

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
Eastern District of California**

Honorable Christopher D. Jaime  
Robert T. Matsui U.S. Courthouse  
501 I Street, Sixth Floor  
Sacramento, California

**PRE-HEARING DISPOSITIONS COVER SHEET**

**DAY: TUESDAY**

**DATE: September 12, 2023**

**CALENDAR: 1:00 P.M. CHAPTER 13**

Each matter on this calendar will have one of three possible designations: No Ruling, Tentative Ruling, or Final Ruling. These instructions apply to those designations.

**No Ruling:** All parties will need to appear at the hearing unless otherwise ordered.

**Tentative Ruling:** If a matter has been designated as a tentative ruling it will be called. The court may continue the hearing on the matter, set a briefing schedule, or enter other orders appropriate for efficient and proper resolution of the matter. The original moving or objecting party shall give notice of the continued hearing date and the deadlines. The minutes of the hearing will be the court's findings and conclusions.

**Final Ruling:** Unless otherwise ordered, there will be no hearing on these matters and no appearance is necessary. The final disposition of the matter is set forth in the ruling and it will appear in the minutes. The final ruling may or may not finally adjudicate the matter. If it is finally adjudicated, the minutes constitute the court's findings and conclusions.

**Orders:** Unless the court specifies in the tentative or final ruling that it will issue an order, the prevailing party shall lodge an order within seven (7) days of the final hearing on the matter.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California

Honorable Christopher D. Jaime  
Bankruptcy Judge  
Modesto, California

September 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

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1. [23-90374](#)-B-13 JENNIFER WHEELER MOTION TO EXTEND AUTOMATIC STAY  
[DCJ](#)-1 David C. Johnston 8-28-23 [[12](#)]

**Final Ruling**

The motion has been set for hearing on less than 28-days notice. Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). Parties in interest were not required to file a written response or opposition.

The court has determined that oral argument will not assist in the decision-making process or resolution of the motion. See Local Bankr. R. 9014-1(h), 1001-1(f). The court has also determined that further briefing is not necessary. See Local Bankr. R. 9014-1(f)(2)(C). This matter will therefore be decided on the papers.

The court's decision is to grant the motion to extend automatic stay.

Debtor seeks to have the provisions of the automatic stay provided by 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(3) extended beyond 30 days in this case. This is the Debtor's second bankruptcy petition pending in the past 12 months. The Debtor's prior bankruptcy case was dismissed on August 8, 2023, due to failure to timely file documents. Therefore, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(3)(A), the provisions of the automatic stay end in their entirety 30 days after filing of the petition. See e.g., *Reswick v. Reswick (In re Reswick)*, 446 B.R. 362 (9th Cir. BAP 2011) (stay terminates in its entirety); accord *Smith v. State of Maine Bureau of Revenue Services (In re Smith)*, 910 F.3d 576 (1st Cir. 2018).

**Discussion**

Upon motion of a party in interest and after notice and hearing, the court may order the provisions extended beyond 30 days if the filing of the subsequent petition was in good faith. 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(3)(B). The presumption that the present case was filed in bad faith does not apply where the prior case was dismissed because of the failure to file documents if such failure was due to the negligence of a debtor's attorney. See 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(3)(C)(i)(II)(aa). The presumption of bad faith may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence. *Id.* at § 362(c)(3)(C).

The Debtor asserts that the failure to timely file documents in the prior case was due to negligence by Debtor's attorney. After the Debtor's attorney prepared the schedules, statement of financial affairs, means test, and Chapter 13 plan, he thought he had emailed them to the Debtor for review and signatures. In fact, he forgot to click "send" due to an interruption. He waited for the signed documents to come back from the Debtor before filing them. In the meantime, the prior case was dismissed for failure to timely file documents. At that point, Debtor's attorney discovered the unsent email and immediately notified Debtor of the problem, agreeing to pay the filing fee for a new petition and waiving any new retainer.

The Debtor has sufficiently rebutted, by clear and convincing evidence, the presumption of bad faith under the facts of this case and the prior case for the court to extend the automatic stay.

The motion is granted and the automatic stay is extended for all purposes and parties, unless terminated by operation of law or further order of this court.

The motion is ORDERED GRANTED for reasons stated in the minutes.

The court will issue an order.

2. [23-90078](#)-B-13 JUAN ZUNIGA  
[CSL](#)-2 Christie S. Lee

MOTION TO CONFIRM PLAN  
7-31-23 [[43](#)]

### **Final Ruling**

The motion has been set for hearing on the 35-days' notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(d)(1), 9014-1(f)(1), and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 2002(b). 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)(B) is considered to be the equivalent of a statement of nonopposition. *Cf. Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). No opposition was filed. The matter will be resolved without oral argument. No appearance at the hearing is required.

The court's decision is to confirm the amended plan.

11 U.S.C. § 1323 permits a debtor to amend a plan any time before confirmation. The Debtor has provided evidence in support of confirmation. No opposition to the motion has been filed by the Chapter 13 Trustee or creditors. The amended plan complies with 11 U.S.C. §§ 1322 and 1325(a) and is confirmed.

The motion is ORDERED GRANTED for reasons stated in the minutes. Counsel for the Debtor shall prepare an appropriate order confirming the Chapter 13 Plan, transmit the proposed order to the Chapter 13 Trustee for approval as to form, and if so approved, the Chapter 13 Trustee will submit the proposed order to the court.

The court will issue an order.

3. [21-90082](#)-B-13 TRACY BELL  
[RDG](#)-1 Matthew J. DeCaminada

OBJECTION TO CLAIM OF CAPITAL  
ONE AUTO FINANCE, CLAIM NUMBER  
1-2  
8-8-23 [[58](#)]

**Final Ruling**

The objection has been set for hearing on at least 30 days' notice to the claimant as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3007-1(b)(2). However, there appears to be lack of service of process on creditor Capital One Auto Finance. A review of the proof of service shows that only Debtor and her attorney were served. Therefore, the objection to claim is overruled without prejudice.

The objection is ORDERED OVERRULED WITHOUT PREJUDICE for reasons stated in the minutes.

The court will issue an order.