

**EXHIBIT A**  
**BAR DATE NOTICE**

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	:	Chapter 11
	:	
AMERICAN BANKNOTE	:	Case No. 05-10174 (PJW)
CORPORATION,	:	
	:	
Debtor.	:	

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF BAR DATE ORDER  
FIXING LAST DAY FOR FILING PROOFS  
OF CLAIM AGAINST THE DEBTOR**

**TO ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES WITH CLAIMS AGAINST:**

American Banknote Corporation, Chapter 11 Case No. 05-10174 (PJW) (the "Debtor")

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") has entered an order (the "Bar Date Order") establishing March 21, 2005, as the general claims bar date (the "General Bar Date") and July 18, 2005 as the governmental units bar date (the "Governmental Units Bar Date") in this case. Except as described below, the Bar Date Order requires all Entities, as defined in § 101(15) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1330 (the "Bankruptcy Code"), including but not limited to persons, corporations, partnerships, estates, trusts, and the United States Trustee, that have or assert any prepetition Claims (as defined herein) against the Debtor, to file an original proof of claim with BMC Group, Inc. (the "Claims Agent") at the following address:

If by mail:

American Banknote Corporation  
c/o BMC Group, Inc.  
P.O. Box 911  
El Segundo, CA 90245

If by overnight delivery or courier:

American Banknote Corporation  
c/o BMC Group, Inc.  
1330 E. Franklin Avenue  
El Segundo, California 90245

so that such proof of claim is **filed and actually received on or before 4:00 p.m., on the General Bar Date or Governmental Units Bar Date, as applicable.**

A Proof of Claim filed with the Bankruptcy Court on or before the General Bar Date or Governmental Units Bar Date, as applicable, will also be considered a timely filed claim.

For your convenience, enclosed with this Notice is a proof of claim form and official instructions for completing it.

**THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS NOTICE DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU HAVE A CLAIM OR THAT THE DEBTOR BELIEVES THAT YOU HAVE A CLAIM. YOU SHOULD NOT FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A CLAIM AGAINST THE DEBTOR OR IF THE CLAIM YOU HELD AS OF JANUARY 19, 2005 HAS BEEN PAID.**

**PERSONS OR ENTITIES WHO MUST FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM**

Pursuant to the Bar Date Order, all Entities holding Claims against the Debtor, except Governmental Units (as that term is defined in section 101(27) of the Bankruptcy Code) (whether secured, priority or unsecured) that arose prior to January 19, 2005 (the "Petition Date") are required to file proofs of claim by the General Bar Date, including, without limitation: (i) creditors whose Claims against the Debtor arise out of the rejection of executory contracts or unexpired leases by the Debtor prior to or contemporaneously with the entry of the Bar Date Order; and (ii) Entities whose Claims against the Debtor arise out of the obligations of such Entities under a contract for the provision of liability insurance to a Debtor.

Any Entity whose Claim arises out of the rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease (pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code) after the entry of the Bar Date Order but prior to the entry of an order confirming a plan, must file a proof of claim on or before the later of (i) 30 days after the entry of the order authorizing the rejection of such contract or lease; and (ii) the General Bar Date (the "Rejection Bar Date").

Any Entity whose prepetition Claim against the Debtor is not listed in the Debtor's schedules or is listed as "disputed," "contingent" or "unliquidated" and that desires to participate in this case, and any Entity whose prepetition Claim is improperly classified in the schedules or is listed in an incorrect amount and that desires to have its Claim allowed in a classification or amount other than that set forth in the schedules, must file a proof of claim on or before the General Bar Date.

Any Governmental Unit holding prepetition Claims against the Debtor, including, without limitation, Claims for unpaid taxes, whether arising from prepetition tax years or periods or prepetition transactions to which the Debtor was a party (whether secured, priority or unsecured) must file a proof of claim so that it is **filed and actually received on or before 4:00 p.m., on the Governmental Units Bar Date.**

If, subsequent to the mailing of this Notice, the Debtor amends its schedules of assets and liabilities ("Schedules") to change or alter a Claim against the Debtor in any way, then the affected claimant shall have 30 days from the date of service of notice thereof to file a proof of claim or to amend any previously filed proof of claim with respect to such amended scheduled Claim (the "Amended Schedule Bar Date").

Any Entity holding an interest in the Debtor (an "Interest Holder"), which interest is based exclusively upon the ownership of stock in the Debtor, or warrants or rights to purchase, sell or subscribe to such a security or interest (any such interest being referred to as an "Interest"), need not file a proof of interest on or before the General Bar Date; *provided, however,* that Interest Holders who wish to assert a Claim against the Debtor that arises out of or relates to the ownership or purchase of an Interest, including Claims arising out of or relating to the sale, issuance or distribution of the Interest, must file a proof of claim on or prior to the General Bar Date, unless another exception set forth herein applies.

The Bar Date Order further provides that the following Entities need not file a proof of claim:

- A. Entities (a) whose Claims against the Debtor are not listed as “disputed”, “contingent” or “unliquidated” in the Debtor’s schedules and (b) who agree with the nature, classification, and amount of such Claims as set forth in the Debtor’s schedules;
- B. Any person or Entity having a claim under sections 503(b) or 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code as an administrative expense of the Debtor’s chapter 11 case;
- C. Entities whose Claims against the Debtor have been allowed by, or paid pursuant to, an order of this Court;
- D. Any person or Entity that holds an interest in the Debtor, which interest is based exclusively upon the ownership of common or preferred stock, membership interests, partnership interest, or warrants or rights to purchase, sell or subscribe to such a security or interest;
- E. Any person or Entity that holds a claim solely against any of the Debtor’s non-Debtor affiliates; and
- F. Individual holders of the 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ % Senior Notes, provided that the aggregate Claim of all of the Claims of such holders shall be filed by the indenture trustee for the 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ % Senior Notes.

#### **CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO FILE PROOF OF CLAIM**

Any Entity that is required to file a proof of claim, with respect to a particular Claim against the Debtor, but that fails to do so in a timely manner, shall not be treated as a creditor with respect to such claim for the purposes of voting and distribution. **If it is unclear from the Schedules whether your Claim is disputed, contingent or unliquidated as to the amount, or is otherwise properly scheduled and classified, you must file a proof of claim by the deadline established by the Bar Date Order applicable to your Claim.**

#### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

The Debtor reserves the right to dispute, or to assert offsets or defenses against any filed Claim or any Claim listed or reflected in the Schedules as to nature, amount, liability, nature, classification or otherwise. Nothing in this Notice shall preclude the Debtor from objecting to any Claim, whether scheduled or filed, on any grounds.

#### **TIME AND PLACE FOR FILING PROOFS OF CLAIM**

For any proof of claim to be validly and properly filed, a signed original of the completed proof of claim form, together with accompanying documentation, must be actually received by **BMC Group, Inc., Attention: American Banknote Corporation, 1330 E. Franklin Avenue, El Segundo, California 90245 no later than 4:00 p.m., on the applicable Bar Date.**

Creditors are permitted to file proofs of claim in any manner of service, except facsimile, in accordance with the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Rules of this Court. If a creditor wishes to receive acknowledgment of the Claims Agent’s receipt of such creditor’s proof of claim, such creditor must submit with its original proof of claim an additional copy of the proof of claim and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

**DEFINITION OF CLAIM**

For purposes of this Bar Date Notice, "Claim" shall mean, as to or against the Debtor: (i) any right to payment, whether or not such right is reduced to judgment, liquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured or unsecured; or (ii) any right to an equitable remedy for breach of performance if such breach gives rise to a right to payment, whether or not such right to an equitable remedy is reduced to judgment, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, secured or unsecured.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you require additional information regarding the procedure for filing a proof of claim, you should contact BMC Group, Inc., Attention: American Banknote Corporation, 1330 E. Franklin Avenue, El Segundo, California 90245, (310) 321-5555. If you require additional information on whether and how to prepare and file a proof of claim, you should contact an attorney.

Dated: Wilmington, Delaware  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2005

ANDREWS KURTH LLP

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-and-

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Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtor  
and Debtor-in Possession