Mr. James C. Shields, Attorney at Law

MEET YOUR ATTORNEY

Bar Admissions

- California, 1996
- Oregon, 1995
- Arizona, 1996

Education

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California

J.D. – 1984

University of California, Los Angeles, California

M.B.A. – 1985
Major: Finance

California State University Dominguez Hills, Carson, California

B.A.
Honors: Dean's List
Major: Economics

Who We Are

About Us

To many people, bankruptcy is a word filled with negative connotations. It is often wrongly associated with carelessness, poor judgment and a being given a "free ride." At the Law Offices of James C. Shields, we deal with bankruptcy every day and we see it for what it is: A very common personal decision that allows people who are overwhelmed with debt a chance at a fresh financial start.

Contact Us

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FREE CONSULTATION

Call Toll-Free 877-540-6792

LAW OFFICES OF JAMES C. SHIELDS
21707 Hawthorne Blvd., #204
Torrance, CA 90503

- **Stop Foreclosure**
- **Stop Lawsuits**
- **Stop Judgments**
- **Stop Wage Garnishments**
- **Stop Bank Levy**
- **Stop Repossession**
- **Stop Creditor Harassment**

LAW OFFICES OF JAMES C. SHIELDS

Providing Debt Relief services for over 25 years

Is Bankruptcy the right option?

At the Law Offices of James C. Shields, we have extensive experience helping people explore their debt relief options. One of the most effective ways to discharge debt is through bankruptcy. In determining whether or not bankruptcy is right for you, it may be helpful to ask yourself the following questions:

- Giving every cent of your disposable income to credit card companies?

- Borrowing more money to pay your existing debts?

- Receiving threatening phone calls and letters from debt collectors?

- Worrying about losing your property through foreclosure and repossession?

- Having your money taken away through wage garnishment and bank levies?

Chapter 7 Basics

Chapter 7 bankruptcy is also known as "liquidation" under the bankruptcy code because your non-exempt assets are sold or liquidated to pay off your debts. Remember though, the bankruptcy laws provide exemptions to exempt and protect most commonly owed assets. All household goods, furnishings, supplies and things you would find in an average household, which have reasonable value, are protected. Your home is protected by utilizing Homestead Exemption laws. The law also provides what is commonly referred to as, a "Wildcard" exemption. This allows you to pick and choose what you want to claim as exempt, up to $26,925.00. An IRA is protected up to $1,000,000.00. Retirement plans, 401K plans, Public Employee Retirement plans are fully protected. California has one of the most liberal sets of bankruptcy exemptions to protect your assets from the reach of creditors. Debts that Chapter 7 bankruptcy will discharge include: credit cards, medical bills, personal loans, old tax debt and other unsecured debts.

"My home was being foreclosed upon at 11:00 a.m. I arrived at Mr. Shield's law office at 8:00 a.m. The foreclosure was stopped by 10:00 a.m. My home was saved." -A. Johnson

United States Constitution - Article I, Section 8, Clause 4

Filing for bankruptcy is your right under the United States Constitution.

Chapter 13 Basics

Chapter 13 – Adjustment of Debts (Debt Consolidation) of an individual with regular income.

If you are overwhelmed with debt, but earning a steady income, you may want to file for Chapter 13 bankruptcy. Chapter 13 allows debtors a chance to restructure and oftentimes greatly reduce their debt, while avoiding home foreclosure, repossession and other harmful creditor actions. The court approves a plan of repayment, generally 36-60 months, thereby forcing creditors to accept payment through a court appointed trustee. Creditors are often forced to accept 10% of what is owed. At the Law Offices of James C. Shields, we are adept at guiding people through all aspects of Chapter 13 bankruptcy. We are here for you, to help you seek debt relief and start rebuilding your credit.