UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California
Honorable René Lastreto II
Hearing Date: August 3, 2017
Place: U.S. Courthouse, 510 19th Street
Bakersfield, 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 an 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.

9:00 A.M.

17-11002-B-13 JOHN/DEBBIE HARRIS MHM-2MICHAEL MEYER/MV WILLIAM OLCOTT/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 6-21-17 [31]

Unless the trustee's motion is withdrawn before the hearing, the motion will be granted without oral argument for cause shown. The court will issue an order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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.

2. 17-11502-B-13 LANCE PADILLA RSW-1 LANCE PADILLA/MV

CONTINUED MOTION TO VALUE COLLATERAL OF AMERICREDIT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. 6-22-17 [13]

ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

The matter has been resolved by stipulation of the parties and order of the court dated July 25, 2017. No appearance is necessary.

13-13631-B-13 NELSON/MARGARET DELGADO MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN 3. RSW-4NELSON DELGADO/MV ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt.

6-16-17 [76]

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

This motion to confirm or modify a chapter 13 plan was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice; there is no opposition and the respondents' default will be entered. The confirmation order shall include the docket control number of the motion and it shall reference the plan by the date it was filed.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE - FAILURE TO PAY FEES 7-17-17 [38]

This matter will be called as scheduled. If the installment payments now due have not been paid by the time of the hearing, the case will be dismissed. If the installment payments now due are fully paid by the time of the hearing, the OSC will be vacated.

If the OSC is vacated, the court will modify the order permitting the payment of filing fees in installments to provide that if future installments are not received by the due date, the case will be dismissed without further notice or hearing.

5. 16-11473-B-13 SHELBY/CAROL KING
LKW-12
SHELBY KING/MV
LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.
RESPONSIVE PLEADING

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN 6-21-17 [272]

This matter will proceed as scheduled.

6. <u>16-11473</u>-B-13 SHELBY/CAROL KING LKW-8 SHELBY KING/MV

LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

CONTINUED OBJECTION TO CLAIM OF WESTCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, CLAIM NUMBER 23 1-12-17 [132]

This matter will proceed as scheduled.

7. <u>12-60481</u>-B-13 TERRY/DELENA HALL PK-6

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR PATRICK KAVANAGH, DEBTORS ATTORNEY(S)
7-13-17 [100]

PATRICK KAVANAGH/Atty. for dbt.

This motion will be denied without prejudice. The court will enter an order. No appearance is necessary.

This motion was noticed pursuant to LBR 9014-2 and so no written opposition was required. However, the moving papers do not include an appropriate docket control number as required by LBR 9014-1(c). Docket control number PK-6 was previously used for a different motion.

In addition, the pleadings do not comply with the Local Rules of Practice for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of California, Appendix II, EDC.002-901, E.D. Cal. Bankruptcy Court's Guidelines for the Preparation of Documents (effective August 12, 2015), Sections II.D.1. and IV. B-C,

Finally, the motion is not supported by a statement from the applicant's client as required by the Region 17 U.S. Trustee's Guidelines, $\P2.2.2$. Although section 8 of the form fee application indicated that exhibit F, client consent, would be filed separately, the record does not reflect that Exhibit F has been filed.

8. <u>15-11993</u>-B-13 MARIA ROSALES
RSW-4
MARIA ROSALES/MV
ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO APPROVE LOAN MODIFICATION 7-6-17 [80]

The motion will be granted without oral argument. The moving party shall submit a proposed order. No appearance is necessary.

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice and there is no opposition. The court does not approve or disapprove the terms of a mortgage modification outside of a chapter 13 plan. See *In re Wofford*, 449 B.R. 362 (Bankr. W.D. Wis. 2011). However, the court will authorize the debtor to enter into a modification agreement on terms to be negotiated between the debtor and the mortgagee so long as modification of the mortgage does not interfere with the debtor duties and trustee's administration of the chapter 13 plan. The debtors

The court notes that the debtor has already confirmed a modified plan with the new modified mortgage payment listed in class 4 of the plan.

1. 17-11028-B-11 PACE DIVERSIFIED
BBR-6 CORPORATION
PACE DIVERSIFIED
CORPORATION/MV
T. BELDEN/Atty. for dbt.
RESPONSIVE PLEADING

MOTION TO EMPLOY RUDY PERRINO AS SPECIAL COUNSEL 6-30-17 [179]

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

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice. The opposing parties in the subject litigation (Macpherson Oil Company and National Petroleum Associates) have filed a notice of non-opposition and there is no other opposition. 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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. Accordingly, the respondents' defaults, except those of MOC and NPA, will be entered.

2. <u>17-12535</u>-B-11 OVADA MORERO LKW-3 OVADA MORERO/MV MOTION TO EMPLOY SVN INTERSTATE AUCTION COMPANY AS AUCTIONEER(S)

7-19-17 [23]

LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.

This motion will proceed as scheduled. The court intends to enter an order denying the motion without prejudice and enter an order to that effect.

This motion was filed pursuant to the provisions of LBR 9014-1(f)(2), which requires only 14 days' notice. However, based on the pleadings, and the Auction Proposal and Real Estate Auction Agreement included in the exhibits, it appears the object of the motion is to obtain an order, authorizing the sale of property of the estate, which is subject to FRBP 2002(a)(2) requiring 21 days' notice unless the court, for cause, orders differently.

3. 16-13849-B-12 DON FALLERT

CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: CHAPTER 12 VOLUNTARY PETITION 10-24-16 [1]

D. GARDNER/Atty. for dbt.

This status conference will be dropped from calendar. The record shows that the court has entered an order confirming the chapter 12 plan. There appear to be no outstanding matters that need to addressed in a status conference.

4. <u>15-13167</u>-B-12 DOUG KOPHAMER FARMS
LKW-23
DOUG KOPHAMER FARMS/MV

FOR COMPENSATION FOR RITCHIE BROS., AUCTIONEER(S) 7-13-17 [382]

MOTION TO SELL AND/OR MOTION

LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.

This motion was filed and served pursuant to LRB 9014-1(f)(2) and will proceed as scheduled. Unless opposition is presented at the hearing, the court intends to enter the respondents' defaults and grant the motion. If opposition is presented at the hearing, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to LBR 9014-1(f)(2). The court will issue an order if a further hearing is necessary.

5. <u>15-14685</u>-B-11 B&L EQUIPMENT RENTALS, DHR-8 INC.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION BY THE LAW OFFICE OF LEVENE, NEALE, BENDER, YOO & BRILL L.L.P. FOR DANIEL H. REISS, CREDITOR COMM. ATY(S)
7-6-17 [793]

LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.

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

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice and there is no opposition. 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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. Accordingly, the respondents' defaults will be entered.

6. 15-14685-B-11 B&L EQUIPMENT RENTALS,
LKW-49 INC.
CBIZ MHM, LLC/MV
LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR CBIZ MHM, LLC, ACCOUNTANT(S) 6-22-17 [774]

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

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice and there is no opposition. 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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. Accordingly, the respondents' defaults will be entered.

The court notes that the billing records include time entries charged for tasks such as data entry performed by employees bearing the title of "Administrative." The court will overlook these charges for what appears to be ordinary overhead because the amounts are relatively insignificant, the applicant included a large "courtesy discount," and the debtor and debtor's counsel agreed to the charges.

7. $\frac{15-14685}{LKW-50}$ -B-11 B&L EQUIPMENT RENTALS, INC.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR LEONARD K. WELSH, DEBTORS ATTORNEY(S)
7-10-17 [802]

LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.

This motion was filed and served pursuant to LRB 9014-1(f)(2) and will proceed as scheduled. Unless opposition is presented at the hearing, the court intends to enter the respondents' defaults and grant the motion. If opposition is presented at the hearing, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to LBR 9014-1(f)(2). The court will issue an order if a further hearing is necessary.

8. <u>15-14685</u>-B-11 B&L EQUIPMENT RENTALS, WLA-1 INC.

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION BY THE LAW OFFICE OF ALEXANDER AND ASSOCIATES, PLC FOR WILLIAM L. ALEXANDER, SPECIAL COUNSEL(S) 6-29-17 [786]

LEONARD WELSH/Atty. for dbt.

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

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice and there is no opposition. 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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. Accordingly, the respondents' defaults will be entered.

9. 17-11028-B-11 PACE DIVERSIFIED
BBR-9 CORPORATION
PACE DIVERSIFIED
CORPORATION/MV

MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH MACPHERSON OIL COMPANY AND NATIONAL PETROLEUM ASSOCIATES 7-26-17 [235]

T. BELDEN/Atty. for dbt. OST 7/26/17

This matter will proceed as scheduled.

1. 16-13935-B-7 KEVIN SNYDER

JMV-2

JEFFREY VETTER/MV

R. BELL/Atty. for dbt.

JEFFREY VETTER/Atty. for mv.

MOTION TO SELL 7-5-17 [30]

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

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice and there is no opposition. 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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. Accordingly, the respondents' defaults will be entered.

2. 17-10443-B-7 ASHO ASSOCIATES, INC.
KDG-2
JEFFREY VETTER/MV
TODD TUROCI/Atty. for dbt.
LISA HOLDER/Atty. for mv.
OST SIGNED 7/21/17

MOTION TO SELL 7-20-17 [81]

This motion was filed and served pursuant to an order shortening time entered by the court July 21, 2017, and will proceed as scheduled. Unless opposition is presented at the hearing, the court intends to enter the respondents' defaults and grant the motion. If opposition is presented at the hearing, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to LBR 9014-1(f)(2). The court will issue an order if a further hearing is necessary.

3. <u>17-11866</u>-B-7 CELIA TORRES

JSP-1

CELIA TORRES/MV

JOSEPH PEARL/Atty. for dbt.

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC 6-30-17 [11]

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

This matter was fully noticed in compliance with the Local Rules of Practice and there is no opposition. 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 Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 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. Accordingly, the respondents' defaults will be entered.

It appears from the evidence submitted and the record that the debtor is entitled to avoid this lien that impairs an exemption to which she would otherwise have been entitled.

4. <u>16-12581</u>-B-7 JUAN/MARIA MARTINEZ

CONTINUED MOTION TO RECONVERT CASE FROM CHAPTER 7 TO CHAPTER 13 6-29-17 [44]

ROBERT WILLIAMS/Atty. for dbt.

This matter will proceed as scheduled.

5. 17-12491-B-7 MONTE/KRISTY CAROLINA
VVF-1
AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE
CORPORATION/MV
R. BELL/Atty. for dbt.
VINCENT FROUNJIAN/Atty. for mv.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY AND/OR MOTION FOR ADEQUATE PROTECTION 7-14-17 [12]

This matter will proceed as scheduled. This motion for relief from stay was noticed pursuant to LBR 9014-1(f)(2) and written opposition was not required. Unless opposition is presented at the hearing, the court intends to enter the debtor's and the trustee's defaults and enter the following ruling granting the motion for relief from stay. If opposition is presented at the hearing, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to LBR 9014-1(f)(2). The court will issue an order if a further hearing is necessary.

The automatic stay is terminated as it applies to the movant's right to enforce its remedies against the subject property under applicable nonbankruptcy law. The record shows that cause exists to terminate the automatic stay.

The proposed order shall specifically describe the property or action to which the order relates.

If adequate protection is requested, it will be denied without prejudice. Adequate protection is unnecessary in light of the relief granted herein.

The waiver of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be granted. The moving papers show the collateral is a depreciating asset.

<u>Unless the court expressly orders otherwise, the proposed order shall not include any other relief.</u> If the proposed order includes extraneous or procedurally incorrect relief that is only available in an adversary proceeding then the order will be rejected. See *In re Van Ness*, 399 B.R. 897 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 2009).

1. <u>17-10966</u>-B-7 JAIME NAVA MENDEZ AND MARIA AYALA-NAVA

PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH NISSAN MOTOR ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION 7-3-17 [13]

JOSEPH PEARL/Atty. for dbt.

The hearing will be dropped from calendar. No appearance is necessary.

The court is not approving or denying approval of the reaffirmation agreement. Debtors were represented by counsel when they 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). The reaffirmation agreement, in the absence of a declaration by debtors' counsel, does not meet the requirements of 11 U.S.C. §524(c) and is not enforceable. The debtors shall have 14 days to refile the reaffirmation agreement properly

2. <u>17-10966</u>-B-7 JAIME NAVA MENDEZ AND MARIA AYALA-NAVA

PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH NISSAN MOTOR ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION 7-3-17 [15]

JOSEPH PEARL/Atty. for dbt.

The hearing will be dropped from calendar. No appearance is necessary.

The court is not approving or denying approval of the reaffirmation agreement. Debtors were represented by counsel when they 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). The reaffirmation agreement, in the absence of a declaration by debtors' counsel, does not meet the requirements of 11 U.S.C. §524(c) and is not enforceable. The debtors shall have 14 days to refile the reaffirmation agreement properly

3. <u>17-10966</u>-B-7 JAIME NAVA MENDEZ AND MARIA AYALA-NAVA

PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH ALTAONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION 7-7-17 [17]

JOSEPH PEARL/Atty. for dbt.

The hearing will be dropped from calendar. No appearance is necessary.

The court is not approving or denying approval of the reaffirmation agreement. Debtors were represented by counsel when they 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). The reaffirmation agreement, in the absence of a declaration by debtors' counsel, does not meet the requirements of 11 U.S.C. §524(c) and is not enforceable. The debtors shall have 14 days to refile the reaffirmation agreement properly

1. 12-13125-B-7 ROGELIO/LILIA MACEDO
17-1055
TRAVELERS EXPRESS COMPANY,
INC. V. MACEDO
DAVID RENTTO/Atty. for pl.

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 5-25-17 [1]

This matter will proceed as scheduled. The plaintiff has filed a "Joint Discovery Plan" setting forth dates for discovery, however this document has not been signed by the defendant's attorney.

At the hearing the court intends to enter the following dates subject to agreement by the defendant:

Deadline to join other parties:

RESPONSIVE PLEADING

November 15, 2017 (the court notes that should non-debtor parties be joined, litigants must be prepared to address the effect of the joinder on the bankruptcy court's

jurisdiction).

Deadline for amendment of pleadings: December 1, 2017

All discover, including written, completed: March 15, 2018

Deadline to file any motions: March 23, 2018

Trial: TBD

2. 16-11473-B-13 SHELBY/CAROL KING
17-1023
INTERNATIONAL FIDELITY
INSURANCE COMPANY V. KING ET
ROBERT BERENS/Atty. for pl.
RESPONSIVE PLEADING

CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 3-8-17 [1]

This matter will proceed as scheduled, in that neither party has filed and served a status report on or before July 27, 2017, as directed by the court at the last hearing.

3. 17-10687-B-7 VICTOR/KARLA DEJESUS
17-1051
GUTIERREZ V. DE JESUS ET AL
PEDRO GUTIERREZ/Atty. for pl.
DISMISSED

STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 5-18-17 [1]

The status conference will be vacated. This adversary proceeding has been dismissed and the case has already been closed. No appearance is necessary.