



UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
Eastern District of California

Honorable Corrine Bielejeski
Bankruptcy Judge
Department D, Courtroom #33
Sacramento, CA

October 19, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

Unless otherwise ordered, all matters before the Honorable Corrine Bielejeski shall be simultaneously: (1) **In Person** at Courtroom #33, 6th Floor, (2) via **ZoomGov Video**, (3) via **ZoomGov Telephone**, and (4) via **CourtCall**. You may choose any of these options unless otherwise ordered or stated below.

All parties who wish to appear at a hearing remotely must sign up **by 4:00 p.m. one business day** prior to the hearing. Information regarding how to sign up can be found on the **Remote Appearances** page of our website at <https://www.caeb.uscourts.gov/Calendar/CourtAppearances>. Each party who has signed up will receive a Zoom link or phone number, meeting I.D., and password via e-mail.

If the deadline to sign up has passed, parties who wish to appear remotely must contact the Courtroom Deputy for the Department holding the hearing.

Please also note the following:

- Parties in interest may connect to the video or audio feed free of charge and should select which method they will use to appear when signing up.
- Members of the public and the press appearing by ZoomGov may only listen in to the hearing using the zoom telephone number. Video appearances are not permitted.
- Members of the public and the press may not listen in to trials or evidentiary hearings, though they may appear in person in most instances.

To appear remotely for law and motion or status conference proceedings, you must comply with the following guidelines and procedures:

1. Review the [Pre-Hearing Dispositions](#) prior to appearing at the hearing.
2. Parties appearing via CourtCall are encouraged to review the [CourtCall Appearance Information](#).

If you are appearing by ZoomGov phone or video, please join at least 10 minutes prior to the start of the calendar and wait with your microphone muted until the matter is called.

Unauthorized Recording is Prohibited: Any recording of a court proceeding held by video or teleconference, including "screen shots" or other audio or visual copying of a hearing is prohibited. Violation may result in sanctions, including removal of court-issued media credentials, denial of entry to future hearings, or any other sanctions deemed necessary by the court. For more information on photographing, recording, or broadcasting Judicial Proceedings, please refer to Local Rule 173(a) of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRE-HEARING DISPOSITIONS

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, and all parties will need to appear at the hearing unless otherwise ordered. **IF THE MOVING PARTY FAILS TO ATTEND THE HEARING, THE MOTION MAY BE DENIED FOR LACK OF PROSECUTION.** 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. 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 14 days of the final hearing on the matter.

Post-Publication Changes: The court endeavors to publish its rulings as soon as possible. However, calendar preparation is ongoing and **these rulings may be revised or updated at any time prior to 4:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled hearings.** Please check at that time for any possible updates.

1. [24-25104](#)-D-13 **IN RE: SHIRLENE STEWART**
[PLG-1](#)

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
8-20-2026 [[40](#)]

STEVEN ALPERT/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Debtor's motion to modify plan will be DENIED. Remote appearances are allowed.

Notice of the motion to modify plan was proper. The Chapter 13 Trustee opposes Debtor's motion, stating that Debtor is not current on the plan payments and had no payments pending through TFS. Doc. 51. No other party filed a response, and their defaults will be taken.

Ms. Koo's declaration states that Debtor is in month 22 of a 60 month plan (docket #52), while Debtor's confirmed plan (docket #3) and proposed first modified plan (docket #42) are for 36 months and 38 months respectively. The court requests that the parties address whether Debtor is current on her plan payments during the hearing.

2. [25-27208](#)-D-13 **IN RE: MICHELLE/JAMES MEARS**
[RDW-1](#)

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY
9-8-2026 [[29](#)]

MIKALAH LIVIAKIS/ATTY. FOR DBT.
REILLY WILKINSON/ATTY. FOR MV.
PATELCO CREDIT UNION VS.

Final Ruling. Motion required opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing. No opposition filed. Notice is proper. Good cause appearing, motion is GRANTED. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required.

Notice was proper. Debtors have surrendered the collateral to the Movant. Opposition, if any, was due 14 days prior to the hearing. The only response was by the Chapter 13 trustee, who supports the motion. The court will enter a minute order. If Movant wants a more in depth order, Movant shall submit one to the court.

3. [25-26713](#)-D-13 **IN RE: MARGARET SATTERFIELD AND BENJAMIN
SHAW
[MRL-1](#)**

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
8-14-2026 [[20](#)]

MIKALAH LIVIAKIS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Debtors' motion to modify plan will be GRANTED. Remote appearances are allowed.

Debtors seek to confirm a modified plan, filed on or about August 14, 2026 as docket #24. Notice of the motion was proper. The Chapter 13 Trustee opposes Debtors' motion, mostly on liquidation grounds. Doc. 30. No other party filed a response, and their defaults will be taken.

The opposition suggested various tasks Debtors could do to resolve the objection, and it appears as if Debtors' Amended Schedule C and declaration may have resolved the objection. The parties should be prepared to address whether the objection has been resolved. The court also requests that for any future plan modifications that Debtors' counsel add the Debtors' case number to the plan and update the name of the plan.

4. [25-20319](#)-D-13 **IN RE: AARON BATE
[DPC-3](#)**

CONTINUED MOTION TO DISMISS CASE
7-21-2026 [[52](#)]

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Debtor's Motion to Modify Plan (docket #62) resolves this motion to dismiss for failure to make plan payments. Trustee's Motion to Dismiss will be DENIED.

Notice was proper. Debtor opposed the motion. Debtor filed a motion to modify plan, which proposes to cure the default. The court is granting Debtor's Motion to Modify Plan, which resolves the Trustee's Motion to Dismiss for failure to make plan payments. Therefore, the Trustee's Motion to Dismiss will be DENIED. The court will enter a minute order. If Movant wants a more in depth order, Movant shall submit one to the court.

5. [25-20319](#)-D-13 IN RE: AARON BATE
[PGM-2](#)

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
9-14-2026 [[62](#)]

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Motion required opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing. No opposition filed. Notice is proper. Good cause appearing, motion is GRANTED.

Notice was proper. The Chapter 13 Trustee supports Debtor's motion to modify plan. No other party filed a response, and their defaults are taken. Good cause appearing, Debtors' motion is GRANTED.

An appropriate order confirming the modified Chapter 13 plan shall be prepared consistent with the current practice of the Chapter 13 Trustee assigned to the case, and the proposed order shall be submitted to the court. The confirmation order shall include the docket control number of the motion, and it shall reference the plan by the date it was filed.

6. [25-22719](#)-D-13 IN RE: DERICK BORILLO AND ADREANE BERTUMEN
[WW-2](#)

CONTINUED MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
8-11-2026 [[33](#)]

MARK WOLFF/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Motion required opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing. No opposition filed. Notice is proper. Good cause appearing, the motion is GRANTED.

This motion was set for hearing on at least 35-days' notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rules 3015-1(d)(2), 9014-1(f)(1), and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3015(g). Doc. #34, 38, 39, and 40. The Chapter 13 trustee filed a notice of non-opposition. Doc. #51. The failure of creditors, the U.S. Trustee, or any other party in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B) may be deemed a waiver of any opposition to the granting of the motion. *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). *Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir. 1987). Constitutional due process requires a movant make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought.

Debtors' loss of a parent and related expenses are good faith grounds to modify their plan. Debtors' proposed modified plan (Doc. #35) provides for monthly payments of \$6,264.71 per month beginning August 25, 2026. The court continued this hearing so Debtors could address a feasibility issue. Debtors filed an amended, supplemental Schedule J on September 28, 2026 as docket #47. This resolves the court's concerns. Debtors' proposed plan remains a 0% to general unsecured creditors plan and still meets the liquidation test.

Debtors' motion is GRANTED. An appropriate order confirming the modified Chapter 13 plan shall be prepared consistent with the current practice of the Chapter 13 Trustee assigned to the case, and the proposed order shall be submitted to the court. The confirmation order shall include the docket control number of the motion, and it shall reference the plan by the date it was filed.

7. [26-24549](#)-D-13 **IN RE: DUY PAN AND TRAM TRUONG**
[DPC-1](#)

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN BY DAVID P. CUSICK
9-24-2026 [[25](#)]

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Trustee's Objection is SUSTAINED.

Debtors filed a non-opposition to the trustee's objection to confirmation, stating that the plan is not ready for confirmation and that Debtors will file an amended plan. Doc. 33. Good cause appearing, the Chapter 13 Trustee's objection is SUSTAINED. The court will enter a minute order. If Trustee wants a more in depth order, Trustee shall submit one to the court.

8. [26-24549](#)-D-13 **IN RE: DUY PAN AND TRAM TRUONG**
[FWP-1](#)

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN BY FIRST MERCHANTS BANK
9-24-2026 [[30](#)]

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.
THOMAS PHINNEY/ATTY. FOR MV.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Creditor's Objection is SUSTAINED.

Debtors filed a non-opposition to the creditor's objection to confirmation, stating that the plan is not ready for confirmation and that Debtors will file an amended plan. Doc. 33. Good cause appearing, creditor's objection is SUSTAINED. The court makes no findings as to the correct *Till* rate in this case. The court will enter a minute order. If creditor wants a more in depth order, creditor shall submit one to the court.

9. [26-24549](#)-D-13 **IN RE: DUY PAN AND TRAM TRUONG**
[RH-1](#)

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN BY SANTANDER BANK, N.A.
9-23-2026 [[22](#)]

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.
ROSEMARY HONG/ATTY. FOR MV.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Creditor's Objection is OVERRULED.

Debtors filed a non-opposition to the Creditor's objection to confirmation, stating that the plan is not ready for confirmation and that Debtors will file an amended plan. Doc. 33. However, Creditor's counsel filed an objection using the same Docket Control Number it used in CarMax's objection. RH-1, doc. 17. It also failed to file a certificate of service with the court. As service was not proper, Creditor Santander Bank, N.A.'s objection is OVERRULED, without prejudice. The court makes no findings as to the correct *Till* rate in this case. The court will issue a minute order.

10. [26-24549](#)-D-13 **IN RE: DUY PAN AND TRAM TRUONG**
[RH-1](#)

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN BY CARMAX BUSINESS
SERVICES, LLC
9-2-2026 [[17](#)]

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.
ROSEMARY HONG/ATTY. FOR MV.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Creditor's Objection is SUSTAINED.

Debtors filed a non-opposition to the creditor's objection to confirmation, stating that the plan is not ready for confirmation and that Debtors will file an amended plan. Doc. 33. Notice was proper. The court makes no findings as to the correct *Till* rate in this case. Good cause appearing, creditor's objection is SUSTAINED.

The court will enter a minute order. If creditor wants a more in depth order, creditor shall submit one to the court.

11. [24-23052](#)-D-13 IN RE: SHANE/STACI STEFFEN
[PLG-5](#)

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
8-28-2026 [\[111\]](#)

RABIN POURNAZARIAN/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Final Ruling. Hearing is off-calendar. No appearances required. Motion required opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing. No opposition filed. Notice is proper. Good cause appearing, motion GRANTED.

Notice was proper. The Chapter 13 Trustee supports Debtors' motion for confirmation of fifth modified plan. No other party filed a response, and their defaults are taken. Good cause appearing, Debtors' motion is GRANTED.

An appropriate order confirming the fifth modified Chapter 13 plan shall be prepared consistent with the current practice of the Chapter 13 Trustee assigned to the case, and the proposed order shall be submitted to the court. The confirmation order shall include the docket control number of the motion, and it shall reference the plan by the date it was filed.

12. [26-25161](#)-D-13 IN RE: JENNIFER ANDERSON
[UST-1](#)

MOTION TO DISMISS CASE
9-17-2026 [\[14\]](#)

MICHAEL FLETCHER/ATTY. FOR MV.

Tentative Ruling. The U.S. Trustee's motion to dismiss with a two year bar to refiling will be GRANTED. Remote appearances are allowed.

The U.S. Trustee ("UST") seeks to dismiss Jennifer Anderson's ("Debtor's") case with a two year bar to refiling. Doc. 16. This motion was set for hearing on at least 28 days' notice as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule ("LBR") 9014-1(f)(1). Doc. 15. The failure of the debtor, creditors, the Chapter 13 trustee, or any other party in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B) may be deemed a waiver of any opposition to the granting of the motion. *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Upon default, factual allegations will be taken as true (except those relating to amount of damages). *Televideo Systems, Inc. v. Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir. 1987).

Constitutional due process requires a movant make a prima facie showing that they are entitled to the relief sought, even though Debtor has not opposed the motion.

Dismissal of a case for bad faith typically requires that the court note the following, collectively referred to as the *Leavitt* factors:

- (1) whether the debtor misrepresented facts in their petition or plan, unfairly manipulated the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise filed the case in an inequitable manner;
- (2) the debtor's history of filings and dismissals;
- (3) whether the debtor only intended to defeat state court litigation; and

(4) whether egregious behavior is present. *In re: Leavitt*, 171 F.3d 1219, 1224 (9th Cir. 1999). The court takes judicial notice of the pleadings in this case, including Debtor's petition (Docket #1).

Factor 1 - whether Debtor misrepresented facts or unfairly manipulated the Bankruptcy Code. Debtor's petition fails to list a social security number or EIN. Doc. 1. Debtor also answered "No" to the question "have you filed for bankruptcy within the last 8 years." *Id.* The UST failed to file a declaration in this case, but did file a Request for Special Notice requesting that the court take judicial notice of 11 different cases filed by the Debtor, all of which were filed within the last year, and all of which were dismissed for failure to timely file documents. This factor weighs in favor of dismissal.

Factor 2 - Debtor's history of filings and dismissals. Again, Debtor has failed to prosecute 11 previous cases within the last year. This factor weighs in favor of dismissal.

Factor 3 - whether the Debtor only intends to defeat state court litigation. Debtor's Schedule A/B lists that a vehicle "is being financed and is up for repo." Doc. 1. Debtor's Statement of Financial Affairs does not list any litigation. Doc. 1. The court notes that as this is the third (or more) case pending within a year, there is no automatic stay. 11 U.S.C. §362. This factor weighs slightly in favor of dismissal.

Factor 4 - whether egregious behavior is present. The court notes that a finding of bad faith does not require malice or fraud. *In re: Leavitt* at 1224. Debtor filing more than 10 bankruptcies within one year and failing to prosecute them is egregious behavior. This factor weighs in favor of dismissal.

Good cause appearing, the U.S. Trustee's motion will be GRANTED. The instant case shall be DISMISSED with a two year bar to filing any chapter of bankruptcy from the date the order is entered. Should Debtor seek to file a case within that two year period, Debtor shall first obtain an order from the court allowing her to file, for good cause shown. The court will enter an order.

13. [26-24763](#)-D-12 **IN RE: FRANKIE MACHADO**
[CAE-1](#)

CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: VOLUNTARY PETITION
8-20-2026 [\[1\]](#)

MARK WOLFF/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Status conference will go forward as scheduled. Remote appearances allowed.

At the status conference, the court will schedule a continued status conference for a date after Debtor intends to file his plan.

14. [24-22264](#)-D-13 IN RE: DANIEL/ANGY DE LEON
[JDS-1](#)

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY
9-17-2026 [[20](#)]

CARL GUSTAFSON/ATTY. FOR DBT.
JACQUELINE SERRAO/ATTY. FOR MV.
REDWOOD CREDIT UNION VS.

Matter is off-calendar. No appearances required. Case was transferred to Dept. A, Judge Dreher, on October 2, 2026, docket #28.

15. [24-20265](#)-D-12 IN RE: HARDAVE/SUKHBINDER DULAI
[CAE-1](#)

CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: VOLUNTARY PETITION
1-23-2024 [[1](#)]

RYAN WOOD/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Status conference will go forward as scheduled. Remote appearances allowed.

Debtors' status conference statement (docket #411) notes that Debtors are still in the process of obtaining financing. Debtors or their counsel shall provide an update during the status conference.

16. [26-24583](#)-D-13 IN RE: COLTON SODERLING
[DML-1](#)

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY
9-17-2026 [[17](#)]

ETHAN BIRNBERG VS.

Matter is off-calendar. No appearances required. Case was transferred to Dept. C, Judge Klein, on September 30, 2026, docket #31.

17. [24-22485](#)-D-13 **IN RE: RICARDO VEGA**
[DPC-4](#)

CONTINUED MOTION TO DISMISS CASE
8-19-2026 [\[77\]](#)

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Trustee's motion to dismiss will be GRANTED. Remote appearances are allowed.

Notice of the motion to dismiss was proper. Debtor opposed the motion. Doc. 81. No other party filed a response, and their defaults will be taken.

The parties should be prepared to discuss whether Debtor is current under the proposed First Modified Chapter 13 Plan. Doc. 88. If Debtor is current on Debtor's proposed plan, then Debtor's motion to modify plan will be granted and this motion will be denied. If Debtor is behind on Debtor's proposed plan, then Debtor's motion to modify plan will be denied, and this motion will be granted.

18. [24-22485](#)-D-13 **IN RE: RICARDO VEGA**
[PGM-2](#)

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
9-14-2026 [\[84\]](#)

PETER MACALUSO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Debtor's motion to modify plan will be DENIED. Remote appearances are allowed.

Notice of the motion to modify plan was proper. The Chapter 13 Trustee opposes Debtor's motion, stating that Debtor is not current on the plan payments and that the pending payment through TFS Bill Pay will not be enough to cure the default. Doc. 95. No other party filed a response, and their defaults will be taken.

The parties should be prepared to discuss whether Debtor is current under the proposed First Modified Chapter 13 Plan. Doc. 88. The court notes that the October payment will come due shortly after the hearing on this motion.

19. [25-20389](#)-D-13 **IN RE: KRYSTAL WILLINGHAM**
[PLG-3](#)

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN
9-3-2026 [[47](#)]

RABIN POURNAZARIAN/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Debtor's motion to modify plan will be DENIED. Remote appearances are allowed.

Service of the motion was proper. The notice as to general unsecured creditors is confusing, as noted below. The Chapter 13 Trustee opposes Debtor's motion, noting that Debtor is increasing the interest rate to a secured creditor without explanation. Doc. 56. No other party filed a response, and their defaults will be taken.

The parties should be prepared to discuss whether Debtor is authorized to increase an interest rate to a secured creditor post-confirmation. If Debtor is authorized to increase an interest rate to a secured creditor, the parties should be prepared to discuss whether that increase needs to be listed in Debtor's Notice of Hearing and/or Motion.

The court also notes that Debtor's First Modified Chapter 13 Plan proposes a dividend to general unsecured creditors of 26%, but the motion states both that they will be paid 0% (paragraph 2) and 28% (paragraph 7). At minimum, the plan will need to be re-noticed.

20. [26-24594](#)-D-13 **IN RE: DIEDRE HIGGINS**
[DPC-1](#)

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN BY DAVID P. CUSICK
9-23-2026 [[22](#)]

MICHAEL HAYS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

Tentative Ruling. Remote appearances allowed. Trustee's Objection will be SUSTAINED.

Debtor's plan (docket #8) requires a Motion to Value Collateral. Debtor's Motion to Value Collateral was denied without prejudice for lack of prosecution. Doc. 32.

Debtor's plan is not ready to be confirmed. At the hearing, the court will ask the parties for a timeline for Debtor to resolve the deficiencies noted in the trustee's objection (docket #22). If the court is satisfied with the timeline, this matter will be continued. Otherwise, the trustee's objection will be sustained.