# **UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**

Eastern District of California

Honorable Christopher M. Klein Chief Bankruptcy Judge Sacramento, California

## August 18, 2015 at 1:30 P.M.

1. MDE-1

15-21822-C-13 BLAINE/STEPHANIE DAVENPORT Scott Hughes

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY AND/OR MOTION FOR ADEQUATE PROTECTION 7-21-15 [18]

VW CREDIT LEASING VS.

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Final Ruling: No appearance at the August 18, 2015 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, Debtor's Attorney, Chapter 13 Trustee, and Office of the United States Trustee on July 21, 2015. Twentyeight 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.

VW Credit Leasing seeks relief from the automatic stay with respect to a 2013 VW Passat, Vehicle Identification Number 1VWAP7A30DC034555. The moving party has provided the Declaration to introduce evidence to authenticate the documents upon which it bases the claim and the obligation owed by the Debtor.

The Declaration states that the Debtor has missed zero pre-petition and four post-petition payments. 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 \$16,339.46 while the value of the property is determined to be \$11,025 as provided by NADA guidelines. Ex. C; Dckt. 22. Debtor's Schedule A assigns a value of "\$0" to the property.

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).

### Discussion

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 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 moving party has established that Debtor has not made required payments and lacks equity in the property. In addition, the Chapter 13 Trustee has filed a statement of non-opposition.

The court shall issue a minute order terminating and vacating the automatic stay to allow VW Credit Leasing, 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.

Because the moving party has established that there is no equity in the property for the Debtor and no value in excess of the amount of the creditor's claims as of the commencement of this case, the moving party is not awarded attorneys' fees for all matters relating to this Motion.

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,

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IT IS ORDERED that the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) are vacated to allow VW Credit Leasing, its agents, representatives, and successors, to exercise any and all rights arising under the security interest and applicable nonbankruptcy law to conduct a nonjudicial foreclosure sale and for the purchaser at any such sale obtain possession of the 2013 VW Passat, Vehicle Identification Number 1VWAP7A30DC034555.

No other or additional relief is granted.

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## 2. <u>14-32148</u>-C-13 DEVIN/JESSICA SETH APN-1 Bruce Dwiggins

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 7-17-15 [64]

JOINT DEBTOR DISMISSED: 04/15/2015 NISSAN MOTOR ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION VS.

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Final Ruling: No appearance at the August 18, 2015 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, Debtor's Attorney, Chapter 13 Trustee, and Office of the United States Trustee on July 17, 2015. 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.

Devin E. Seth ("Debtor") commenced this bankruptcy case on December 16, 2014. Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation ("Movant") seeks relief from the automatic stay with respect to an asset identified as a 2012 Nissan Muano, VIN ending in 5384 (the "Vehicle"). The moving party has provided the Declaration of John Pierson to introduce evidence to authenticate the documents upon which it bases the claim and the obligation owed by the Debtor.

The Pierson Declaration provides testimony that Debtor has not made seven post-petition payments, with a total of \$3,675.00 in post-petition payments past due. Additionally, the declaration avers that Debtor has not made four pre-petition payments, with a total of \$2,160 pre-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 asset is determined to be \$25,658.07, as stated in the Pierson Declaration, while the value of the Vehicle is not stated in Schedules B and D filed by Debtor, but which the Pierson Declaration identifies as having a replacement value to Debtors of

#### \$17,675.

### CHAPTER 13 TRUSTEE

Chapter 13 Trustee filed a statement of non-opposition to the instant motion on July 29, 2015.

#### DISCUSSION

The court maintains the right to grant relief from stay for cause when a debtor has not been diligent in carrying out his or her duties in the bankruptcy case, 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 and the estate have 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).

Once a movant under 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2) establishes that a debtor or estate has no equity, it is the burden of the debtor or trustee to establish that the collateral at issue is necessary to an effective reorganization. United Savings Ass'n of Texas v. Timbers of Inwood Forest Associates. Ltd., 484 U.S. 365, 375-76 (1988); 11 U.S.C. § 362(g)(2). Based upon the evidence submitted, the court determines that there is no equity in the Vehicle for either the Debtor or the Estate. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2).

The court shall issue an order terminating and vacating the automatic stay to allow Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation, and its agents, representatives and successors, and all other creditors having lien rights against the Vehicle, to repossess, dispose of, or sell the asset pursuant to applicable nonbankruptcy law and their contractual rights, and for any purchaser, or successor to a purchaser, to obtain possession of the asset.

Movant has not pleaded adequate facts and presented sufficient evidence to support the court waiving 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 Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation ("Movant") having been presented to the court, and upon review of the pleadings, evidence, arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) are vacated to allow Movant, its agents, representatives, and successors, and all other creditors having lien rights against the Vehicle, under its security agreement, loan documents granting it a lien in the asset identified as a 2012 Nissan Muano, VIN ending in 5384 ("Vehicle"), and applicable nonbankruptcy law to obtain possession of, nonjudicially sell, and apply proceeds from the sale of the Vehicle to the obligation secured thereby.

No other or additional relief is granted.

3. <u>15-25775</u>-C-13 DEBERA COONS CPG-1 Pro Se MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 8-4-15 [11]

ALDEA HOMES INC. VS.

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**Tentative Ruling:** The Motion to Value was properly set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). Consequently, the Debtor, Creditors, the Trustee, the U.S. Trustee, and any other parties in interest were not required to file a written response or opposition to the motion. If any of these potential respondents appear at the hearing and offers opposition to the motion, the court will set a briefing schedule and a final hearing unless there is no need to develop the record further. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the motion.

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, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition to the motion. If there is opposition presented, the court will consider the opposition and whether further hearing is proper pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2)(iii).

Local Rule 9014-1(f)(2) Motion.

Correct Notice Provided. The Proof of Service states that the Motion and supporting pleadings were served on Debtor (*pro se*), Chapter 13 Trustee, parties requesting special notice, and Office of the United States Trustee on August 4, 2015. 14 days' notice is required. This requirement was met.

The Motion to Value was properly set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). The Debtor, Creditors, the Trustee, the U.S. Trustee, and any other parties in interest were not required to file a written response or opposition to the motion. At the hearing

## The for Relief from the Automatic stay is granted.

Movant, Aldea Homes Inc. and TKR Propeties, LLC, seeks relief from the automatic stay with respect to the real property commonly known as 6621 Cranberry Court, Citrus Heights, California. The moving party has provided the Declaration of Ionita Aldea to introduce evidence as a basis for Movant's contention that Debera Coons ("Debtor") does not have an ownership interest in or a right to maintain possession of the Property. Movant presents evidence that it is the owner of the Property. Movant asserts it purchased the Property at a pre-petition sale on July 21, 2015 at 9:33 A.M. On July 29, 2015, Movant recorded the deed inthe official records of Sacramento County. Exhibit 1, Dckt. 14. Based on the evidence presented, Debtor would be at best tenant at sufferance. Movant has not commenneed an unlawful detainer action.

Movant has provided a copy of the recorded Trustee's Deed Upon Sale to substantiate its claim of ownership. Based upon the evidence submitted, the court determines that there is no equity in the property for either the Debtor or the Estate. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). This being a Chapter 7 case, the property is *per se* not necessary for an effective reorganization. *See In re Preuss*, 15 B.R. 896 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1981).

The court notes that Debtor commenced the instant bankruptcy proceeding by filing a petition with the court on July 21, 2015, the day of the sale, but not until after the completion of the sale. The Aldea Declaration states that the sale occurred at 9:33 A.M., and the petition was filed at 12:27 P.M.

Movant has presented a colorable claim for title to and possession of this real property. As stated by the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel in Hamilton v. Hernandez, No. CC-04-1434-MaTK, 2005 Bankr. LEXIS 3427 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. Aug. 1, 2005), relief from stay proceedings are summary proceedings which address issues arising only under 11 U.S.C. Section 362(d). Hamilton, 2005 Bankr. LEXIS 3427 at \*8-\*9 (citing Johnson v. Righetti (In re Johnson), 756 F.2d 738, 740 (9th Cir. 1985)). The court does not determine underlying issues of ownership, contractual rights of parties, or issue declaratory relief as part of a motion for relief from the automatic stay Contested Matter (Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9014).

The court shall issue an order terminating and vacating the automatic stay to allow Aldea Homes Inc. and TKR Propeties, LLC, and its agents, representatives and successors, to exercise its rights to obtain possession and control of the real property commonly known as 6621 Cranberry Court, Citrus Heights, California, including unlawful detainer or other appropriate judicial proceedings and remedies to obtain possession thereof.

The Movant has not alleged adequate facts and presented sufficient evidence to support the court waving the 14-day stay of enforcement required under Rule 4001(a)(3).

No other or additional relief is granted by the court.

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The court shall issue an 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 Aldea Homes Inc. and TKR Propeties, LLC ("Movant") 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 Aldea Homes Inc. and TKR Propeties, LLC and its agents, representatives and successors, to exercise and enforce all nonbankruptcy rights and remedies to obtain possession of the property commonly known as 6621 Cranberry Court, Citrus Heights, California.

No other or additional relief is granted.