

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California

Honorable Michael S. McManus

Bankruptcy Judge

Sacramento, California

October 2, 2017 at 1:30 p.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 16. A TENTATIVE RULING FOLLOWS EACH OF THESE ITEMS. THE COURT MAY AMEND OR CHANGE A TENTATIVE RULING BASED ON THE PARTIES' ORAL ARGUMENT. IF ALL 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 23, 2017 AT 1:30 P.M. OPPOSITION MUST BE FILED AND SERVED BY OCTOBER 9, 2017, AND ANY REPLY MUST BE FILED AND SERVED BY OCTOBER 16, 2017. 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 17 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 OCTOBER 12, 2017, AT 2:30 P.M.

October 2, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

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Matters to be Called for Argument

1. 17-20701-A-13 KEVIN/COREN TRIGALES MOTION TO
JPJ-1 CONVERT OR TO DISMISS CASE
9-1-17 [19]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be conditionally denied.

The debtor has failed to pay to the trustee approximately \$16,700 as required by the plan. The foregoing has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. This is cause for dismissal or conversion, whichever is in the best interests of creditors. See 11 U.S.C. § 1307(c)(1).

After a review of the schedules, the court concludes that conversion rather than dismissal is in the best interests of creditors because there is in excess of \$28,745.34 of equity in unencumbered, nonexempt assets that will benefit creditors if liquidated by a trustee.

Nonetheless, since the motion was filed, the debtor has proposed a modified plan that will be considered for confirmation at a hearing on October 30. If the debtor is unable to confirm a plan on October 30, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be substantial and that there will then be cause for conversion of the case to one under chapter 7. If the debtor has not confirmed by October 30, the case will be converted on the trustee's ex parte application.

2. 17-25103-A-13 CRISTINO VIBAT OBJECTION TO
JPJ-1 CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
9-13-17 [23]

- ☐ 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 conditionally denied.

First, 11 U.S.C. § 521(e)(2)(B) & (C) requires the court to dismiss a petition if an individual chapter 7 or 13 debtor fails to provide to the case trustee a copy of the debtor's federal income tax return for the most recent tax year ending before the filing of the petition. This return must be produced seven days prior to the date first set for the meeting of creditors. The failure to provide the return to the trustee justifies dismissal and denial of confirmation. In addition to the requirement of section 521(e)(2) that the petition be dismissed, an uncodified provision of the Bankruptcy Abuse

Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 found at section 1228(a) of BAPCPA provides that in chapter 11 and 13 cases the court shall not confirm a plan of an individual debtor unless requested tax documents have been turned over. This has not been done.

Second, Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(b)(6) provides: "Documents Required by Trustee. 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, to pay the dividends required by the plan at the rate proposed by it will take 77 months which exceeds the maximum 5-year duration permitted by 11 U.S.C. § 1322(d). This becomes an even greater problem when the fact that the debtor has understated the arrears on the Class 1 home loan by approximately \$37,000.

Fourth, the plan is not feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6) because the monthly plan payment of \$4,634 is less than the \$4,874.60 in dividends and expenses the plan requires the trustee to pay each month. The shortage is even more pronounced when one considers the fact that the arrears on the Class 1 home loan have been understated by approximately \$37,000.

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.

3.	17-25103-A-13 CRISTINO VIBAT NLL-1 THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON VS.	OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN 9-14-17 [28]
	<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Agrees with Ruling	

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan 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.

The plan assumes the arrears on the objecting creditor's Class 1 secured claim are approximately \$131,894.81. The creditor indicates that the arrears are more than \$168,894.81. At this higher level, the plan either is not feasible or it will not pay the objecting secured claim in full. The plan fails to comply with 11 U.S.C. §§ 1325(a)(5)(B) & (a)(6).

4. 17-25108-A-13 CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL
TGM-1
GLOBAL LENDING SERVICES, L.L.C. VS.

OBJECTION TO
CONFIRMATION OF PLAN
9-11-17 [17]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan 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 overruled.

The objection asserts that because the plan does not provide for the objecting creditor's secured claim, it may not be confirmed.

11 U.S.C. § 1322(a) is the section of the Bankruptcy Code that specifies the mandatory provisions of a plan. It requires only that the debtor adequately fund the plan with future earnings or other future income that is paid over to the trustee (section 1322(a)(1)), provide for payment in full of priority claims (section 1322(a)(2) & (4)), and provide the same treatment for each claim in a particular class (section 1322(a)(3)). But, nothing in section 1322(a) compels a debtor to propose a plan that provides for a secured claim.

11 U.S.C. § 1322(b) specifies the provisions that a plan may, at the option of the debtor, include. With reference to secured claims, the debtor may not modify a home loan but may modify other secured claims (section 1322(b)(2)), cure any default on a secured claim, including a home loan (section 1322(b)(3)), and maintain ongoing contract installment payments while curing a pre-petition default (section 1322(b)(5)).

If a debtor elects to provide for a secured claim, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5) gives the debtor three options: (1) provide a treatment that the debtor and secured creditor agree to (section 1325(a)(5)(A)), provide for payment in full of the entire claim if the claim is modified or will mature by its terms during the term of the plan (section 1325(a)(5)(B)), or surrender the collateral for the claim to the secured creditor (section 1325(a)(C)). However, these three possibilities are relevant only if the plan provides for the secured claim.

When a plan does not provide for a secured claim, the remedy is not denial of confirmation. Instead, the claim holder may seek the termination of the automatic stay so that it may repossess or foreclose upon its collateral. The absence of a plan provision is good evidence that the collateral for the claim is not necessary for the debtor's reorganization and that the claim will not be paid. This is cause for relief from the automatic stay. See 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1).

- ☐ 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 conditionally denied.

First, the debtor has not proven the plan is feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6). The plan assumes that a home lender has agreed to a home loan modification. Absent that agreement, the claim cannot be modified. See 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(2). Instead, the debtor is limited to curing any pre-petition default while maintaining the regular monthly mortgage installment. See 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(5).

Second, the debtor has failed to fully and accurately provide all information required by the petition, schedules, and statements. The petition omits disclosure of two prior bankruptcy cases and Form 122C-1 omits rental income received since February 2017. These nondisclosures are 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).

Third, in the calculation of projected disposable income on Form 122C, the debtor has deducted a credit card payment owed by a nonfiling spouse even though that card has been used to pay household expenses which are also deducted on the form. In effect, the debtor is deducting the expenses twice thus understating projected disposable income.

The objection that the debtor failed to comply with 11 U.S.C. § 521(e)(2)(A)(1) will be overruled. That section requires the debtor give the trustee a copy of a federal tax return, not a state return as requested here.

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. 17-25109-A-13 RACHEL EKINDESONE OBJECTION TO
RDW-1 CONFIRMATION OF PLAN
CAM XVIII VS. 9-14-17 [23]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan 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 to the same extent and for the reasons stated in the ruling on the trustee's objection, JPJ-1. That ruling is incorporated by reference.

7. 16-27030-A-13 GINA HITSON-O'NEAL MOTION TO
RJ-3 MODIFY PLAN
8-28-17 [60]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

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

First, even though 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(2) prevents the proposed plan from modifying a claim secured only by the debtor's home, 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(2) & (b)(5) permit the plan to provide for the cure of any defaults on such a claim while ongoing installment payments are maintained. The cure of defaults is not limited to the cure of pre-petition defaults. See In re Bellinger, 179 B.R. 220 (Bankr. D. Idaho 1995). The proposed plan, however, does not provide for a cure of the arrearages owed to the Class 1 home loan. By failing to provide for a cure, the debtor is, in effect, impermissibly modifying a home loan. Also, the failure to cure the default means that the Class 1 secured claim will not be paid in full as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B).

Second, the debtor's poor plan payment history, as recounted in the objection, plus the insufficiency of the debtor's income to fund the plan, indicate that the plan is not feasible. While the debtor indicates in the motion that relative will assist her with \$1,400 a month, there is no convincing evidence of the ability or inclination of those relatives to make this contribution. The debtor has not met her burden under 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6).

8. 15-27138-A-13 DWIGHT/GWENDOLYN HAMILTON MOTION TO
RJ-5 MODIFY PLAN
8-28-17 [78]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

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

The plan provides that the debtor will retain the collateral of Ocwen. It is secured by a deed of trust on the debtor's residence. The plan provides for

this claim in Class 1. This, in effect, is an admission that the claim was in default when the case was filed. Therefore, as a Class 1 claim, the plan provides for both the maintenance of contract installments and a cure of the arrears. However, the plan fails to provide for a dividend to cure the arrears. The plan does not comply with 11 U.S.C. §§ 1322(b)(2), (b)(5) & 1325(a)(5)(B).

9. 17-24944-A-13 MAURICE TALTON
JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO
CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
9-13-17 [22]

- ☐ 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 conditionally denied.

First, the debtor has failed to commence making plan payments and has not paid approximately \$1,385 to the trustee as required by the proposed plan. This has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. This is cause to deny confirmation of the plan and for dismissal of the case. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 1307(c)(1) & (c)(4), 1325(a)(6).

Second, the debtor has failed to accurately complete Form 122C-2. The debtor has taken the following impermissible deductions from current monthly income:

- the debtor has taken a \$189 deduction for the taking public transportation even though the debtor's household does not use public transportation.
- the debtor has deducted the same expense twice. The debtor deducted \$320.84 for education expenses on both Lines 21 and 29. It may deducted only once.
- The debtor has deducted a \$641.83 voluntary pension contribution. The debtor may not make those contributions and deduct them from the debtor's current monthly income. Accord Parks v. Drummond (In re Parks), 475 B.R. 703 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2012).

With these deductions eliminated, the debtor must pay no less than \$82,951.80 to Class 7 unsecured creditors over the plan's duration. Because the plan will pay these creditors only \$14,030.63, it does not comply with 11 U.S.C. § 1325(b).

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.

10. 17-26052-A-13 TANISHA MAVY MOTION TO
TM-2 VALUE COLLATERAL
VS. UNIVERSAL ACCEPTANCE CORP. 9-15-17 [12]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be dismissed without prejudice.

A motion is a contested matter and it must be served like a summons and a complaint. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9014 incorporating by reference Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7004. Service of the motion did not comply with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7004(b)(3) and 9014(b). The motion must be served to the attention of an officer, a managing or general agent, or other agent authorized by appointment or law to receive service of process for the respondent creditor. According to the certificate of service, this motion was simply sent to the corporation. Cf. EMMC v. Repp (In re Repp), 307 B.R. 144 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2004) (service in accordance with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(b) does not satisfy the service requirements of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7004(b)). Service, then, is deficient.

11. 17-25167-A-13 DONNA HARRISON OBJECTION TO
JPJ-1 CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
9-13-17 [13]

- ☐ 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 conditionally denied.

The debtor has taken an impermissible deduction from current monthly income for a \$559.75 voluntary pension contribution on Form 122C-2. This is disposable income; the debtor may not make those contributions and deduct them from the debtor's current monthly income. Accord Parks v. Drummond (In re Parks), 475 B.R. 703 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2012). As a result, the debtor has monthly projected disposable income of \$578.24. If paid to unsecured creditors, they would share a total of \$34,694.40 over the life of the plan. Because the plan will pay only \$5,741.40 to these creditors, it does not comply with 11 U.S.C. § 1325(b).

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.

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan 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.

First, 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).

Second, 11 U.S.C. § 521(e)(2)(B) & (C) requires the court to dismiss a petition if an individual chapter 7 or 13 debtor fails to provide to the case trustee a copy of the debtor's federal income tax return for the most recent tax year ending before the filing of the petition. This return must be produced seven days prior to the date first set for the meeting of creditors. The failure to provide the return to the trustee justifies dismissal and denial of confirmation. In addition to the requirement of section 521(e)(2) that the petition be dismissed, an uncodified provision of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 found at section 1228(a) of BAPCPA provides that in chapter 11 and 13 cases the court shall not confirm a plan of an individual debtor unless requested tax documents have been turned over. This has not been done.

Third, Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(b)(6) provides: "Documents Required by Trustee. 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.

Fourth, the debtor has failed to commence making plan payments and has not paid approximately \$4,040 to the trustee as required by the proposed plan. This has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. This is cause to deny confirmation of the plan and for dismissal of the case. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 1307(c)(1) & (c)(4), 1325(a)(6).

It is unnecessary to address the remaining objections.

13. 14-27284-A-13 ANDREW/ROWENA CHAMP
JPJ-2

MOTION TO
CONVERT OR TO DISMISS CASE
8-31-17 [85]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be granted and the case converted to one under chapter 7.

The debtor has failed to pay to the trustee approximately \$2,139.10 as required by the plan. The foregoing has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. This is cause for dismissal or conversion, whichever is in the best interests of creditors. See 11 U.S.C. § 1307(c)(1).

After a review of the schedules, the court concludes that conversion rather than dismissal is in the best interests of creditors because there is in excess of \$18,100 of equity in unencumbered, nonexempt assets that will benefit creditors if liquidated by a trustee.

14. 17-20287-A-13 BRANDI DECHAIINE
JPJ-1

MOTION TO
CONVERT OR TO DISMISS CASE
8-31-17 [24]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be granted and the case converted to one under chapter 7.

The debtor has failed to pay to the trustee approximately \$3,821.38 as required by the plan. The foregoing has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. This is cause for dismissal or conversion, whichever is in the best interests of creditors. See 11 U.S.C. § 1307(c)(1).

After a review of the schedules, the court concludes that conversion rather than dismissal is in the best interests of creditors because there is in excess of \$26,631 of equity in unencumbered, nonexempt assets that will benefit creditors if liquidated by a trustee.

15. 17-24490-A-13 RAYMOND/ELIZABETH
LBG-1 CAMPBELL

MOTION TO
SELL
9-11-17 [27]

- ☐ 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 sell real property will be granted on the condition that the sale proceeds are used to pay all liens of record in full in a manner consistent with the plan. If the proceeds are not sufficient to pay liens of record in full (including liens ostensibly "stripped off"), no sale may be completed without the consent of each lienholder not being paid in full.

Insofar as surplus sale proceeds are available, they shall be paid over to the trustee to the extent required by the confirmed plan with such additional amounts as volunteered by the debtor.

Absent either payment in full (i.e., a 100% dividend) of all filed proofs of claim or the approval of a modified plan that permits the plan to be completed without payment in full, the plan shall not be deemed completed by payment of the sale proceeds to the trustee.

16. 17-25198-A-13 PAMALA BEARD-HUGHES

ORDER TO
SHOW CAUSE
9-11-17 [19]

- ☐ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The case will remain pending but the court will modify the terms of its order permitting the debtor to pay the filing fee in installments.

The court granted the debtor permission to pay the filing fee in installments. The debtor failed to pay the \$79 installment when due on September 6. While the delinquent installment was paid on September 21, the fact remains the court was required to issue an order to show cause to compel the payment. Therefore, as a sanction for the late payment, the court will modify its prior order allowing installment payments to provide that if a future installment is not received by its due date, the case will be dismissed without further notice or hearing.

FINAL RULINGS BEGIN HERE

17. 17-24409-A-13 BENJAMIN/DEBRA EDOKPAYI OBJECTION TO
JPJ-2 EXEMPTIONS
8-22-17 [41]

Final Ruling: This objection to the debtor's exemptions has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the debtor 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 sustaining of the objection. 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 objecting party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the debtor's default is entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

First, the exemption pursuant to Cal. Civ. Pro. Code § 703.140(b)(10)(D) for a claim for past due rent will be disallowed. The exemption statute permits exemption of alimony or support, not rent owed by tenant.

Second, the exemption pursuant to Cal. Civ. Pro. Code § 703.140(b)(11)(B) for a claim for against two individuals will be disallowed. The exemption statute permits exemption of a payment on account of wrongful death to the extent necessary for support. There is no proof that the claim is for wrongful death or is necessary for the debtor's support.

18. 13-24612-A-13 JOHN WAGNER AND DAWNA MOTION TO
PGM-1 FONGER-WAGNER MODIFY PLAN
8-24-17 [38]

Final Ruling: The court concludes that a hearing will not be helpful to its consideration and resolution of this matter. The court will not materially alter the relief requested and the issue raised by the trustee can be resolved by a nonmaterial modification to the plan. Accordingly, an actual hearing is unnecessary and this matter is removed from calendar for resolution without oral argument. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006).

The motion will be granted on the condition that the plan is further modified in the confirmation order to account for all prior payments made by the debtor under the terms of the previous plan, and to eliminate the provision for a cure of a post-petition default on a home mortgage. As to the latter, such a default no longer exists and the provision is unnecessary. As further modified, the plan complies with 11 U.S.C. §§ 1322(a) & (b), 1323(c), 1325(a), and 1329.

19. 17-25116-A-13 WILLIAM KERSEY OBJECTION TO
JPJ-1 CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
9-13-17 [26]

Final Ruling: The court concludes that a hearing will not be helpful to its consideration and resolution of this matter. The court will not materially alter the relief requested and the issue raised by the trustee can be resolved by a nonmaterial modification to the plan. Accordingly, an actual hearing is unnecessary and this matter is removed from calendar for resolution without oral argument. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006).

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

The plan's feasibility depends on the debtor successfully prosecuting a motion to value the collateral of Travis Credit Union in order to strip down or strip off its secured claim from its collateral. No such motion has been filed, served, and granted. Absent a successful motion the debtor cannot establish that the plan will pay secured claims in full as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B) or that the plan is feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6). Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(j) provides: "If a proposed plan will reduce or eliminate a secured claim based on the value of its collateral or the avoidability of a lien pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 522(f), the debtor must file, serve, and set for hearing a valuation motion and/or a lien avoidance motion. The hearing must be concluded before or in conjunction with the confirmation of the plan. If a motion is not filed, or it is unsuccessful, the Court may deny confirmation of the plan."

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.

20. 14-26519-A-13 RUBEN/CRYSTAL CORTEZ MOTION TO
MET-2 MODIFY PLAN
8-26-17 [28]

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 debtor, 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 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the trustee, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th 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.

21. 16-24032-A-13 IGNACIO LAUDER AND WILMA MOTION TO
MET-6 FRONDA APPROVE COMPENSATION OF DEBTORS'
ATTORNEY
9-16-17 [78]

Final Ruling: The motion will be dismissed without prejudice.

Counsel for the debtor seeks compensation for professional services rendered to the debtor in this case. This hearing was set on 16 days' notice of the hearing. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(a)(6) requires a minimum of 21 days' notice of the hearings on motions to approve professional compensation and reimbursement of expenses. While Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-(f)(2) permits motions to be set on as little as 14 days of notice, and permits opposition to be made at the hearing, this local rule also provides this amount of notice is permitted "unless additional notice is required by the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy

Procedure. . . ." Because Rule 2002(a)(6) requires a minimum of 21 days of notice of the hearing and because only 16 days' was given, notice is insufficient.

22. 17-22055-A-13 ROBERT/JULIE WARES MOTION TO
JPJ-2 CONVERT OR TO DISMISS CASE
9-1-17 [45]

Final Ruling: The motion will be dismissed as moot. The case was dismissed on September 8.

23. 15-26373-A-13 JOSE/GRACIELA BIVIESCAS MOTION TO
JPJ-2 CONVERT OR TO DISMISS CASE
8-30-17 [28]

Final Ruling: The motion will be dismissed as moot. The case was dismissed on September 8.