mark S. Kessler on behalf of Creditor School Street Condominium Trust apksm@aol.com
Marsha A McCoy on behalf of Creditor Deutsche Bank AG mmccoy@gunster.com, braiford@gunster.com
               Marsha G Rydberg on behalf of Interested Party Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC
                mrydberg@rydberglaw.com, rydberglaw@yahoo.com
               Marshall G. Reissman on behalf of Defendant Triple Point Construction, LLC
                marshall@reissmanlaw.com,
                scgearhart@gmail.com;sandi.gajewski@gmail.com;andrea@reissmanlaw.com;jlreissman@reissmanlaw.com;g
                1374@notify.cincompass.com; jason@reissmanlaw.com
               Martin Jefferson Davis on behalf of Defendant Office of the Controller of the Currency
                martin.davis@occ.treas.gov
               Matthew A Gold on behalf of Creditor Argo Partners courts@argopartners.net
               Matthew I Rochman on behalf of Defendant RLI Insurance Company mrochman@wargofrench.com,
                dvazquez@wargofrench.com
               Maurice D Hinton on behalf of Creditor The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, as Trustee for TBW Mortgage-Backed Trust 2007-1, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1
                mdh@rasflaw.com, bankruptcy@rasflaw.com;smcclain@rasflaw.com
               Melissa A Campbell on behalf of Defendant Lincoln National Life Insurance Company
                mcampbell@joneswalker.com
               Michael Nardella on behalf of Defendant Alexander Aviation Associates, Inc.
                michael.nardella@burr.com, jlindval@burr.com,greid@burr.com
               Michael A Tessitore on behalf of Interested Party Bank of America National Association
                mtessitore@tess-law.com
               Michael J Marees on behalf of Creditor AK Contracting General Contractors Property Management,
                LLC mmarees@josephandmarees.com
               Michael L Schuster on behalf of Defendant Raymond Quinlan mschuster@gjb-law.com,
                gjbecf@gjb-law.com
               Michael M Parker on behalf of Creditor NL Ventures VII Magnlia, LLC mparker@fulbright.com Mike E. Jorgensen on behalf of Defendant J.R. Corelli Association, Inc.
                mjorgensen@seniorcounsellaw.com, mjorge@aol.com
               Missouri Department of Revenue mdfl@dor.mo.gov
               Neil M Peretz on behalf of Cross Defendant Government National Mortgage Association
                neil.peretz@cfpb.gov
               Nicholas V. Pulignano
                                        on behalf of Creditor Centurion Asset Partners, Inc.
                npulignano@marksgray.com, slw@marksgray.com
               Nicole M Mariani on behalf of Creditor Cenlar FSB bankruptcynotices@kasslaw.com
               Nicolette Corso Vilmos on behalf of Creditor Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC nvilmos@broadandcassel.com, srowland@broadandcassel.com
               Nina M LaFleur on behalf of Creditor Neasham Investments, LLC nina@lafleurlaw.com,
                corinne@lafleurlaw.com;trish@lafleurlaw.com
               Oscar B Fears on behalf of Creditor Georgia Department of Banking and Finance bfears@law.ga.gov
               Patricia Redmond on behalf of Attorney Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson,
                P.A. predmond@stearnsweaver.com,
                rross@stearnsweaver.com;mmesones-mori@stearnsweaver.com;jrivera@stearnsweaver.com;sanderson@stear
                nsweaver.com; mruark@saul.com
               Patrick T Lennon on behalf of Creditor USAmeriBank ptl@macfar.com
               Patti W Halloran
                                  on behalf of Interested Party Bank of the Ozarks as Successor*
                phalloran@gibblaw.com
               Paul A Avron on behalf of Plaintiff Neil Luria, Plan Trustee pavron@bergersingerman.com
               Paul D Moak
                             on behalf of Counter-Claimant Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation
                pmoak@mckoolsmith.com
                                        on behalf of Creditor Committee Creditors Committee
               Paul Steven Singerman
                singerman@bergersingerman.com,
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efile@bergersingerman.com;ctarrant@bergersingerman.com;mdiaz@bergersingerman.com Peter M Reed on behalf of Creditor Bowie CAD et al othercourts@mvbalaw.com District/off: 113A-3 User: pcathv1 Page 7 of 8 Date Rcvd: Oct 01, 2012 Form ID: pdfdoc Total Noticed: 1 The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system (continued) Philip L. Burnett on behalf of Creditor Shepherd Pursuits, LLC philburnett@embargmail.com, lisamaitland@embarqmail.com;cindikline@embarqmail.com R Christopher Dix on behalf of Attorney R. Dix cdix@smithhulsey.com, tcopeland@smithhulsey.com R Scott Shuker on behalf of Creditor Selene RMOF REO Acquisition II, LLC bknotice@lseblaw.com, rshuker@lseblaw.com;lbrown@lseblaw.com R Travis Santos on behalf of Creditor LPP Mortgage, Ltd. and LNV Corporation tsantos@hwhlaw.com, lbecker@hwhlaw.com Rashad L Blossom on behalf of Defendant GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC rblossom@babc.com Raymond B Joseph on behalf of Creditor AK Contracting General Contractors Property Management, LLC rjoseph@josephandmarees.com, rjosephlaw@gmail.com Raymond J Rotella on behalf of Defendant Harbor Auto Restoration, Inc. rrotella@kostoandrotella.com, dmeyer@kostoandrotella.com Rehan N. Khawaja on behalf of Defendant Townley & Lindsay, LLC khawaja@fla-bankruptcy.com, john@fla-bankruptcy.com on behalf of Defendant Embarq Florida, Inc. a/k/a Century Link, Inc. Richard A Robinson rrobinson@reedsmith.com Richard A. Perry on behalf of Creditor Phillips Printing, Inc. richardperry@richard-a-perry.com, robertamiro@richard-a-perry.com, bonniepurdy@richard-a-perry.com,JonPaugh@Richard-A-Perry.com on behalf of Defendant Down to Earth Landscape, LLC rwebber@zkslawfirm.com, Richard B Webber jblucher@zkslawfirm.com/mhouck@zkslawfirm.com Richard C. Prosser on behalf of Debtor Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. rprosser.ecf@srbp.com, srbpecf@srbp.com Richard E Whitaker on behalf of Defendant Ridgewood Condominiums, LLC whitakerlaw@att.net
Richard M Maseles on behalf of Creditor Missouri Department of Revenue mdfl@dor.mo.gov
Richard R Thames on behalf of Defendant Empiric Design, Inc. rrt@stmlaw.net, sad@stmlaw.net;brm@stmlaw.net;enm@stmlaw.net;rah@stmlaw.net Robert A DeMarco on behalf of Defendant Serano At Hammock Bay Condominium Association, Inc. rdemarco@swflalaw.com, fdemarco@swflalaw.com Robert A Heekin on behalf of Creditor Greg Steinmetz Construction, Inc. rah@stmlaw.net, yio@stmlaw.net;rrt@stmlaw.net Robert A. Soriano on behalf of Counter-Claimant Sovereign Bank SorianoR@gtlaw.com, tpalitdock@gtlaw.com;allens@gtlaw.com;rechtinh@gtlaw.com Robert Bruce George on behalf of Defendant Fiserv, Inc. rgeorge@lilesgavin.com, pwilson@lilesgavin.com Robert C Edmundson on behalf of Defendant Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Banking redmundson@attorneygeneral.gov Robert D Bernard on behalf of Creditor Joseph Chaplauske bob@eightflagslaw.com Robert D Wilcox on behalf of Creditor 443 Building Corporation rdwilcox@bmdpl.com, sbhightower@bmdpl.com;aaapolito@bmdpl.com;arichey@bmdpl.com Robert L Doty on behalf of Creditor Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation robert.doty@ohioattorneygeneral.gov Robert M Dombroff on behalf of Creditor Deutsche Bank AG, New York robert.dombroff@bingham.com Robert M Klein on behalf of Defendant Roberts & Shirley Law Offices kleinr@kqplp.com, montanem@kgplp.com,piersonj@kgplp.com,jonesr@kgplp.com on behalf of Defendant JP Morgan Chase & Company rquinn@carltonfields.com, Robert M Ouinn lrodr@carltonfields.com;tpaecf@cfdom.net Robert N Gilbert on behalf of Interested Party National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa. rgilbert@carltonfields.com, kdemar@carltonfields.com;wpbecf@cfdom.net
Robert P Charbonneau on behalf of Creditor RL Regi-FL Cutler Ridge LLC rpc@ecccounsel.com, phornia@ecclegal.com;nsocorro@ecclegal.com;redreira@ecclegal.com;ec@ecclegal.com;bankruptcy@eccle Robyn Marie Severs on behalf of Creditor Alafaya Woods Homeowners Association, Inc. rbraun@taylor-carls.com, kpacifico@taylor-carls.com
Rodney Morris on behalf of Defendant Government National Mortgage Association Rodnev Morris rodney.morris2@usdoj.gov Rodrigo S Da Silva on behalf of Defendant Metlife, Inc. rdasilva@astidavis.com Roy S Kobert on behalf of Creditor Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC orlandobankruptcy@broadandcassel.com Russell M Blain on behalf of Attorney Stichter Riedel Blain & Prosser, P.A. rblain.ecf@srbp.com, rblain@srbp.com;srbpecf@srbp.com on behalf of Plaintiff Charles Leforce rbarack@ksblaw.com Ryan D Barack S. Hunter Malin on behalf of Creditor John Crain hmalin@jax-law.com Sabrina C Beavens on behalf of Defendant United Healthcare Insurance Company sbeavens@iurillolaw.com, vborgianini@iurillolaw.com;cdean@iurillolaw.com;gpellegrino@iurillolaw.com on behalf of Defendant Bank of America, N.A. sfhollad@mcguirewoods.com, Sara F Holladay-Tobias sdye@mcguirewoods.com;dblanks@mcguirewoods.com;jmaddock@mcguirewoods.com;dblanks@mcguirewoods.com ;rfblair@mcguirewoods.com Schuyler S Smith on behalf of Creditor Brodie Calder & Laura Calder courtmail@schuylaw.com Scott R Weiss on behalf of Creditor Americas Servicing Company scott.weiss@marshallwatson.com, ${\tt Jairo.Garcia@marshallwatson.com; BKMailFromCourt@Marshallwatson.com}$ Sean M Affleck on behalf of Creditor Guaranty Bank ecf@butlerandhosch.com Seldon J Childers on behalf of Defendant Digvijay "Danny" Gaekwad Trust jchilders@smartbizlaw.com, bkcourtmail@gmail.com;bkl3.paralegal@gmail.com;ellen.lord@smartbizlaw.com

on behalf of Plaintiff Neil Luria, Plan Trustee

Sharon L Kegerreis

skegerreis@bergersingerman.com

District/off: 113A-3 User: pcathv1 Page 8 of 8 Date Royd: Oct 01, 2012 Form ID: pdfdoc Total Noticed: 1

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system (continued)

Sharon L Simmons on behalf of Creditor American Home Mortgage Servicing, Inc simmonslaw@juno.com

Southpaw Asset Management LP (JC) jc@southpawasset.com

Spencer K Stephens on behalf of Creditor Matthew Zarrabina and Key Realty Group, LLC spencer@stephensassociates.net

Stephen Andrews on behalf of Creditor Deutsche Bank AG sandrews@wc.com
Stephen Sorensen on behalf of Creditor Deutsche Bank AG ssorensen@wc.com

Stephen D. Busey on behalf of Defendant ADP, Inc. busey@smithhulsey.com,

tcopeland@smithhulsey.com;kstewart@smithhulsey.com

Stephen P Drobny on behalf of Defendant Lincoln National Life Insurance Company sdrobny@joneswalker.com, rbruckmann@joneswalker.com;ejulia@joneswalker.com

Steve Dinh Tran on behalf of Creditor The Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra, P.L. bkfiling@consuegralaw.com

Steven E Seward on behalf of Creditor ACE American Insurance Company sseward@hinshawlaw.com, lportuondo@hinshawlaw.com

Steven G Powrozek on behalf of Creditor Fisher & Shapiro LLC spowrozek@logs.com, electronicbankruptcynotices@logs.com

Steven S Newburgh on behalf of Defendant Chariots of Palm Beach, Inc. ssn@newburghlaw.net

Stuart Wilson-Patton on behalf of Creditor Tennessee Department of Revenue Stuart.Wilson-Patton@ag.tn.gov

Suann D Cochran on behalf of Creditor State of Michigan, Department of Treasury cochrans@michigan.gov

Suly M Espinoza on behalf of Creditor Deutsche Bank National Trust Company sespinoza@flwlaw.com, nmendoza@flwlaw.com

Taji S. Foreman on behalf of Creditor DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. Tforeman@erwlaw.com, BankruptcyECF@erwlaw.com

Teresa M Hair on behalf of Creditor Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. midbkmail@wolfelawfl.com

Thomas W Cartwright on behalf of Creditor Martin Palmer Construction, Inc. tcartwright@embarqmail.com

Tiffany A DiIorio on behalf of Creditor Heartland National Bank tiffany.diiorio@arlaw.com
Timothy J Norris on behalf of Defendant Shi International Corporation tjnorris@duanemorris.com Todd B. Allen on behalf of Defendant Cedar Hammock Golf & Country Club todd@flcommunitylaw.com, Talons4racin@gmail.com

Todd K Norman on behalf of Creditor Western Union Financial Services, Inc.

tnorman@broadandcassel.com, mwhite@broadandcassel.com
Trevor Hawes on behalf of 3rd Pty Defendant Great American Insurance Group trevor.hawes@csklegal.com, kimberly.aceves@csklegal.com;tammy.lewis@csklegal.com United States Trustee - JAX 11 USTP.Region21.OR.ECF@usdoj.gov

Vincent F Alexander on behalf of Defendant Adler Holdings II, LLC vfa@kttlaw.com

W James Gooding on behalf of Defendant City of Ocala jgooding@ocalalaw.com
W Keith Fendrick on behalf of Creditor Dell Marketing, L.P. keith.fendrick@hklaw.com,

andrea.olson@hklaw.com

Wendell Finner on behalf of Interested Party Richard Yanagi wendell@lccl.com, ecf1ccl@gmail.com

William B McDaniel on behalf of Creditor Wangard Partners Inc. court@jacksonvillebankruptcy.com William E Grantmyre on behalf of Creditor Mortgage First wgrantmyrejr@vanlawfl.com,

Bankruptcv@vanlawfl.com

TOTAL: 279

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA JACKSONVILLE DIVISION

IN RE:

TAYLOR, BEAN & WHITAKER MORTGAGE CORPORATION,

Debtor.

CASE NO.: 3:09-bk-7047-JAF Chapter 11

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR ENTRY OF ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING RULE 2004 EXAMINATION OF TAYLOR, BEAN & WHITAKER MORTGAGE CORPORATION

This case is before the Court on Dean and Marcielle Jacobs' (collectively, the "Movants") motion to authorize Rule 2004¹ examination of Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corporation ("TBW") (Doc. 6034, the "Motion"). The Motion additionally seeks Court authorization for the Movants to engage in certain discovery, and to compel discovery responses (Doc. 6034 at 4-5). The Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334(b). This is a core matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A). For the reasons stated below, the Motion is denied to the extent set forth herein.

The Movants are creditors of TBW. The Movants originally filed a proof of claim in the amount of \$3,442.68 (Claim No. 1484); to which, TBW filed an objection (Doc. 5390, the "Objection"). The Movants filed a response in opposition to the Objection (Doc. 5531, the "Response"). Subsequent to filing the Response, the Movants amended their claim to reflect a claim in the amount of \$202,023,443.00 (Claim No. 3514).

By way of the Motion (Doc. 6034), the Movants request the Court to: (1) authorize a Rule 2004 examination of TBW; (2) authorize service of the Request for Production (attached to the Motion as

Unless otherwise indicated, all references to a "Bankruptcy Rule" or "Rule" are to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and all references to the "Bankruptcy Code" or "Code" are to 11 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.

Exhibit A); (3) authorize notices of deposition; (4) authorize "subpoenas and other process to compel a response to the Request for Production"; (5) compel a response to the Request for Production within thirty (30) days; and (6) compel attendance of current and former employees of TBW at one or more oral examinations (Doc. 6034 at 4).

Rule 2004 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure provides: "[o]n motion of any party in interest, the court may order the examination of any entity." FED. R. BANKR. P. 2004(a). The scope of an examination permitted by Rule 2004 may relate only to the acts, conduct, property, or to the liabilities and financial condition of the debtor, or to any matter which may affect the administration of the bankruptcy estate. FED. R. BANKR. P. 2004(b). The Court has discretion with respect to whether to grant a request for a Rule 2004 examination.

An examination under Rule 2004 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure is not a substitute for discovery under Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *In re 2435 Plainfield Ave., Inc.*, 223 B.R. 440, 455 (Bankr. D.N.J. 1998). The majority of courts prohibit Rule 2004 examinations "of parties involved in or affected by an adversary proceeding [or contested matter] while it is pending." *Id.* at 456; *see also In re Enron Corp.*, 281 B.R. 836, 840 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2002) (noting "the well recognized rule that once an adversary proceeding or contested matter is commenced, discovery should be pursued under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and not by Rule 2004"); *In re Bennett Funding Group, Inc.*, 203 B.R. 24, 28 (Bankr. N.D.N.Y. 1996) (noting once an adversary proceeding or contested matter has been commenced, discovery is made pursuant to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7026 *et seq.*, rather than by a Rule 2004 examination).

The basis for this proscription "lies in the distinction between the broad nature of the Rule 2004 exam and the more restrictive nature of discovery under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure." *In re Enron Corp.*, 281 B.R. at 840-41 (internal quotations omitted). Rule 2004 necessarily permits a broad

investigation into the financial affairs of debtors to assure the proper administration of bankruptcy estates. *In re Symington*, 209 B.R. 678, 683-84 (Bankr. D.Md. 1997). By contrast, Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that "[p]arties may obtain discovery regarding any nonprivileged matter that is relevant to any party's claim or defense." FED. R. CIV. P. 26(b)(1).

Under the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the filing of an objection to a proof of claim gives rise to a contested matter. *Georgia Dept. of Rev. v. Mouzon Enters.* (*In re Mouzon Enters.*), 610 F.3d 1329, 1333 (11th Cir. 2010). TBW has objected to the Movants' proof of claim; therefore, the dispute is a contested matter. As such, the Movants are not entitled to a Rule 2004 examination of TBW, and the motion to permit the same is denied.

The Movants, however, additionally request that the Court authorize them to conduct discovery (Doc. 6034 at 4). As noted previously, the parties' dispute is a contested matter. Many aspects of the discovery process provided for under Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7026 et seq. and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are made applicable in contested matters pursuant to Rule 9014. Court authorization is therefore not required for the Movants to engage in appropriate discovery. The Movants may conduct discovery in accordance with the Rules. Even though the Movants are litigating their claim(s) pro se, they remain subject to the relevant laws and rules of the Court, including the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. Moon v. Newsome, 863 F.2d 835, 837 (11th Cir. 1989).

The Movants additionally request that the Court compel a response to the Request for Production (attached as Exhibit A) within thirty (30) days of service (Doc. 6034 at 4, Ex. A). The Movants' request in this regard is premature and unnecessary.

More particularly, the Rules "require that discovery be accomplished voluntarily; that is, the parties should affirmatively disclose relevant information without the necessity of court orders

compelling disclosure." *Bush Ranch, Inc. v. E.I. DuPont De Nemours & Co.*, 918 F. Supp. 1524, 1542 (M.D. Ga. 1995), *rev'd on other grounds*, 99 F.3d 363 (11th Cir. 1996). Discovery is intended to operate with minimal judicial supervision unless a dispute arises and one of the parties files a motion requiring judicial intervention. In this case, the Movants have yet to seek discovery from TBW in accordance with the Rules.² As such, any motion to compel a response is nonsensical. Moreover, the Rules provide that any response to a request for production be made within thirty (30) days of service. FED. R. BANKR. P. 7034; FED. R. CIV. P. 34. Thus, the requested relief in this regard is superfluous.

Again, the Court would note that the Movants may engage in appropriate, relevant discovery. If a dispute later arises, a motion to compel discovery may be appropriate. Until such time as TBW fails to respond to a particular discovery request, however, any motion to compel a response thereto is premature. In addition, the Court would point out to the Movants that any motion to compel discovery must be accompanied by a certification that the movant has in good faith conferred, or attempted to confer, with the person or party failing to provide discovery in an effort to obtain it without court action. FED. R. BANKR. P. 7073; FED. R. CIV. P. 37. No such certification is attached to the Motion. Based on the foregoing, the Movants' motion to compel discovery is denied.

The Movants also request the Court to compel the attendance at deposition(s) of TBW and current and former employees (Doc. 6034 at 4). Generally, Rule 30 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (made applicable by Rule 7030 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure) provides the method by which the Movants may seek to depose witnesses. The Movants, however, have not sought to depose any witnesses pursuant to the Rules. As such, any motion to compel attendance is premature, and will be denied as such.

² It appears the Movants sought certain information from TBW prior to the filing of the Petition (see Doc. 6034 at 12, 16).

With respect to deposing former employees of TBW, it may be necessary for the Movants to issue subpoena(s). Issuance of subpoenas to non-parties is governed by Rule 45 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (made applicable by Rule 9016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure). The Movants are advised that they must comply with all the requirements of Rule 45 if they desire to subpoena non-party witnesses to appear for deposition. If a party uses a subpoena to command a witness' appearance, he or she will be required to pay the witness' fees and mileage as allowed by law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(b)(1). Additionally, a subpoena must be served by a non-party, so the party may incur the costs of a process server. Litigants must bear their own litigation expenses.

Based on the foregoing, it is **ORDERED**:

- 1. The motion to authorize Rule 2004 examination of Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corporation (Doc. 6034) is denied to the extent provided herein.
- 2. The Movants' request to conduct a Rule 2004 examination of Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corporation is denied.
- 3. The Movants may conduct appropriate, relevant discovery in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, made applicable by the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.
 - 4. The Movants' motion to compel discovery responses is denied as premature. **DATED** this 15th day of October, 2012 in Jacksonville, Florida.

Jerry A. Funk

United States Bankruptcy Judge

Copies to:

Alisa Paige Mason, attorney for Debtor; Dean and Marcielle Jacobs, Creditors; All other interested parties