

# KEWANEE CREDIT BUREAU

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This is our first newsletter to our members. We hope to have articles that are of interest to you.

If you have any questions regarding credit reporting or credit reports, just drop us a letter. We will try to answer you and we may put your questions in our newsletter, if we think other people are wondering the same thing.

Several times we have been asked: How long has the Credit Bureau been serving Kewanee? We have found minutes as far back as June 1928. The Kewanee Credit Bureau was serving Henry and Stark counties and part of Knox county.

In 1989 Larry Nelson bought the Credit Bureau and expanded our services to include Residential Mortgage Credit Reports, computer terminals and Collections. We also became affiliated with TRW and their national information is now included in all of our reports. In January 1993 we extended our service area to include Putman, LaSalle and Bureau counties.

Through TRW, we now offer a large variety of services. Some of which are:

- Social Security Searches
- Address verifications
- Skip Locater Credit Watches
- Computer Credit Reports

If you haven't notices we are now open six days a week:

- 9:00am to 4:30pm Mon. to Friday
- 9:00am to Noon on Saturdays

## \*\*\*\* BANKRUPTCY \*\*\*\*

I have been asked "Can we turn down a loan, because the applicant is Bankrupt?"

As a Credit Bureau, I can't tell you who to or not to grant credit to. I can, however tell you the responses I received from my informal poll.

One bank said: "We reject all bankrupts." Another said: "The loan will be rejected if the Bankruptcy is less then 5 years ago." Most of the banks said that they tried to look at the reasons why and if there had been any good credit established since the bankruptcy. And a few asked bout any reaffirmations.

Several lending institutions said that their Loan Policy spelled out how to review an applicant that had gone through bankruptcy. They looked at the current credit that they obtained and the purpose of the credit. They looked to see if the applicant had "learned anything." Also, was the bankruptcy the easy way out and did it look like they were going to do it again. One loan officer said: "If the bankruptcy good, then why is it on the credit file for ten years and nothing else can be on the record for more then seven years?"

Most lenders said that lending or granting of credit should be spelled out in the Loan Policy. If the credit granting procedures are consistent with the Loan Policy, there should be no problems with the auditors.

I wish we could be a little more precise with our answers, but as you know we just provide you with the information. We can't tell you what to do after that.

Diane Ebens, Office Manager  
Dawn & Angela Rogers, Clerks