Bankruptcy Checklist

By Jake R Brady

	Fili	ng Bankruptcy
		Determine if you really need to file a bankruptcy.
		Calculate your income.
		Calculate your allowed expenses.
		Qualify yourself through the means test.
		Select a good bankruptcy attorney.
		Select debt counseling programs
		Don't get yourself into this situation again.
	Bankruptcy Alternatives	
		Determine if can you reduce your expenses while you pay the debt off.
		Negotiate with your creditors and try and settle your debts yourself for less than you owe.
		Go to Consumer Credit Counseling Services (CCCS) for a plan for paying off your debts.
	Necessary Documents	
		A list of routine monthly living expenses.
		A list of assets and their value.
		A list of your debts.
		A list of gross income and any payroll deductions.
		Listing of all debts, assets, income and expenses related to the business.
		Copies of your state and federal tax returns.
		Copies of your recent payroll check stubs.
		Copy of the Deed or Contract to the real estate and the mortgage papers
		Your Social Security Number and if the business entity, the Federal I D.# and incorporation date.
		All life insurance policies.
		Copies of any leases, contracts.
		Recent profit and loss statements and balance sheets for the business