## **UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**

Eastern District of California

Honorable Michael S. McManus Bankruptcy Judge Sacramento, California

September 8, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

THIS CALENDAR IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS. THEREFORE, TO FIND ALL MOTIONS AND OBJECTIONS SET FOR HEARING IN A PARTICULAR CASE, YOU MAY HAVE TO LOOK IN BOTH PARTS OF THE CALENDAR. WITHIN EACH PART, CASES ARE ARRANGED BY THE LAST TWO DIGITS OF THE CASE NUMBER.

THE COURT FIRST WILL HEAR ITEMS 1 THROUGH 11. A TENTATIVE RULING FOLLOWS EACH OF THESE ITEMS. THE COURT MAY AMEND OR CHANGE A TENTATIVE RULING BASED ON THE PARTIES' ORAL ARGUMENT. IF <u>ALL</u> PARTIES AGREE TO A TENTATIVE RULING, THERE IS NO NEED TO APPEAR FOR ARGUMENT. HOWEVER, IT IS INCUMBENT ON EACH PARTY TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ALL OTHER PARTIES WILL ACCEPT A RULING AND FOREGO ORAL ARGUMENT. IF A PARTY APPEARS, THE HEARING WILL PROCEED WHETHER OR NOT ALL PARTIES ARE PRESENT. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HEARING, THE COURT WILL ANNOUNCE ITS DISPOSITION OF THE ITEM AND IT MAY DIRECT THAT THE TENTATIVE RULING, AS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN OR AS AMENDED BY THE COURT, BE APPENDED TO THE MINUTES OF THE HEARING AS THE COURT'S FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

IF A MOTION OR AN OBJECTION IS SET FOR HEARING PURSUANT TO LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 3015-1(c), (d) [eff. May 1, 2012], GENERAL ORDER 05-03, ¶ 3(c), LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 3007-1(c)(2)[eff. through April 30, 2012], OR LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 9014-1(f)(2), RESPONDENTS WERE NOT REQUIRED TO FILE WRITTEN OPPOSITION TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. RESPONDENTS MAY APPEAR AT THE HEARING AND RAISE OPPOSITION ORALLY. IF THAT OPPOSITION RAISES A POTENTIALLY MERITORIOUS DEFENSE OR ISSUE, THE COURT WILL GIVE THE RESPONDENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN OPPOSITION AND SET A FINAL HEARING UNLESS THERE IS NO NEED TO DEVELOP THE WRITTEN RECORD FURTHER. IF THE COURT SETS A FINAL HEARING, UNLESS THE PARTIES REQUEST A DIFFERENT SCHEDULE THAT IS APPROVED BY THE COURT, THE FINAL HEARING WILL TAKE PLACE OCTOBER 5, 2015 AT 1:30 P.M. OPPOSITION MUST BE FILED AND SERVED BY SEPTEMBER 21, 2015, AND ANY REPLY MUST BE FILED AND SERVED BY SEPTEMBER 28, 2015. THE MOVING/OBJECTING PARTY IS TO GIVE NOTICE OF THE DATE AND TIME OF THE CONTINUED HEARING DATE AND OF THESE DEADLINES.

THERE WILL BE NO HEARING ON ITEMS 12 THROUGH 23 IN THE SECOND PART OF THE CALENDAR. INSTEAD, THESE ITEMS HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF AS INDICATED IN THE FINAL RULING BELOW. THAT RULING WILL BE APPENDED TO THE MINUTES. THIS FINAL RULING MAY OR MAY NOT BE A FINAL ADJUDICATION ON THE MERITS; IF IT IS, IT INCLUDES THE COURT'S FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS. IF ALL PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO A CONTINUANCE OR HAVE RESOLVED THE MATTER BY STIPULATION, THEY MUST ADVISE THE COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK PRIOR TO HEARING IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE COURT VACATE THE FINAL RULING IN FAVOR OF THE CONTINUANCE OR THE STIPULATED DISPOSITION.

IF THE COURT CONCLUDES THAT FED. R. BANKR. P. 9014(d) REQUIRES AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING, UNLESS OTHERWISE ORDERED, IT WILL BE SET ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2015, AT 2:30 P.M.

1.	15-25315-A-13	MARK DUNCKELMANN AND
	JPJ-1	PAMELA DUNCKLEMANN

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 8-13-15 [14]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

First, if requested by the U.S. Trustee or the chapter 13 trustee, a debtor must produce evidence of a social security number or a written statement that such documentation does not exist. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4002(b)(1)(B). In this case, the debtor has breached the foregoing duty by failing to provide evidence of the debtor's social security number. This is cause for dismissal.

Second, the plan is not feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6). Schedules I and J, as amended by the debtor, show that the debtor will have monthly net income of approximately -\$875; the plan requires a monthly payment of \$2,125.

Third, the debtor has failed to give the trustee financial records relating to tax returns, bank accounts and employment income. This is a breach of the duties imposed by 11 U.S.C. § 521(a)(3) & (a)(4). To attempt to confirm a plan while withholding relevant financial information from the trustee is bad faith. See 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(3).

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be substantial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application.

2. 10-52724-A-13 HUGO/MARTHA GUZMAN CYB-3 MOTION TO APPROVE COMPENSATION OF DEBTORS' ATTORNEY 8-14-15 [67]

- Telephone Appearance
- Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because less than 28 days' notice of the hearing was given by the counsel for the debtor, this motion is deemed brought pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). Consequently, the debtor, the 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. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition to the motion. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The motion seeks approval of \$1,730 in fees incurred principally in connection with a motion to confirm a modified plan. The foregoing represents reasonable compensation for actual, necessary, and beneficial services rendered to the debtor. Any retainer may be drawn upon and the balance of the approved compensation is to be paid through the plan.

3. 15-25624-A-13 TAMMY HOLMAN JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 8-20-15 [24]

- Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the case will be dismissed.

First, the debtor is not eligible for chapter 13 relief. 11 U.S.C. § 109(h) prohibits an individual from being a debtor under any chapter unless that individual received a credit counseling briefing from an approved non-profit budget and credit counseling agency during the 180-day period immediately preceding the filing of the petition. In this case, the debtor has not filed a certificate evidencing that briefing was completed during the 180-day period prior to the filing of the petition. Hence, the debtor was not eligible for bankruptcy relief when this petition was filed.

Second, the debtor failed to appear at the meeting of creditors. Appearance is mandatory. See 11 U.S.C. § 343. To attempt to confirm a plan while failing to appear and be questioned by the trustee and any creditors who appear, the debtor is also failing to cooperate with the trustee. See 11 U.S.C. § 521 (a) (3). Under these circumstances, attempting to confirm a plan is the epitome of bad faith. See 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (3). The failure to appear also is cause for the dismissal of the case. See 11 U.S.C. § 1307(c) (6).

Third, the debtor has failed to fully and accurately provide all information required by the petition, schedules, and statements. Specifically, even though the debtor operates a business and/or receives income from rental property, the debtor failed to attach the required detailed statement of gross receipts and ordinary and necessary business expenses to Schedules I and J. This

nondisclosure is a breach of the duty imposed by 11 U.S.C. § 521(a)(1) to truthfully list all required financial information in the bankruptcy documents. To attempt to confirm a plan while withholding relevant financial information from the trustee is bad faith. See 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(3).

4.	15-25934-A-13	IQBAL RANDHAWA	MOTION FOR
	RDN-1		RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY
	THE BANK OF NEW	W YORK MELLON VS.	8-11-15 [16]

Telephone AppearanceTrustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** The motion will be granted pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1).

The movant or its predecessor completed a nonjudicial foreclosure sale before the bankruptcy case was filed. Under California law, once a nonjudicial foreclosure sale has occurred, the trustor has no right of redemption. <u>Moeller</u> <u>v. Lien</u>, 25 Cal. App.4th 822, 831 (1994). In this case, therefore, the debtor has no right to ignore the foreclosure and to attempt to reorganize the former secured debt. If the foreclosure sale was not in accord with state law, the debtor should press an independent claim for relief in state court to challenge the foreclosure. The automatic stay is a respite from creditor action while the debtor attempts to reorganize. Here, the debtor has no apparent right to reorganize the movant's debt because of the foreclosure unless that foreclosure was improper. Whether or not it was improper must be decided in state court. To the extent the debtor is in need of injunctive relief to thwart eviction, the debtor should seek it in the state court in connection with the debtor's state action.

The court awards no fees and costs because the movant is no longer a secured creditors. 11 U.S.C. § 506(b).

The 10-day stay of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4001(a)(3) will be waived.

5. 15-25344-A-13 HEATHER MILLAR JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 8-20-15 [14]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

In violation of 11 U.S.C. § 521(a)(1)(B)(iv) and Local Bankruptcy Rule 1007-1(c) the debtor has failed to provide the trustee with legible copies of

employer payment advices for the 60-day period preceding the filing of the petition. The withholding of this financial information from the trustee is a breach of the duties imposed upon the debtor by 11 U.S.C. § 521(a)(3) & (a)(4) and the attempt to confirm a plan while withholding this relevant financial information is bad faith. See 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(3).

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be substantial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application.

6. 11-46348-A-13 BOBBYE SYKES-PERKINS SCG-2

MOTION TO INCUR DEBT 8-25-15 [40]

- Telephone Appearance
- Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because less than 28 days' notice of the hearing was given by the debtor, this motion is deemed brought pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). Consequently, the 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. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition to the motion. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The motion to incur a loan in order to refinance an existing home loan will be granted. The motion establishes that the new loan will like enhance the ability of the debtor to complete the plan.

7.	15-20059-A-13	ELIZABETH	HERRERA	MOTION FOR
	SJS-1			CONTEMPT
				7-17-15 [17]

Telephone AppearanceTrustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be denied without prejudice.

The motion seeks sanctions against Sutter Health on the ground that it took actions to collect a prebankruptcy debt from the debtor during the pendency of her chapter 13 case. However, the motion also alleges that Rash Curtis & Associates is the entity that contacted the debtor and took the actions. The motion further alleges that Sutter Health sold the account to Rash Curtis & Associates. Based on the motion, then, the appropriate respondent is Rash Curtis & Associates, not Sutter Health. 8. 13-23271-A-13 BARRIE BENSON SDB-5

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN 7-14-15 [85]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** The motion will be denied and the objection will be sustained.

The debtor's confirmed plan requires the debtor to pay bonuses to the trustee as additional plan payments. The debtor received bonuses, failed to turn them over to the trustee, used the bonuses, and then when the trustee discovered this, the debtor moved to modify the plan to retroactively eliminate the requirement that the bonuses be paid to the trustee. This is not good faith. If the debtor was unable to comply with the terms of his plan he should have first moved to modify the plan.

9.	15-22777-A-13	MATTHEW	MCCANDLESS	MOTION TO
	TAG-3			CONFIRM PLAN
				7-25-15 [50]

- Telephone Appearance
- Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** The motion will be denied and the objection will be sustained.

The debtor has failed to make 1,710 of payments required by the plan. This has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 1307(c)(1) & (c)(4), 1325(a)(6).

10. 14-30479-A-13 JOHNNY LE UST-2

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM UNAUTHORIZED AND FRAUDULENT BANKRUPTCY FILING 8-4-15 [23]

Telephone AppearanceTrustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be granted.

The purported debtor in this case did not file nor authorize another to file on his behalf this bankruptcy case. Rather, Mr. Le's identity was stolen and the case was filed without his signature or authority.

For that reason, and pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$ 105(a) and 107(b)(2) the clerk shall note prominently on the docket that this case was not filed by Mr. Le and that it was filed fraudulently and without his authority or cooperation.

11. 15-25184-A-13 JAMES/MAE RODDY JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 8-20-15 [14]

Telephone AppearanceTrustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

First, to pay the dividends required by the plan at the rate proposed by it will take 71 months which exceeds the maximum 5-year duration permitted by 11 U.S.C. § 1322(d).

Second, Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(b)(6) provides: "Documents Required by <u>Trustee</u>. The debtor shall provide to the trustee, not later than the fourteen (14) days after the filing of the petition, Form EDC 3-088, Domestic Support Obligation Checklist, or other written notice of the name and address of each person to whom the debtor owes a domestic support obligation together with the name and address of the relevant state child support enforcement agency (see 42 U.S.C. §§ 464 & 466), Form EDC 3-086, Class 1 Checklist, for each Class 1 claim, and Form EDC 3-087, Authorization to Release Information to Trustee Regarding Secured Claims Being Paid By The Trustee." Because the plan includes a class 1 claim, the debtor was required to provide the trustee with a Class 1 checklist. The debtor failed to do so.

Third, the plan fails to specify the post-petition installment payment due to Les Schwab Tires of California on account of its Class 1 secured claim. On long term secured claims, the debtor cure any default on a secured claim (section 1322(b)(3)) while maintain ongoing contract installment payments while curing the default (section 1322(b)(5)). This plan fails to provide for the ongoing installment.

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be substantial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application. 12. 15-23724-A-13 MONTE/ALONNA MONTGOMERY PGM-1

MOTION TO EXTEND TIME 8-7-15 [40]

**Final Ruling:** The court finds that a hearing will not be helpful to its consideration and resolution of this matter. Accordingly, it is removed from calendar for resolution without oral argument.

The motion will be granted and the deadline to confirm a plan will be extended from September 14 to September 21.

13.	15-24335-B-13	BENJAMIN BARNES AND	MOTION TO
	CAH-1	JENNIFER VARELA-BARNES	VALUE COLLATERAL
	VS. WELLS FARG	D BANK, N. A.	7-31-15 [25]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$279,660 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by Suntrust Mortgage. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$330,842.76 as of the petition date. Therefore, Wells Fargo Bank, etc.,'s claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is 0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is 0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates In re Hobdy, 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate

valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$279,660. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; <u>So. Central Livestock</u> <u>Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank</u>, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1980).

14.	15-25240-A-13	MARVIN/KAREN MURASE	MOTION TO
	CAH-1		VALUE COLLATERAL
	VS. HOUSEHOLD	FINANCE CORP OF CA	8-6-15 [16]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$281,905 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by Bank of New York. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$311,645 as of the petition date. Therefore, Household Finance Corp of CA's claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re</u> <u>Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is 0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is 0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates In re Hobdy, 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6), and determining

whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C.  $\$  1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$281,905. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; <u>So. Central Livestock</u> <u>Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank</u>, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1980).

15.	14-22942-A-13	JEROME	BOWERS	MOTION	ТО
	GB-1			MODIFY	PLAN
				7-27-15	5 [23]

Final Ruling: This motion to confirm a modified plan proposed after confirmation of a plan has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rules 3015-1(d)(2) and 9014-1(f)(1) and Fed. R. Bankr. R. 3015(g). The failure of the trustee, the U.S. Trustee, creditors, and any other party 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the debtor, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v.</u> <u>Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the respondents' defaults are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted. The modified plan complies with 11 U.S.C. \$ 1322(a) & (b), 1323(c), 1325(a), and 1329.

16.	15-25746-A-13	DANIEL/REBECCA	STEPHENS	MOTION TO
	DJL-2			VALUE COLLATERAL
	VS. HYUNDAI CA	PITAL AMERICA		8-7-15 [22]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The valuation motion pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) will be granted. The motion is accompanied by the debtor's declaration. The debtor is the owner of the subject property. In the debtor's opinion, the subject property had a value of \$9,577 as of the date the petition was filed and the effective date of the plan. Given the absence of contrary evidence, the debtor's opinion of value is conclusive. See Enewally v. Washington Mutual Bank (In re Enewally), 368 F.3d 1165 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004). Therefore, \$9,577 of the respondent's claim is an allowed secured claim. When the respondent is paid \$9,577 and subject to the completion of the plan, its secured claim shall be satisfied in full and the collateral free of the respondent's lien. Provided a timely proof of claim is filed, the remainder of its claim is allowed as a general unsecured claim unless previously paid by the trustee as a secured

claim.

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•	15-25360-A-13	SIERA CALLOWAY	MOTION TO
	CAH-1		VALUE COLLATERAL
	VS. FIRST MORTO	GAGE CORPORATION	8-4-15 [14]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$138,000 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by First Mortgage Corporation. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$156,400 as of the petition date. Therefore, First Mortgage Corporation's other claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is \$0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is \$0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates In re Hobdy, 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P.

3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). <u>The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. <u>See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I)</u>.</u>

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$138,000. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; <u>So. Central Livestock</u> <u>Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank</u>, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1980).

18.	15-24764-A-13	SOPHIA	CHAVEZ	MOTION TO
	SJS-1			CONFIRM PLAN
				7-23-15 [21]

Final Ruling: This motion to confirm a plan has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rules 3015-1(c)(3) & (d)(1) and 9014-1(f)(1), and Fed. R. Bankr. R. 2002(b). The failure of the trustee, the U.S. Trustee, creditors, and any other party 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the debtor, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the respondents' defaults are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted. The plan complies with 11 U.S.C. \$ 1322(a) & (b), 1323(c), 1325(a), and 1329.

19.	15-24	1764-A-13	SOPHIA	CHAVEZ	OBJECTION	ТО
	SJS-2	2			CLAIM	
	VS.	INTERNAL	REVENUE	SERVICE	7-23-15 [2	27]

**Final Ruling:** This objection to the proof of claim of the IRS has been set for hearing on at least 44 days' notice to the claimant as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3007-1(c)(1)(ii). The failure of the claimant to file written opposition at least 14 calendar days prior to the hearing is considered as

consent to the sustaining of the objection. <u>Cf</u>. <u>Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the objecting party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the claimant's default is entered and the objection will be resolved without oral argument.

The objection will be sustained and the claim for income taxes for 2014 will be disallowed. The debtor's income for 2014 was below the level at which taxes begin to accrue.

20. 15-20565-A-13 REV KENNETH ANDERSON KG-8 MOTION TO APPROVE COMPENSATION OF DEBTOR'S ATTORNEY 7-23-15 [96]

Final Ruling: The motion will be dismissed without prejudice.

First, the notice of the hearing fails to apprise parties in interest when written opposition is due to be filed and served. The notice of the hearing does not comply with Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(d)(3).

Second, according to the certificate of service, the motion was not served on the debtor.

21.	15-25373-В-13	LISA ILAGA	MOTION	FOR		
	APN-1		RELIEF	FROM	AUTOMATIC	STAY
	WELLS FARGO BAN	NK, N. A. VS.	8-3-15	[24]		

Final Ruling: This 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 debtor and the trustee 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 as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the above-mentioned parties in interest are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1) to permit the movant to repossess and to obtain possession of its personal property security, and to dispose of it in accordance with applicable nonbankruptcy law. The movant is secured by a vehicle. The debtor has proposed a plan that will surrender the vehicle to the movant in satisfaction of its secured claim. That plan has not yet been confirmed. Nonetheless, the terms of the proposed plan makes two things clear: the movant's claim will not be paid and the vehicle securing its claim is not necessary to the debtor's personal financial reorganization. This is cause to terminate the automatic stay.

The 14-day stay of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4001(a)(3) will be waived.

Because the movant has not established that the value of its collateral exceeds the amount of its claim, the court awards no fees and costs. 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  506(b).

22.	15-20379-A-13	ALBERTO/KATHARINE OBREGON	MOTION TO
	PGM-7		VALUE COLLATERAL
	VS. SIERRA CEN	ITRAL CREDIT UNION	8-4-15 [115]

Final Ruling: The parties have resolved this matter by stipulation.

23. 15-25791-A-13 MICHELLE NARAYAN

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE 8-17-15 [19]

Final Ruling: The order to show cause will be discharged.

Creditor Transworld Systems, Inc., applied for the redaction of a filed document but failed to pay the \$25 redaction fee. However, after the order to show cause was issued, the fee was paid. No prejudice resulted from the delay.