# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Honorable Fredrick E. Clement Bakersfield Federal Courthouse 510 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Second Floor Bakersfield, California

#### PRE-HEARING DISPOSITIONS

DAY: WEDNESDAY DATE: JULY 6, 2016

CALENDAR: 10:00 A.M. CHAPTER 7 CASES

#### GENERAL DESIGNATIONS

Each pre-hearing disposition is prefaced by the words "Final Ruling," "Tentative Ruling" or "No Tentative Ruling." Except as indicated below, matters designated "Final Ruling" will not be called and counsel need not appear at the hearing on such matters. Matters designated "Tentative Ruling" or "No Tentative Ruling" will be called.

#### ORAL ARGUMENT

For matters that are called, the court may determine in its discretion whether the resolution of such matter requires oral argument. See Morrow v. Topping, 437 F.2d 1155, 1156-57 (9th Cir. 1971); accord LBR 9014-1(h). When the court has published a tentative ruling for a matter that is called, the court shall not accept oral argument from any attorney appearing on such matter who is unfamiliar with such tentative ruling or its grounds.

# COURT'S ERRORS IN FINAL RULINGS

If a party believes that a final ruling contains an error that would, if reflected in the order or judgment, warrant a motion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 60(a), as incorporated by Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 9024, then the party affected by such error shall, not later than 4:00 p.m. (PST) on the day before the hearing, inform the following persons by telephone that they wish the matter either to be called or dropped from calendar, as appropriate, notwithstanding the court's ruling: (1) all other parties directly affected by the motion; and (2) Kathy Torres, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Fredrick E. Clement, at (559) 499-5860. Absent such a timely request, a matter designated "Final Ruling" will not be called.

1. 16-10802-A-7 WILLIAM AITCHISON WDO-1 WILLIAM AITCHISON/MV WILLIAM OLCOTT/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF STATE FARM GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY 6-2-16 [12]

# Final Ruling

Motion: Avoid Lien that Impairs Exemption

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the court to avoid a lien "on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(1). There are four elements to avoidance of a lien that impairs an exemption: (1) there must be an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled; (2) the property must be listed on the schedules and claimed as exempt; (3) the lien must impair the exemption claimed; and (4) the lien must be a judicial lien or nonpossessory, nonpurchase-money security interest in property described in § 522(f)(1)(B). Goswami v. MTC Distrib. (In re Goswami), 304 B.R. 386, 390-91 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2003). Impairment is statutorily defined: a lien impairs an exemption "to the extent that the sum of - (i) the lien; (ii) all other liens on the property; and (iii) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property; exceeds the value that the debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens." 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  522(f)(2)(A).

The responding party's judicial lien, all other liens, and the exemption amount together exceed the property's value by an amount greater than or equal to the debt secured by the responding party's lien. As a result, the responding party's judicial lien will be avoided entirely.

2. <u>15-11835</u>-A-7 JAMES/JAMIE CANNON RSW-6 JAMES CANNON/MV ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

CONTINUED OBJECTION TO CLAIM OF TOBY CURTIS, CLAIM NUMBER 12 3-21-16 [419]

No tentative ruling.

3. <u>15-11835</u>-A-7 JAMES/JAMIE CANNON RSW-7 JAMES CANNON/MV ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

CONTINUED OBJECTION TO CLAIM OF TOBY CURTIS, CLAIM NUMBER 13 3-21-16 [422]

# No tentative ruling.

4. 16-11436-A-7 KATHLEEN ERSKINE
APN-1
SANTANDER CONSUMER USA,
INC./MV
ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt.
AUSTIN NAGEL/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-24-16 [10]

# Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2006 Chevrolet Malibu

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Santander Consumer USA Inc.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of

respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as a 2006 Chevrolet Malibu, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

5. 13-10044-A-7 ANTHONY CARRISOZA
APN-1
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A./MV
PATRICK KAVANAGH/Atty. for dbt.
AUSTIN NAGEL/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-26-16 [130]

#### Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2008 Lexus IS

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

# STAY RELIEF

Subsection (d)(1) of § 362 of Title 11 provides for relief from stay for "cause, including the lack of adequate protection of an interest in property of such party." 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1). Adequate protection may consist of a lump sum cash payment or periodic cash payments to the entity entitled to adequate protection "to the extent that the stay . . . results in a decrease in the value of such entity's interest in property." 11 U.S.C. § 361(1).

"[U]nder section 362(d)(1), the stay must be terminated for 'cause.' Lack of adequate protection is but one example of "cause" for relief from stay." In re Ellis, 60 B.R. 432, 435 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1985). The panel in the Ellis case rejected the argument that under § 362(d)(1) "the stay can only be terminated if [the movant-creditors] show a lack of adequate protection." Id.

The debtor has missed 3 post-petition payments due on the debt secured by the moving party's lien. This constitutes cause for stay relief.

The court does not address grounds for relief under \$ 362(d)(2) as relief is warranted under \$ 362(d)(1). The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as a 2008 Lexus IS, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

6. 16-10772-A-7 PATRICK MCGEE
APN-1
SANTANDER CONSUMER USA INC./MV
WILLIAM OLCOTT/Atty. for dbt.
AUSTIN NAGEL/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-24-16 [12]

# Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required Disposition: Granted in part, denied in part as moot

Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2003 Hyundai Sonata

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

# AS TO DEBTOR

The motion will be denied in part as moot to the extent it seeks stay relief as to the debtor. The stay that protects the debtor terminates

at the entry of discharge. 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  362(c)(2). In this case, discharge has been entered. As a result, the motion will be denied in part as moot as to the debtor.

#### AS TO ESTATE

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

# CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Santander Consumer USA Inc.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted in part and denied as moot in part. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the interest of the trustee in the property described in the motion, commonly known as a 2003 Hyundai Sonata. Relief from the automatic stay as to the interest of the debtor in such property is denied as moot given the entry of the discharge in this case. 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  362(c)(2)(C).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

7. 16-10583-A-7 LINDA CARRISOZA
APN-1
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A./MV
SUSAN SALEHI/Atty. for dbt.

AUSTIN NAGEL/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-25-16 [17]

Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2008 Lexus IS

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### STAY RELIEF

Subsection (d)(1) of § 362 of Title 11 provides for relief from stay for "cause, including the lack of adequate protection of an interest in property of such party." 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1). Adequate protection may consist of a lump sum cash payment or periodic cash payments to the entity entitled to adequate protection "to the extent that the stay . . . results in a decrease in the value of such entity's interest in property." 11 U.S.C. § 361(1).

"[U]nder section 362(d)(1), the stay must be terminated for 'cause.' Lack of adequate protection is but one example of "cause" for relief from stay." In re Ellis, 60 B.R. 432, 435 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1985). The panel in the Ellis case rejected the argument that under § 362(d)(1) "the stay can only be terminated if [the movant-creditors] show a lack of adequate protection." Id.

The debtor has missed 3 post-petition payments due on the debt secured by the moving party's lien. This constitutes cause for stay relief.

The court does not address grounds for relief under \$ 362(d)(2) as relief is warranted under \$ 362(d)(1). The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent

for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as a 2008 Lexus IS, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

8. 16-10896-A-7 SUSAN SEEGER
PPR-1
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A./MV
NEIL SCHWARTZ/Atty. for dbt.
ASYA LANDA/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-16-16 [10]

# Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2416 Clark Street, Lake Isabella, CA

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

# STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil

minutes for the hearing.

Bank of America, N.A.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as 2416 Clark Street, Lake Isabella, CA, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

9. 16-11296-A-7 MAURICIO/RUBI ORTIZ
MDE-1
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT
CORPORATION/MV
NEIL SCHWARTZ/Atty. for dbt.
MARK ESTLE/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 5-25-16 [11]

### Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2013 Toyota Highlander

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

# STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Toyota Motor Credit Corporation's motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as a 2013 Toyota Highlander, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

10. <u>10-11054</u>-A-7 RONALD/SUSAN SMITH

MOTION BY NEIL E. SCHWARTZ TO WITHDRAW AS ATTORNEY 6-8-16 [168]

NEIL SCHWARTZ/Atty. for dbt.

#### Final Ruling

Motion: Withdraw as Counsel of Record

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Finding no prejudice because the debtors have retained other counsel, the motion is granted. Rule of Professional Conduct 3-700(A)(2). A civil minute order will issue.

ADAM AGCAOILI/MV

CONTINUED MOTION TO CONVERT
CASE FROM CHAPTER 7 TO CHAPTER
13
5-2-16 [12]

PATRICK KAVANAGH/Atty. for dbt.

# Tentative Ruling

Motion: Convert Case from Chapter 7 to Chapter 13
Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition:** Continued to August 3, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.; the court will not grant the relief sought unless an amended proof of service is filed no later than July 20, 2016, showing proper notice by mail on

the U.S. Trustee

Order: Not applicable

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed.

The defaults of all parties-other than the U.S. Trustee-are entered.

#### **PROCEDURE**

As stated in the court's previous civil minutes, the U.S. Trustee has not been given notice of the motion. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(a)(4), (k), 9034(c). The email address used is incorrect both for the motion and the amended notice of hearing. ECF Nos. 15, 22. And the U.S. Trustee has been crossed off of the court's ECF mailing matrix.

The court will not grant the relief sought unless the U.S. Trustee has received a copy of the motion and a notice of the continued hearing. The notice of the continued hearing must use the notice procedure specified under LBR 9014-1(f)(2).

#### **MERITS**

Section 706 of the Bankruptcy Code gives Chapter 7 debtors a qualified conversion right. See 11 U.S.C. § 706(a), (d). A debtor's right to convert a case from Chapter 7 to Chapter 11, 12, or 13 is conditioned on (i) the debtor's eligibility for relief under the chapter to which the case will be converted and (ii) the case not having been previously converted under §§ 1112, 1208, or 1307. 11 U.S.C. § 706(a), (d); see also Marrama v. Citizens Bank of Mass., 549 U.S. 365, 372-74 (2007) (affirming denial of debtor's conversion from Chapter 7 to Chapter 13 based on bad faith conduct sufficient to establish cause under § 1307(c)).

The secured and unsecured debt amounts shown in the debtor's schedules are below the debt limits provided in  $\S$  109(e). See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  109(e).

The case has not been previously converted under  $\S$  1112, 1208, or 1307 of the Bankruptcy Code. See  $id.\$   $\S$  706(a). No party in interest has questioned the debtor's eligibility for relief under Chapter 13.

#### CONCLUSION

The court will not grant the relief sought unless an amended proof of service is filed no later than July 20, 2016, showing proper notice by mail on the U.S. Trustee.

If the U.S. Trustee has been given proper notice as of the continued hearing, and if the U.S. Trustee does not oppose the motion, the court will grant the relief requested at the continued hearing.

12. <u>16-10895</u>-A-7 WORMSWORTH, INC., A
RP-1 CALIFORNIA CORPORATION
RANDELL PARKER/MV

MOTION TO EMPLOY GOULD AUCTION & APPRAISAL COMPANY, LLC AS AUCTIONEER, AUTHORIZING SALE OF PROPERTY AT PUBLIC AUCTION AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF AUCTIONEER FEES AND EXPENSES 6-14-16 [9]

D. GARDNER/Atty. for dbt.
RANDELL PARKER/Atty. for mv.

## Tentative Ruling

Motion: Sell Property

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required

**Disposition:** Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Property: The debtor's business equipment described in the notice of

hearing

Sale Type: Public auction

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 363(b)(1) of Title 11 authorizes sales of property of the estate "other than in the ordinary course of business." 11 U.S.C. § 363(b)(1); see also In re Lionel Corp., 722 F.2d 1063, 1071 (2d Cir. 1983) (requiring business justification). The moving party is the Chapter 7 trustee and liquidation of property of the estate is a proper purpose. See 11 U.S.C. § 704(a)(1). As a result, the court will grant the motion. The stay of the order provided by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 6004(h) will be waived.

The Chapter 7 trustee may employ an auctioneer that does not hold or represent an interest adverse to the estate and that is disinterested. 11 U.S.C. \$\$ 101(14), 327(a). The auctioneer satisfies the requirements of \$ 327(a), and the court will approve the auctioneer's employment.

Section 330(a) of Title 11 authorizes "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services" rendered by a professional person employed under  $\S$  327 and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11

U.S.C.  $\S$  330(a). Reasonable compensation is determined by considering all relevant factors. See id.  $\S$  330(a)(3). The court finds that the compensation sought is reasonable and will approve the application.

13. <u>16-12020</u>-A-7 STEPHEN/KAREN MCKINZIE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE - FAILURE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE - FAILURE TO PAY FEES 6-16-16 [13]

WILLIAM EDWARDS/Atty. for dbt.

# Final Ruling

The fee paid, the order to show cause is discharged and the case shall remain pending.