

Editing Exemption Statutes

Disclaimer about exemptions: Note that we have given a brief summary of each statute, along with the dollar limit, where applicable. Best Case Bankruptcy tracks the amount you have claimed under each statute for your reference, but does not limit the amount you can claim. We have also associated each statute with a property type or several property types to make it faster for you to select exemptions in Schedule C. This property/statute mapping is provided as a sample only to demonstrate the software's capabilities. The bankruptcy attorney at your firm should review associations between property types and statutes and make changes as needed.

We do not prevent you from selecting statutes that do not seem to apply.

We have provided the statutes and limits to save the user time, but in many cases the exemption laws are complex, subject to interpretation, or restricted to certain cases. For example, certain exemptions may not have individual limits, but may be mutually exclusive of other statutes, or may have limits when combined with other statutes. **It is the responsibility of the attorney representing the debtor to select exemption statutes for each item of property and to ensure that all laws are complied with, statutes are applied correctly, and are up to date.** The fact that we provide statutes is NO SUBSTITUTE FOR LEGAL KNOWLEDGE. Best Case Bankruptcy does not know how to practice law; it is a form preparation tool.

In addition, statutes are subject to change at any time. Although we try to keep track of exemption changes for major updates, as an attorney practicing law in your state, you are in a better position to follow these changes in the law than a software company.

If you subscribe to our annual maintenance program, you can use our check for update feature to download the latest changes we have made to exemptions. If you are aware of recent changes in your state, please let us know (1.800.492.8037) so that we can make these changes available to other customers.

See editing exemption statutes if you want to edit the codes, descriptions, limits, or associations with property types, or printing exemption statutes if you want to print a report of statutes that we've provided for your state.

A summary of the exemption statutes for all 50 states and federal exemption statutes are provided with Best Case Bankruptcy. By editing the descriptions of the statutes, you can keep statutes in your software current as laws change and write notes to yourself about the implications of each law.

In Best Case Bankruptcy, each statute is associated with one or more property types, and when you choose a statute in Schedule C for an item of property, the most commonly applied statutes for that property type will appear at the top of the list. Using the procedure below, you can change the associations between statutes and property types as well as updating statutes.

You may want to print a report of the statutes before editing.

To edit the statutes provided:

1. Close any entry or list screens that are open, then close the Client List Window.
2. In the Main Menu bar, click on Setup.
3. At the Setup Menu, click on Exemption Tables.
4. Highlight the appropriate state then click on the **Edit** button.
5. The list of statutes for the state you selected will appear.

The "[] Do not update entire table with next release" checkbox is located in the bottom left-hand corner of the exemption statutes window. When this option is selected, the existing exemption tables will not reset when you update to the next release.

Highlight the law that you want to edit then click the **Change** button.

6. There are four main fields in the Statute Tab:

"Statute" is the code as it will appear on the printed form

"Description" is for your reference; it appears in your pop-down list of choices when you are working in Schedule C. If you change only the description, the way the statute appears on the printed forms will not change.

Individual limit is the limit of this exemption for an individual; joint limit represents the limit for two debtors filing jointly. 0.00 appears if there is no stated limit or no clear limit for this statute.

The "Delete" check box can be used if you do not want to allow this statute to be selected on Schedule C. It will not be permanently deleted from the list, but will no longer appear in the drop-down list of choices.

The "Do not update" checkbox can be used if you never want Best Case Bankruptcy to update this statute when new updates are issued.

7. The Property Types Tab lets you specify what type of property the statute applies to. To show that a statute commonly applies to a property type, click once in the check box next to the property type. The box will turn dark blue. To specify that it sometimes applies to a property type, click in the blue box; the box will turn half white, half blue. When statutes appear in the drop-down list in Schedule C, those marked with blue boxes will appear first, followed by those with half blue boxes, following by those with white boxes, allowing you to choose the most common statutes quickly.
8. Click **OK** when you have made your changes.

Whenever you access laws from the Schedule C entry screen, you will see the description that you have just entered.

*Tip: **Section symbol:** If you need to insert the section symbol (§), hold down the [Alt] key then press [2] then [1] on the number key pad on the right side of your keyboard. This shortcut should also work in your word processing software.*

Canceling All Changes: To cancel all changes that you have made and restore the exemptions that shipped with Best Case, click Setup/Exemption Tables. Highlight your state and click **Edit**. Click the **Reset All** button.