UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California Honorable René Lastreto Hearing Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2016 Place: Department B – Courtroom #13 Fresno, California

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRE-HEARING DISPOSITIONS

- 1. The following rulings are tentative. The tentative ruling will not become the final ruling until the matter is called at the scheduled hearing. Pre-disposed matters will generally be called, and the rulings placed on the record at the end of the calendar. Any party who desires to be heard with regard to a pre-disposed matter may appear at the hearing. If the party wishes to contest the tentative ruling, he/she shall notify the opposing party/counsel of his/her intention to appear. If no disposition is set forth below, the hearing will take place as scheduled.
- 2. Submission of Orders:

Unless the tentative ruling expressly states that the court will prepare a civil minute order, then the tentative ruling will only appear in the minutes. If any party desires an order, then the appropriate form of order, which conforms to the tentative ruling, must be submitted to the court. When the debtor(s) discharge has been entered, proposed orders for relief from stay must reflect that the motion is denied as to the debtor(s) and granted only as to the trustee. Entry of discharge normally is indicated on the calendar.

3. Matters Resolved Without Opposition:

If the tentative ruling states that no opposition was filed, and the moving party is aware of any reason, such as a settlement, why a response may not have been filed, the moving party must advise Vicky McKinney, the Calendar Clerk, at (559) 499-5825 by 4:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled hearing.

4. Matters Resolved by Stipulation:

If the parties resolve a matter by stipulation after the tentative ruling has been posted, but **before the formal order is entered on the docket**, the **moving party** may appear at the hearing and advise the court of the settlement or withdraw the motion. Alternatively, the parties may submit a stipulation and order to modify the tentative ruling together with the proposed order resolving the matter.

5. Resubmittal of Denied Matters:

If the moving party decides to re-file a matter that is denied without prejudice for any reason set forth below, the moving party must file and serve a new set of pleadings with a new docket control number. It may not simply re-notice the original motion.

THE COURT ENDEAVORS TO PUBLISH ITS PREDISPOSITIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER CALENDAR PREPARATION IS ONGOING AND THESE PREDISPOSITIONS MAY BE REVISED OR UPDATED AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO 4:00 P.M. THE DAY BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARINGS. PLEASE CHECK AT THAT TIME FOR POSSIBLE UPDATES.

9:30 A.M.

1. 14-13200-B-7 WAYNE/KAREN MARTIN MOTION TO SELL JES-5 5-9-16 [49]

JAMES SALVEN/MV
PETER BUNTING/Atty. for dbt.
PETER FEAR/Atty. for mv.

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here. The sale appears to be appropriate exercise of the trustee's business judgment under §363.

2. <u>16-10809</u>-B-7 MICHELLE PEREZ ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE - FAILURE TO PAY FEES 5-17-16 [42]

This matter will be called as scheduled. If the required fee has not been paid by the date of the hearing, the court intends to dismiss the case without further notice.

3. 15-12115-B-7 GUY DEBBAS MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR RHT-9 ROBERT HAWKINS, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE(S) 5-19-16 [52]
RILEY WALTER/Atty. for dbt.

ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for mv.

This matter will be called as scheduled. Unless opposition is presented at the hearing, the court intends to enter the respondents' default and grant the motion. If the motion is granted, movant shall prepare a conforming order after hearing.

If opposition is presented at the hearing, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2).

4. 14-15420-B-7 CLAUDIA LARA

TRUSTEE'S FINAL REPORT 5-4-16 [17]

GEORGE ALONSO/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

The objection to the trustee's final report has been withdrawn. No appearance is necessary.

5. <u>16-10521</u>-B-7 ALAN ENGLE

PETER BUNTING/Atty. for dbt.

CONTINUED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE 5-11-16 [29]

This matter will be continued to June 22, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. to be heard with the U.S. Trustee's motion. No appearance is necessary.

If the U.S. Trustee's motion is granted, the Order to Show Cause will be vacated on June 22, 2016.

6. 12-16724-B-7 RAY/SHIRLEY CROUCH
JES-2
JAMES SALVEN/MV
VINCENT GORSKI/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR JAMES E. SALVEN, ACCOUNTANT(S) 5-18-16 [69]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

7. <u>15-13443</u>-B-7 NANETTE LOYD

JES-1

JAMES SALVEN/MV

DEDE AGRAVA/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO SELL 5-9-16 [<u>16</u>]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here. The sale appears to be a reasonable exercise of the trustee's business judgment.

8. 16-11647-B-7 AMBARTSUM RAFAYELYAN
GEG-1
AMBARTSUM RAFAYELYAN/MV
GLEN GATES/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO CONVERT CASE FROM CHAPTER 7 TO CHAPTER 13 5-24-16 [23]

This matter will be called as scheduled. Unless opposition is presented at the hearing, the court intends to enter the respondents' default and grant the motion. If there is no opposition then the court will issue a civil minute order.

If opposition is presented at the hearing, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2).

The debtor declares that the conversion is necessary to continue his prosecution of a claim in state court and to protect other assets. Because any chapter 13 plan must meet the "liquidation test" of \$1325(a), there will be no prejudice to the creditors and the motion should be granted.

9. <u>16-10948</u>-B-7 SONIA QUICK MAZ-1 SONIA QUICK/MV MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF BASELINE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
5-6-16 [17]

MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt.

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondent's default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

10. <u>15-10152</u>-B-7 ELIGIO GOMEZ

JES-5

JAMES SALVEN/MV

MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR JAMES E. SALVEN, ACCOUNTANT(S) 5-5-16 [59]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

11. <u>15-12556</u>-B-7 HELEN AVILES
JES-4
JAMES SALVEN/MV
SCOTT LYONS/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR JAMES E. SALVEN, ACCOUNTANT(S) 5-4-16 [48]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

12. <u>12-11768</u>-B-7 ANGEL PICENO
MAZ-5
ANGEL PICENO/MV
MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF JP MORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. 5-12-16 [50]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondent's default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

MOTION FOR WAIVER OF THE CHAPTER 7 FILING FEE OR OTHER FEE 4-26-16 [5]

MARCUS TORIGIAN/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

This matter will be called as scheduled. The court intends to overrule the trustee's objection to the debtor's request for waiver of the filing fee and to grant the waiver.

The court also notes that, after the trustee filed his opposition, the court entered an order granting the debtor's motion to pay the filing fee in installments. Accordingly, the court intends to vacate the order approving installments. The debtor's counsel shall contact the Financial Specialist/Financial Administrator in the Sacramento office of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, E.D. of California, to arrange for a refund to the debtor of any installment fees already paid. The court will enter a civil minute order after the hearing.

The trustee's opposition is based solely on his statement that, "the debtor has gross monthly income in the amount of \$1,474.00. The 2015 Federal Poverty Guideline, on a monthly basis for a household of one is \$1,436.25." According to the trustee's opposition, the debtor's income exceeds 150% of the Federal Poverty Guideline making the debtor ineligible for a waiver.

The trustee's opposition is based on erroneous guidelines. First, the case was filed in 2016 and under the Guideline for 2016 the debtor is eligible for the fee waiver. The court notes that the debtor is represented by counsel. The trustee's opposition does not mention the source of counsel's payment or any evidence related to that issue. Counsel's FRBP 2016(b) statement says he was paid \$1,000 by the debtor for his services. The court is therefore left to consider the only ground for opposition to the waiver: ineligibility due to income. That position is simply incorrect.

Second, the trustee's figure for 2015 Guideline is wrong. The relevant Guideline was last \$1,436.25 in 2013.

14. <u>15-14584</u>-B-7 ROBERT/PAMELA FENTON TMT-2
TRUDI MANFREDO/MV

MOTION TO EMPLOY GOULD AUCTION & APPRAISAL COMPANY AS AUCTIONEER, AUTHORIZING SALE OF PROPERTY AT PUBLIC AUCTION AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF AUCTIONEER FEES AND EXPENSES 5-6-16 [26]

GEORGE LOGAN/Atty. for dbt. TRUDI MANFREDO/Atty. for mv.

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order as specified below. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here. It appears that the employment and sale are a reasonable exercise of the trustee's business judgment.

The proposed order shall reflect that the commission is limited to 15% of the sale price and costs are capped at \$1,500.

15. <u>14-14593</u>-B-7 WAYNE HEAD

TGM-5

PETER FEAR/MV

DAVID JENKINS/Atty. for dbt.

TRUDI MANFREDO/Atty. for mv.

MOTION TO EMPLOY WILLIAM H.
LEIFER AS SPECIAL COUNSEL
5-18-16 [93]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order as specified below. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

The proposed order shall provide that no compensation may be approved until an application is filed, served, and approved in due course. The hourly rate will not be approved in the order.

16. <u>12-18096</u>-B-7 STEVEN/DENISE VEYNA
MAZ-2
STEVEN VEYNA/MV
MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF CITIBANK (SOUTH DAKOTA) NA 4-4-16 [30]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondent's default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

17. <u>12-18096</u>-B-7 STEVEN/DENISE VEYNA
MAZ-3
STEVEN VEYNA/MV
MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC 4-4-16 [25]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondent's default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

18. <u>14-14998</u>-B-7 SILARDO/OLIVIA CHAVANA
SAS-2
SHERYL STRAIN/MV
MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR SHERYL A. STRAIN, ACCOUNTANT(S) 5-11-16 [123]

The motion will be granted without oral argument based upon well-pled facts. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules and there is no opposition. Accordingly, the respondents' default will be entered. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, made applicable by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055, governs default matters and is applicable to contested matters under FRBP 9014(c). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal (826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir., 1987). Constitutional due process requires that a plaintiff make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, which the movant has done here.

1. <u>16-10726</u>-B-7 ANA AYALA

PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORPORATION 5-18-16 [18]

THOMAS GILLIS/Atty. for dbt.

The hearing will be dropped from calendar. Debtor was represented by counsel when she entered into the reaffirmation agreement. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §524(c)(3), "'if the debtor is represented by counsel, the agreement must be accompanied by an affidavit of the debtor's attorney attesting to the referenced items before the agreement will have legal effect." In re Minardi, 399 B.R. 841, 846 (Bankr. N.D. Ok, 2009) (emphasis in original). In this case, the debtor's attorney affirmatively represented that he could not recommend the reaffirmation agreement. Therefore, the agreement does not meet the requirements of 11 U.S.C. §524(c) and is not enforceable. No appearance is necessary at this hearing.

2. 16-10578-B-7 ASHLEY WIGGINS

REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH NISSAN MOTOR ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION 5-13-16 [12]

TIMOTHY SPRINGER/Atty. for dbt.

The court intends to deny approval of this reaffirmation agreement. Both the reaffirmation agreement and the bankruptcy schedules show that reaffirmation of this debt creates a presumption of undue hardship which has not been rebutted in the reaffirmation agreement. Although the debtor's attorney executed the agreement, the attorney could not affirm that, (a) the agreement was not a hardship and, (b) the debtor would be able to make the payments. No appearance is necessary.

1. 15-12702-B-7 MARTIN STEBBEN
16-1044
FEAR V. CITI/CITIBANK SOUTH
DAKOTA, N.A.
ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for pl.

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 4-15-16 [1]

This status conference will be dropped from calendar because the record does not show that the summons and complaint were properly served in compliance with Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7004(h). No appearance is necessary.

Although the plaintiff's status conference statement, filed June 10, 2016, recites that the reissued summons was served by certified mail, there is nothing in the record to show the reissued summons was served on the bank using certified mail. The certificate of service purporting to show service on Citibank South Dakota, N.A., referenced service by regular mail which does not comply with FRBP 7004(h).

The clerk of the court will issue a notice of intent to dismiss for unreasonable delay and failure to prosecute if the plaintiff does not properly serve the complaint with a reissued summons within 30 days.

The court notes that complaint does not state a claim for relief under §547. The complaint does not allege, as required by §547(b)(5), that the subject transfer resulted in the creditor receiving more than it would have properly received in a chapter 7 if the transfer had not been made.

2. 15-12702-B-7 MARTIN STEBBEN
16-1045
FEAR V. CHASE FREEDOM
ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for pl.
RESPONSIVE PLEADING

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 4-15-16 [1]

This matter will proceed as scheduled.

3. 15-12702-B-7 MARTIN STEBBEN
16-1046
FEAR V. AMERICAN EXPRESS
ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for pl.
DISMISSED

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 4-15-16 [$\underline{1}$]

This adversary proceeding has been dismissed with prejudice upon the plaintiff's request and order of the court. The status conference will be vacated and the clerk of the court may close the adversary proceeding in the usual course.

4. $\frac{15-10006}{16-1039}$ BOBIN TUBESING/Atty. for pl.

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 4-5-16 [1]

The status conference will be dropped from calendar. No appearance is necessary. The court will prepare and enter a civil minute order.

The defendant's default was entered May 18, 2016, and a motion for entry of default judgment has been set for June 22, 2016.

5. 15-13308-B-7 WILLIAM BURNINGHAM
15-1142
BURNINGHAM V. BURNINGHAM
MICHAEL GERMAIN/Atty. for pl.
ORDER #15

CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 11-24-15 [1]

It appears this adversary proceeding has been settled. The status conference will be dropped from calendar and may be reset by any party on 10 days' notice. The court will prepare and enter a civil minute order. No appearance is necessary. The clerk of the court may close the adversary proceeding without notice in 60 days unless the adversary proceeding has been concluded or set for a further status conference within that time. Either party may request an extension of this time up to 30 days by ex parte application for cause. After the adversary proceeding has been closed, the parties will have to file an application to reopen the adversary proceeding if further action is required.

6. <u>15-13308</u>-B-7 WILLIAM BURNINGHAM <u>15-1142</u> BURNINGHAM V. BURNINGHAM ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REGARDING DISMISSAL OF ADVERSARY PROCEEDING 4-12-16 [16]

Based on the apparent settlement of the adversary proceeding, above at #5, the OSC will be vacated. No appearance is necessary.

7. $\frac{15-10362}{16-1047}$ -B-7 RDD RACEWAY HOBBIES INC. STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT $\frac{16-1047}{16-1047}$ FEAR V. KABBAGE ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for pl.

The status conference will be dropped from calendar. No appearance is necessary. Upon the plaintiff's request the court has entered an order dismissing the adversary proceeding. The clerk of the court may close the adversary proceeding in the usual course.

8. 14-14593-B-7 WAYNE HEAD

16-1040
FEAR V. HEAD
TRUDI MANFREDO/Atty. for pl.
SUMMONS REISSUED FOR 6/22/16

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 4-7-16 [1]

This status conference will be dropped from calendar. The summons has been reissued and a new status conference has been set for June 22, 2016, in the reissued summons. No appearance is necessary.