UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California

Honorable Christopher M. Klein Bankruptcy Judge Sacramento, California

June 12, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

1. <u>16-20813</u>-C-13 MAROOF ATEBAR VVF-1 Mark Shmorgon

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY AND/OR MOTION FOR ADEQUATE PROTECTION 5-10-18 [65]

HONDA LEASE TRUST VS.

Final Ruling: No appearance at the June 12, 2018 hearing is required.

Local Rule 9014-1(f)(1) Motion - No Opposition Filed.

Correct Notice Provided. The Proof of Service states that the Motion and supporting pleadings were served on Debtor, Chapter 13 Trustee, and Office of the United States Trustee on May 10, 2018. Twenty-eight days' notice is required.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the respondent and other parties in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered to be the equivalent of a statement of nonopposition. *Cf. Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. *See Law Offices of David A. Boone v. Derham-Burk (In re Eliapo)*, 468 F.3d 592, 602 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the non-responding parties are entered. Upon review of the record there are no disputed material factual issues and the matter will be resolved without oral argument. The court will issue its ruling from the parties' pleadings.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay is granted.

Honda Lease Trust seeks relief from the automatic stay with respect to a 2016 Acura ILX motor vehicle.

The Solomon Declaration states that the Debtor has not made more than 2 post-petition payments, with a total of \$989.52 in post-petition payments past due. From the evidence provided to the court, and only for purposes of this Motion for Relief, the debt secured by this property is determined to be \$25,189.30, while the value of the property is determined to be \$15,575.00, as stated in Schedules A and D filed by Debtor.

The chapter 13 trustee and debtor both filed non-oppositions to the motion.

The court maintains the right to grant relief from stay for cause when the debtor has not been diligent in carrying out his or her duties in the bankruptcy case, has has not made required payments, or is using bankruptcy as a means to delay payment or foreclosure. *In re Harlan*, 783 F.2d 839 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1986); *In re Ellis*, 60 B.R. 432 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1985). The court determines that cause exists for terminating the automatic

stay since the debtor has not made post-petition payments. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1); *In re Ellis*, 60 B.R. 432 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1985).

The court shall issue a minute order substantially in the following form holding that:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are stated in the Civil Minutes for the hearing.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay filed by the creditor having been presented to the court, and upon review of the pleadings, evidence, arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) are vacated to allow Honda Lease Trust, its agents, representatives, and successors, and trustee under the agreement, and any other beneficiary or trustee, and their respective agents to exercise all of their non-bankruptcy rights with respect to the 2016 Acura ILX.

No other or additional relief is granted.

2. <u>18-20127</u>-C-13 RUXANDRA VIDU EAT-1 Peter Macaluso

PACIFIC UNION FINANCIAL, LLC VS.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-14-18 [<u>19</u>]

Final Ruling: No appearance at the June 12, 2018 hearing is required.

Local Rule 9014-1(f)(1) Motion - No Opposition Filed.

Correct Notice Provided. The Proof of Service states that the Motion and supporting pleadings were served on Debtor *pro se*, Chapter 13 Trustee, and Office of the United States Trustee on May 14, 2018. Twenty-eight days' notice is required.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the respondent and other parties in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered to be the equivalent of a statement of nonopposition. *Cf. Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. *See Law Offices of David A. Boone v. Derham-Burk (In re Eliapo)*, 468 F.3d 592, 602 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the non-responding parties are entered. Upon review of the record there are no disputed material factual issues and the matter will be resolved without oral argument. The court will issue its ruling from the parties' pleadings.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay is granted.

Pacific Union Financial, LLC seeks relief from the automatic stay with respect to the real property commonly known as 2815 Maine Avenue, Clovis, CA.

Debtor has not made any post-petition payments, with a total of \$8,608.20 in post-petition payments past due. From the evidence provided to the court, and only for purposes of this Motion for Relief, the debt secured by this property is determined to be \$333,644.28.

Creditor asserts that the property was transferred to the debtor as part of a scheme to delay foreclosure. The court notes that the property was transferred to the debtor on January 2, 2018, just one week prior to the debtor filing for bankruptcy relief.

The court maintains the right to grant relief from stay for cause when the debtor has not been diligent in carrying out his or her duties in the bankruptcy case, has has not made required payments, or is using bankruptcy as a means to delay payment or foreclosure. *In re Harlan*, 783 F.2d 839 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1986); *In re Ellis*, 60 B.R. 432 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1985). The court determines that cause exists for terminating the automatic stay since the debtor has not made post-petition payments. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1); *In re Ellis*, 60 B.R. 432 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1985).

The court finds that the filing of this petition, is part of a scheme to delay, hinder, or defraud the movant as there have been several cases filed post-default with respect to this property. As a result, the court finds that relief under § 362(d)(4) is appropriate. The court notes that the debtor did not appear to be aware of this transfer, and there is no finding of bad faith incorporated in this ruling.

The court shall issue a minute order terminating and vacating the automatic stay to allow Pacific

Union Financial LLC and its agents, representatives and successors, and all other creditors having lien rights against the property, to conduct a nonjudicial foreclosure sale pursuant to applicable nonbankruptcy law and their contractual rights, and for any purchaser, or successor to a purchaser, at the nonjudicial foreclosure sale to obtain possession of the property.

The moving party has not pleaded adequate facts and presented sufficient evidence to support the court waving the 14-day stay of enforcement required under Rule 4001(a)(3), and this part of the requested relief is not granted.

No other or additional relief is granted by the court.

The court shall issue a minute order substantially in the following form holding that:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are stated in the Civil Minutes for the hearing.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay filed by the creditor having been presented to the court, and upon review of the pleadings, evidence, arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) are vacated to allow Pacific Union Financial, LLC, its agents, representatives, and successors, and trustee under the trust deed, and any other beneficiary or trustee, and their respective agents and successors under any trust deed which is recorded against the property to secure an obligation to exercise any and all rights arising under the promissory note, trust deed, and applicable nonbankruptcy law to conduct a nonjudicial foreclosure sale and for the purchaser at any such sale obtain possession of the real property commonly known as 2815 Maine Avenue, Clovis, California.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that relief is granted pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(4) with this order granting relief from the stay, and if recorded in compliance with applicable State laws governing notices of interests or liens in real property, shall be binding in any other case under this title purporting to affect such real property filed not later than 2 years after the date of the entry of such order by the court, except as ordered by the court in any subsequent case file during that period.

No other or additional relief is granted.

3. <u>17-20755</u>-C-13 CAMERON MCCLELLAN <u>DWE</u>-1 W. Scott de Bie

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC VS.

Tentative Ruling: The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the respondent and other parties in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered to be the equivalent of a statement of nonopposition. *Cf. Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995).

Oral argument may be presented by the parties at the scheduled hearing, where the parties shall address the issues identified in this tentative ruling and such other issues as are necessary and appropriate to the court's resolution of the matter.

Below is the court's tentative ruling.

Local Rule 9014-1(f)(1) Motion - Hearing Required.

Correct Notice Provided. The Proof of Service states that the Motion and supporting pleadings were served on Debtor, Debtor's Attorney, Chapter 13 Trustee, and Office of the United States Trustee on May 11, 2018. Twenty-eight days' notice is required. That requirement was met.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the respondent and other parties in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered to be the equivalent of a statement of nonopposition. *Cf. Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). The defaults of the non-responding parties are entered. Upon review of the record there are no disputed material factual issues and the matter will be resolved without oral argument. The court will issue its ruling from the parties' pleadings.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay is denied.

Nationstar Mortgage LLC seeks relief from the automatic stay with respect to the real property commonly known as 9 Fairview Avenue, Vallejo, California.

The Wilson Declaration states that the Debtor has not made 2 post-petition payments, with a total of \$1,108.69 in post-petition payments past due. From the evidence provided to the court, and only for purposes of this Motion for Relief, the debt secured by this property is determined to be \$97,418.34 (including \$97,418.34 secured by movant's first trust deed), while the value of the property is determined to be \$350,000.00, as stated in Schedules A and D filed by Debtor.

The Trustee filed a response indicating that the debtor is currently delinquent under the confirmed plan, but the debtor has paid sufficient funds for the trustee to pay the movant the monthly payment to make the debtor current. As a result, the debtor will be current when the trustee sends the payment out.

The debtor filed a response pointing out that not only was this motion filed before the May payment was due, and is therefore dishonest in its portrayal of the debtor's true delinquency, but the property has significant equity. The debtor also points out that the trustee has the funds to make the payment at the end of May.

The existence of missed payments by itself does not guarantee relief from stay. Since the equity cushion provides enough protection to the creditor, moving party's motion for relief from stay is premature. *In re Avila*, 311 B.R. 81, 84 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. 2004). Moving party has not adequately plead or provided an evidentiary basis for granting relief for "cause." This is especially true where the debtor has paid the Trustee enough funds to disburse to the creditor and cure any delinquency.

The court shall issue a minute order substantially in the following form holding that:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are stated in the Civil Minutes for the hearing.

The Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay filed by the creditor having been presented to the court, and upon review of the pleadings, evidence, arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the Motion for Relief from the Automatic Stay is denied without prejudice.
