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Subject Official Forms -- Names of Minors

In several places in the official forms it is indicated that the name of the minor child should not be disclosed but simply a notation made that the person is a minor child, e.g., Form 4; Form 6, Schedules B, D, E, F, G, & H; and Form 7. It is believed that this may be inadvertently creating problems. For example, the name and address of persons listed on Schedules D, E, F, G, and H are what make up the master mailing matrix used to give notices as required under the Code. A notice sent to "A Minor Child, 123 Main St., Anyplace, USA," may very well be, I believe, insufficient notice. Most claims held by minor children are by applicable state law asserted by the child's parent or legal guardian not the child directly. All states also provide for service on a minor to be made on the minor's parent, legal guardian or the person with whom the minor resides (some also require service on the minor as well, depending on the minor's age). Since the service requirements under federal law must comply with the service requirements of the state within which service is made, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(g), it seems that the parent or guardian of a minor must be identified in the Schedules. To be correct, the instructions in the Schedules should be amended to provide. "If the claimant is minor, provide the name of the parent or guardian on behalf of (initials of the minor child), a minor child." While most attorneys should be able to figure this out, as presently worded a *pro se* debtor may get confused and simply follow the literal instructions, omitting the name of the parent or guardian.

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