

**Bankruptcy:** legal procedure for dealing with debt problems of individuals and businesses; specifically a legal court case filed under one of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code

**Credit Bureau:** an agency which collects the credit history of consumers so that creditors can make decisions about granting of loans.

**Credit Report:** report showing your payment history.

**Chapter 7 Bankruptcy:** chapter of the Bankruptcy Code providing for liquidation of the debtor's assets in order to repay the creditors.

**Garnishment:** court-ordered attachment that allows a lender to take monies owed directly from a borrower's paycheck; only allowed as part of a court judgment.

**Pro-Rata:** debt repayment plan by which the borrower repays each lender a fair percentage of the total debt owed when one cannot make the minimum payments on a debt.