# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Honorable Fredrick E. Clement Fresno Federal Courthouse 2500 Tulare Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Courtroom 11, Department A Fresno, California

#### PRE-HEARING DISPOSITIONS

DAY: WEDNESDAY

DATE: DECEMBER 18, 2019

CALENDAR: 9:00 A.M. CHAPTER 7 CASES

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. 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.

## 1. $\frac{19-13804}{\text{JES}-1}$ IN RE: AURELIO/GUADALUPE TORRES

MOTION TO SELL 11-5-2019 [16]

JAMES SALVEN/MV DAVID JENKINS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Tentative Ruling

Motion: Sell Property

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition:** Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Property: Benelli 12 gauge shot gun; Sig Sauer 9 mm; 2002 Yamaha

Raptor

Buyer: Debtors

**Sale Price**: \$2,000.00

Sale Type: Private sale subject to overbid opportunity

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 363(b)(1) of Title 11 authorizes sales of property of the estate "other than in the ordinary course of business." 11 U.S.C. § 363(b)(1); see also In re Lionel Corp., 722 F.2d 1063, 1071 (2d Cir. 1983) (requiring business justification). The moving party is the Chapter 7 trustee and liquidation of property of the estate is a proper purpose. See 11 U.S.C. § 704(a)(1). As a result, the court will grant the motion. The stay of the order provided by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 6004(h) will be waived.

## 2. 19-14306-A-7 IN RE: ADAM/CHRISTINA RAMIREZ

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE - FAILURE TO PAY FEES 11-14-2019 [24]

### Tentative Ruling

If the filing fee has not been paid in full by the time of the hearing, the case may be dismissed without further notice or hearing.

## 3. 17-10608-A-7 IN RE: JOHN ANTONGIOVANNI

CONTINUED CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE'S FINAL REPORT 8-2-2019 [129]

PATRICK KAVANAGH/ATTY. FOR DBT. LISA HOLDER/ATTY. FOR MV. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

## No Ruling

# 4. $\frac{17-10608}{DMG-2}$ -A-7 IN RE: JOHN ANTONGIOVANNI

CONTINUED OBJECTION TO CLAIM OF J. STANLEY AND KATHLEEN ANTONGIOVANNI LIVING TRUST, CLAIM NUMBER 27  $8-22-2019 \quad [\frac{135}{2}]$ 

KERN RIDGE GROWERS, LLC/MV
PATRICK KAVANAGH/ATTY. FOR DBT.
D. GARDNER/ATTY. FOR MV.
RESPONSIVE PLEADING

## No Ruling

## 5. $\frac{16-13315}{\text{JES}-2}$ -A-7 IN RE: KASSANDRA HOELSCHER

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR JAMES E. SALVEN, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE(S)  $11-12-2019 \quad [174]$ 

JAMES SALVEN/MV
PETER BUNTING/ATTY. FOR DBT.
TRUDI MANFREDO/ATTY. FOR MV.

### Final Ruling

Application: Allowance of Compensation and Expense Reimbursement

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Approved
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this application was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on the application. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

A trustee's compensation is considered in accordance with §§ 326(a) and 330(a). In 2005, "Congress removed Chapter 7 trustees from the list of professionals subject to the Section 330(a)(3) factors. . . . [and] introduced a new provision to Section 330 requiring courts to treat the reasonable compensation awarded to trustees as a 'commission, based on Section 326.'" Matter of JFK Capital Holdings, L.L.C., 880 F.3d 747, 752 (5th Cir. 2018) (quoting 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(7)). "[A] trustee's request for compensation should be presumed reasonable as long as the amount requested does not exceed the statutory maximum calculated pursuant to § 326. [A]bsent extraordinary circumstances, bankruptcy courts should approve chapter 7, 12 and 13 trustee fees without any significant additional review. If the court has found that extraordinary circumstances are present, only then does it become appropriate to conduct a further inquiry to determine whether there exists a rational relationship between the compensation requested and the services rendered." re Ruiz, 541 B.R. 892, 896 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2015) (second alteration in original) (citations omitted) (internal quotation marks omitted).

In short, § 330(a)(7) "treats the commission as a fixed percentage, using Section 326 not only as a maximum but as a baseline presumption for reasonableness in each case." Matter of JFK Capital Holdings, 880 F.3d at 755. This provision "is best understood as a directive to simply apply the formula of § 362 in every case." Id. at 753-54. The "reduction or denial of compensation . . . should be a rare event" occurring only when truly exceptional circumstances are present. Id. at 756.

In this Chapter 7 case, the trustee has applied for an allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The court finds (1) that the compensation requested by the trustee is consistent with 11 U.S.C. § 326(a); (2) that no extraordinary circumstances are present in this case, see In re Salgado-Nava, 473 B.R. 911 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2012); and (3) that expenses for which reimbursement is sought are actual and necessary.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

The chapter 7 trustee's application for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$83,250.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$272.59.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of  $\S$  726.

# 6. $\frac{18-14415}{\text{JES}-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: ANTONIO LOPEZ

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR JAMES E. SALVEN, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE(S) 11-14-2019 [99]

JAMES SALVEN/MV JEFFREY ROWE/ATTY. FOR DBT. PETER FEAR/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

Application: Allowance of Compensation and Expense Reimbursement

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Approved
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this application was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on the application. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None

has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys.*, *Inc.* v. *Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

A trustee's compensation is considered in accordance with §§ 326(a) and 330(a). In 2005, "Congress removed Chapter 7 trustees from the list of professionals subject to the Section 330(a)(3) factors. . . . [and] introduced a new provision to Section 330 requiring courts to treat the reasonable compensation awarded to trustees as a 'commission, based on Section 326.'" Matter of JFK Capital Holdings, L.L.C., 880 F.3d 747, 752 (5th Cir. 2018) (quoting 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(7)). "[A] trustee's request for compensation should be presumed reasonable as long as the amount requested does not exceed the statutory maximum calculated pursuant to § 326. [A]bsent extraordinary circumstances, bankruptcy courts should approve chapter 7, 12 and 13 trustee fees without any significant additional review. If the court has found that extraordinary circumstances are present, only then does it become appropriate to conduct a further inquiry to determine whether there exists a rational relationship between the compensation requested and the services rendered." In re Ruiz, 541 B.R. 892, 896 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2015) (second alteration in original) (citations omitted) (internal quotation marks omitted).

In short, § 330(a)(7) "treats the commission as a fixed percentage, using Section 326 not only as a maximum but as a baseline presumption for reasonableness in each case." Matter of JFK Capital Holdings, 880 F.3d at 755. This provision "is best understood as a directive to simply apply the formula of § 362 in every case." Id. at 753-54. The "reduction or denial of compensation . . . should be a rare event" occurring only when truly exceptional circumstances are present. Id. at 756.

In this Chapter 7 case, the trustee has applied for an allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The court finds (1) that the compensation requested by the trustee is consistent with 11 U.S.C. § 326(a); (2) that no extraordinary circumstances are present in this case, see In re Salgado-Nava, 473 B.R. 911 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2012); and (3) that expenses for which reimbursement is sought are actual and necessary.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

The chapter 7 trustee's application for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$13,476.15 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$159.12.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of § 726.

## 7. $\frac{19-14119}{MAZ-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: JENNIFER KELLY

MOTION TO COMPEL ABANDONMENT 10-25-2019 [21]

JENNIFER KELLY/MV MARK ZIMMERMAN/ATTY. FOR DBT.

### Final Ruling

**Motion:** Compel Abandonment of Property of the Estate **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted only as to the business and such business

assets described in the motion

Order: Prepared by moving party pursuant to the instructions below

## Business Description: Jenny's Dog Grooming

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Property of the estate may be abandoned under § 554 of the Bankruptcy Code if property of the estate is "burdensome to the estate or of inconsequential value and benefit to the estate." See 11 U.S.C. § 554(a)-(b); Fed. R. Bankr. P. 6007(b). Upon request of a party in interest, the court may issue an order that the trustee abandon property of the estate if the statutory standards for abandonment are fulfilled.

The business described above is either burdensome to the estate or of inconsequential value to the estate. An order compelling abandonment of such business is warranted. The order will compel abandonment of only the business and its assets that are described in the motion.

# 8. $\frac{19-14422}{APN-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: CHELCY GIBBONS

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 11-13-2019 [10]

TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORPORATION/MV D. GARDNER/ATTY. FOR DBT. AUSTIN NAGEL/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2017 Toyota Camry
Value of Collateral: \$16,125.00

Liens Encumbering Collateral: \$24,020.48

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Toyota Motor Credit Corporation's motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or

otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the wellpleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as 2017 Toyota Camry, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

# 9. $\frac{17-11824}{FW-16}$ -A-7 IN RE: HORISONS UNLIMITED

MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH HEALTH CONSULTING STRATEGIES, INC. 11-25-2019 [1144]

JAMES SALVEN/MV CECILY DUMAS/ATTY. FOR DBT. PETER FEAR/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Tentative Ruling

**Motion:** Approve Compromise or Settlement of Controversy **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required

**Disposition**: Granted

Order: Civil minute order

Parties to Compromise: Health Consulting Strategies, Inc.

Dispute Compromised: Preference actions

Summary of Material Terms: \$9,000.00 paid in two installments

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## APPROVAL OF COMPROMISE

In determining whether to approve a compromise under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019, the court determines whether the compromise was negotiated in good faith and whether the party proposing the compromise reasonably believes that the compromise is the best that can be negotiated under the facts. In re A & C Props., 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir. 1982). More than mere good faith negotiation of a compromise is required. The court must also find that the compromise is fair and equitable. Id. "Fair and

equitable" involves a consideration of four factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties to be encountered in collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation, and expense, delay and inconvenience necessarily attendant to litigation; and (iv) the paramount interest of creditors and a proper deference to the creditors' expressed wishes, if any. *Id*. The party proposing the compromise bears the burden of persuading the court that the compromise is fair and equitable and should be approved. *Id*.

The movant requests approval of a compromise that settles the dispute described above. The compromise is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as an exhibit. Based on the motion and supporting papers, the court finds that the compromise presented for the court's approval is fair and equitable considering the relevant A & C Properties factors. The compromise or settlement will be approved.

## CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

James Salven's motion to approve a compromise has been presented to the court. Having considered the motion, oppositions, responses and replies, if any, and having heard oral argument presented at the hearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The court hereby approves the compromise that is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as an exhibit and filed at docket no. 1147.

# 10. $\frac{17-11824}{\text{SFR}-6}$ -A-7 IN RE: HORISONS UNLIMITED

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR SHARLENE F. ROBERTS-CAUDLE, TRUSTEES ATTORNEY(S)  $11-20-2019 \quad [1138]$ 

CECILY DUMAS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

### Final Ruling

Application: Allowance of Third and Final Compensation and Expense

Reimbursement

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Approved
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this application was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on the application. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

In this Chapter 7 case, Sharlene F. Roberts-Caudle, counsel for the trustee, has applied for an allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The applicant requests that the court allow compensation in the amount of \$4,403.30 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$1,073.90.

Section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services" rendered by a trustee, examiner or professional person employed under § 327 or § 1103 and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Reasonable compensation is determined by considering all relevant factors. See id. § 330(a)(3).

The court finds that the compensation and expenses sought are reasonable, and the court will approve the application on a final basis.

The court also approves on a final basis all prior applications for interim fees and costs that the court has allowed under § 331 on an interim basis.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Sharlene Roberts-Caudle's application for allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$4,403.30 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$1,073.90. The court also approves on a final basis all prior applications for interim fees and costs that the court has allowed under § 331 on an interim basis.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of § 726.

# 11. $\frac{19-13025}{\text{JHW}-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: ALEJANDRO SANCHEZ

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 11-6-2019 [21]

AMERICREDIT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC./MV SCOTT LYONS/ATTY. FOR DBT. JENNIFER WANG/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

**Notice**: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition:** Granted

Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2018 Cadillax CT6
Value of Collateral: \$42,400.00

Liens Encumbering Collateral: \$60,603.06

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

### STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism

for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Americredit Financial Services, Inc.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as 2018 Cadillax CT6, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

# 12. $\frac{19-13729}{RAS-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: MICHELLE PAUL

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 10-31-2019 [14]

U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION/MV
ROBERT WILLIAMS/ATTY. FOR DBT.
SEAN FERRY/ATTY. FOR MV.

### Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 1908 Spring Way, Bakersfield, CA 93306

Value of Collateral: \$103,798.00

Liens Encumbering Collateral: \$184,619.19

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

U.S. National Bank Association's motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or

otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the wellpleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as 1908 Spring Way, Bakersfield, CA 93306, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

# 13. $\frac{19-14433}{BDB-2}$ -A-7 IN RE: JOSE/LORUHAMA DIAZ

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF CACH, LLC 11-14-2019 [17]

JOSE DIAZ/MV BENNY BARCO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

### Final Ruling

Motion: Avoid Multiple Liens that Impair Exemption Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## LIEN-AVOIDANCE STANDARDS

Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the court to avoid a lien "on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(1). There are four elements to avoidance of a lien that impairs an exemption: (1) there must be an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled; (2) the property must be listed on the schedules and claimed as exempt; (3) the lien must impair the exemption claimed; and (4) the lien must be a judicial lien or nonpossessory, nonpurchase-money security interest in property described in § 522(f)(1)(B). Goswami v. MTC Distrib. (In re Goswami), 304 B.R. 386, 390-91 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2003). Impairment is statutorily defined: a lien impairs an

exemption "to the extent that the sum of - (i) the lien; (ii) all other liens on the property; and (iii) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property; exceeds the value that the debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(A).

#### REVERSE-PRIORITY ANALYSIS

In cases in which there are multiple liens to be avoided, the liens must be avoided in the reverse order of their priority. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. 84, 87-88 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2007). "[L]iens already avoided are excluded from the exemption-impairment calculation with respect to other liens." Id.; 11 U.S.C § 522(f)(2)(B).

The court finds it unnecessary to apply the reverse-priority analysis individually to each of the respondents' liens. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 88 ("[0]ne must approach lien avoidance from the back of the line, or at least some point far enough back in line that there is no nonexempt equity in sight.").

Under the reverse-priority analysis, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's judicial lien would be the last judicial lien to be avoided because of its higher priority than the other judicial liens (but it remains subject to any senior consensual lien). In determining whether Cach, LLC's lien may be avoided, the court must exclude all junior judicial liens that would already have been avoided under such analysis. See 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(B); In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 87-88.

The senior judicial lien, plus all other liens (excluding junior judicial liens lower in priority), plus the exemption amount together equal 200,000.00. This sum exceeds the property's value by an amount greater than or equal to the senior judicial lien. As a result, Cach, LLC's judicial lien may be avoided entirely.

Because the highest-priority judicial lien is avoidable, all other junior judicial liens are also avoidable, and the reverse-priority analysis is unnecessary to apply to each judicial lien. Stated differently, the sum of the debt secured by the consensual liens plus the debtor's exemption amount equals or exceeds the fair market value of the real property, so all judicial liens on the debtor's property are avoidable under § 522(f).

# 14. $\frac{19-14433}{BDB-3}$ -A-7 IN RE: JOSE/LORUHAMA DIAZ

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC 11-14-2019 [22]

JOSE DIAZ/MV BENNY BARCO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Final Ruling

**Motion:** Avoid Multiple Liens that Impair Exemption **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

### LIEN-AVOIDANCE STANDARDS

Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the court to avoid a lien "on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(1). There are four elements to avoidance of a lien that impairs an exemption: (1) there must be an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled; (2) the property must be listed on the schedules and claimed as exempt; (3) the lien must impair the exemption claimed; and (4) the lien must be a judicial lien or nonpossessory, nonpurchase-money security interest in property described in § 522(f)(1)(B). Goswami v. MTC Distrib. (In re Goswami), 304 B.R. 386, 390-91 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. Impairment is statutorily defined: a lien impairs an exemption "to the extent that the sum of - (i) the lien; (ii) all other liens on the property; and (iii) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property; exceeds the value that the debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(A).

## REVERSE-PRIORITY ANALYSIS

In cases in which there are multiple liens to be avoided, the liens must be avoided in the reverse order of their priority. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. 84, 87-88 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2007). "[L]iens already avoided are excluded from the exemption-impairment calculation with respect to other liens." Id.; 11 U.S.C § 522(f)(2)(B).

The court finds it unnecessary to apply the reverse-priority analysis individually to each of the respondents' liens. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 88 ("[0]ne must approach lien avoidance from the

back of the line, or at least some point far enough back in line that there is no nonexempt equity in sight.").

Under the reverse-priority analysis, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's judicial lien would be the last judicial lien to be avoided because of its higher priority than the other judicial liens (but it remains subject to any senior consensual lien). In determining whether Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's lien may be avoided, the court must exclude all junior judicial liens that would already have been avoided under such analysis. See 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(B); In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 87-88.

The senior judicial lien, plus all other liens (excluding junior judicial liens lower in priority), plus the exemption amount together equal 200,000.00. This sum exceeds the property's value by an amount greater than or equal to the senior judicial lien. As a result, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's judicial lien may be avoided entirely.

Because the highest-priority judicial lien is avoidable, all other junior judicial liens are also avoidable, and the reverse-priority analysis is unnecessary to apply to each judicial lien. Stated differently, the sum of the debt secured by the consensual liens plus the debtor's exemption amount equals or exceeds the fair market value of the real property, so all judicial liens on the debtor's property are avoidable under § 522(f).

# 15. $\frac{19-14433}{BDB-4}$ -A-7 IN RE: JOSE/LORUHAMA DIAZ

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC  $11-14-2019 \quad [27]$ 

JOSE DIAZ/MV BENNY BARCO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Final Ruling

**Motion:** Avoid Multiple Liens that Impair Exemption **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### LIEN-AVOIDANCE STANDARDS

Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the court to avoid a lien "on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(1). There are four elements to avoidance of a lien that impairs an exemption: (1) there must be an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled; (2) the property must be listed on the schedules and claimed as exempt; (3) the lien must impair the exemption claimed; and (4) the lien must be a judicial lien or nonpossessory, nonpurchase-money security interest in property described in § 522(f)(1)(B). Goswami v. MTC Distrib. (In re Goswami), 304 B.R. 386, 390-91 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2003). Impairment is statutorily defined: a lien impairs an exemption "to the extent that the sum of - (i) the lien; (ii) all other liens on the property; and (iii) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property; exceeds the value that the debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(A).

### REVERSE-PRIORITY ANALYSIS

In cases in which there are multiple liens to be avoided, the liens must be avoided in the reverse order of their priority. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. 84, 87-88 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2007). "[L]iens already avoided are excluded from the exemption-impairment calculation with respect to other liens." Id.; 11 U.S.C § 522(f)(2)(B).

The court finds it unnecessary to apply the reverse-priority analysis individually to each of the respondents' liens. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 88 ("[0]ne must approach lien avoidance from the back of the line, or at least some point far enough back in line that there is no nonexempt equity in sight.").

Under the reverse-priority analysis, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's judicial lien would be the last judicial lien to be avoided because of its higher priority than the other judicial liens (but it remains subject to any senior consensual lien). In determining whether Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's lien may be avoided, the court must exclude all junior judicial liens that would already have been avoided under such analysis. See 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(B); In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 87-88.

The senior judicial lien, plus all other liens (excluding junior judicial liens lower in priority), plus the exemption amount together equal 200,000.00. This sum exceeds the property's value by an amount greater than or equal to the senior judicial lien. As a result, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's judicial lien may be avoided entirely.

Because the highest-priority judicial lien is avoidable, all other junior judicial liens are also avoidable, and the reverse-priority analysis is unnecessary to apply to each judicial lien. Stated differently, the sum of the debt secured by the consensual liens plus the debtor's exemption amount equals or exceeds the fair market

value of the real property, so all judicial liens on the debtor's property are avoidable under § 522(f).

# 16. $\frac{18-11240}{\text{JES}-2}$ -A-7 IN RE: DIANA XAVIER

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR JAMES E. SALVEN, ACCOUNTANT(S)  $10-29-2019 \quad [150]$ 

JAMES SALVEN/MV
JUSTIN HARRIS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

#### Final Ruling

Application: Allowance of First and Final Compensation and Expense

Reimbursement

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Approved
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this application was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on the application. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

In this Chapter 7 case, James E. Salven, accountant for the trustee, has applied for an allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The applicant requests that the court allow compensation in the amount of \$1,975.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$245.26.

Section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services" rendered by a trustee, examiner or professional person employed under § 327 or § 1103 and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Reasonable compensation is determined by considering all relevant factors. See id. § 330(a)(3).

The court finds that the compensation and expenses sought are reasonable, and the court will approve the application on a final basis.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

James Salven's application for allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$1,975.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of 245.26.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of § 726.

# 17. $\frac{18-11240}{\text{SFR}-5}$ -A-7 IN RE: DIANA XAVIER

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR SHARLENE F. ROBERTS-CAUDLE, TRUSTEES ATTORNEY(S)  $11-19-2019 \quad [157]$ 

JUSTIN HARRIS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Final Ruling

Application: Allowance of Second and Final Compensation and Expense

Reimbursement

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Approved
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this application was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on the application. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

In this Chapter 7 case, Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, counsel for the trustee, has applied for an allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The applicant requests that the court

allow compensation in the amount of \$7,206.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$285.40.

Section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services" rendered by a trustee, examiner or professional person employed under § 327 or § 1103 and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Reasonable compensation is determined by considering all relevant factors. See id. § 330(a)(3).

The court finds that the compensation and expenses sought are reasonable, and the court will approve the application on a final basis.

The court also approves on a final basis all prior applications for interim fees and costs that the court has allowed under § 331 on an interim basis.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Sharlene Roberts-Caudle's application for allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$7,206.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$285.40. The court also approves on a final basis all prior applications for interim fees and costs that the court has allowed under § 331 on an interim basis.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of § 726.

# 18. $\frac{17-11245}{FW-2}$ -A-7 IN RE: ORLONZO HEDRINGTON

MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH ORLONZO HEDRINGTON 11-5-2019 [51]

PETER FEAR/MV
BRUCE NEILSON/ATTY. FOR DBT.
PETER FEAR/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

Motion: Approve Compromise of Controversy

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## APPROVAL OF COMPROMISE

In determining whether to approve a compromise under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019, the court determines whether the compromise was negotiated in good faith and whether the party proposing the compromise reasonably believes that the compromise is the best that can be negotiated under the facts. In re A &  ${\it C}$ Props., 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir. 1982). More than mere good faith negotiation of a compromise is required. The court must also find that the compromise is fair and equitable. Id. "Fair and equitable" involves a consideration of four factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties to be encountered in collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation, and expense, delay and inconvenience necessarily attendant to litigation; and (iv) the paramount interest of creditors and a proper deference to the creditors' expressed wishes, if any. Id. The party proposing the compromise bears the burden of persuading the court that the compromise is fair and equitable and should be approved. Id.

The movant requests approval of a compromise. The compromise is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as an exhibit. Based on the motion and supporting papers, the court finds that the compromise presented for the court's approval is fair and equitable considering the relevant A & C Properties factors. The compromise or settlement will be approved.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Peter Fear's motion to approve a compromise has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The court hereby approves the compromise that is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as exhibit and filed at docket no. 54.

19.  $\frac{19-10952}{\text{JES}-2}$ -A-7 IN RE: DAVID MUSE

MOTION TO SELL 11-6-2019 [63]

JAMES SALVEN/MV
DAVID JENKINS/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Tentative Ruling

Motion: Sell Property

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition:** Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Property: 2007 Lexus

Buyer: Debtor

Sale Price: \$7,000 (\$3,050 exemption credit + \$3,950 [incorrected

stated as \$3,900]).

Sale Type: Private sale subject to overbid opportunity

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 363(b)(1) of Title 11 authorizes sales of property of the estate "other than in the ordinary course of business." 11 U.S.C. § 363(b)(1); see also In re Lionel Corp., 722 F.2d 1063, 1071 (2d Cir. 1983) (requiring business justification). The moving party is the Chapter 7 trustee and liquidation of property of the estate is a proper purpose. See 11 U.S.C. § 704(a)(1). As a result, the court

will grant the motion. The stay of the order provided by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 6004(h) will be waived.

## 20. $\frac{19-12260}{\text{HDN}-3}$ -A-7 IN RE: MANUEL/ELIZABETH BAJO

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURNANCE COMPANY 10-28-2019 [36]

MANUEL BAJO/MV HENRY NUNEZ/ATTY. FOR DBT.

### Final Ruling

Motion: Avoid Lien that Impairs Exemption

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition:** Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the court to avoid a lien "on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(1). There are four elements to avoidance of a lien that impairs an exemption: (1) there must be an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled; (2) the property must be listed on the schedules and claimed as exempt; (3) the lien must impair the exemption claimed; and (4) the lien must be a judicial lien or nonpossessory, nonpurchase-money security interest in property described in § 522(f)(1)(B). Goswami v. MTC Distrib. (In re Goswami), 304 B.R. 386, 390-91 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2003). Impairment is statutorily defined: a lien impairs an exemption "to the extent that the sum of - (i) the lien; (ii) all other liens on the property; and (iii) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property; exceeds the value that the debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(A).

The responding party's judicial lien, all other liens, and the exemption amount together exceed the property's value by an amount greater than or equal to the judicial lien. As a result, the responding party's judicial lien will be avoided entirely.

## 21. $\frac{19-14267}{\text{JHW}-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: CHARLES SHAW

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 11-12-2019 [13]

SANTANDER CONSUMER USA INC./MV JENNIFER WANG/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition**: Granted

Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2013 Dodge Durango
Value of Collateral: \$14,750.00

Liens Encumbering Collateral: \$23,570.02

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### STAY RELIEF

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Santander Consumer USA Inc.'s motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the property described in the motion, commonly known as 2013 Dodge Durango, as to all parties in interest. The 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

## 22. $\frac{16-10469}{RWR-7}$ -A-7 IN RE: JEFFREY BOHN

MOTION FOR COMPENSATION BY THE LAW OFFICE OF COLEMAN & HOROWITT, LLP FOR RUSSELL W. REYNOLDS, TRUSTEES ATTORNEY(S) 11-14-2019 [295]

PETER FEAR/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Final Ruling

Application: Allowance of First and Final Compensation and Expense

Reimbursement

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Approved
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this application was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on the application. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

### COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

In this Chapter 7 case, Coleman & Horowitt, LLP, counsel for the trustee, has applied for an allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The applicant requests that the court allow compensation in the amount of \$21,195.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$875.84.

Section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services" rendered by a trustee, examiner or professional person employed under § 327 or § 1103 and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Reasonable compensation is determined by considering all relevant factors. See id. § 330(a)(3).

The court finds that the compensation and expenses sought are reasonable, and the court will approve the application on a final basis.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Coleman & Horowitt, LLP's application for allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$21,195.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$875.84.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of § 726.

# 23. $\frac{19-13771}{PFT-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: MAYRA PEREZ

OPPOSITION RE: TRUSTEE'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SEC. 341(A) MEETING OF CREDITORS  $10-25-2019 \ [\frac{16}{3}]$ 

MARK ZIMMERMAN/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Tentative Ruling

Motion: Dismiss Case and Extend Trustee's Deadlines

**Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required or case

dismissed without hearing

Disposition: Conditionally denied in part, granted in part

Order: Civil minute order

## DISMISSAL

Chapter 7 debtors shall attend the § 341(a) meeting of creditors. 11 U.S.C. § 343. A continuing failure to attend this meeting may be cause for dismissal of the case. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(a), 343, 707(a); In re Witkowski, 523 B.R. 300, 307 n.8 (B.A.P. 1st Cir. 2014) ("Some courts have ruled that the failure to attend the § 341 meeting of creditors constitutes 'cause' for dismissal.").

In this case, the debtor has failed to appear at a scheduled meeting of creditors required by 11 U.S.C. § 341. Because the debtor's failure to attend this meeting has occurred once, the court will not dismiss the case on condition that the debtor attend the next creditors' meeting. But if the debtor does not appear at the continued meeting of creditors, the case will be dismissed on trustee's declaration without further notice or hearing.

### EXTENSION OF DEADLINES

The court will grant the motion in part to the extent it asks for an extension of deadlines. The court extends the following deadlines to 60 days after the next continued date of the creditors' meeting: (1) the trustee and all creditors' deadline to object to discharge under § 727, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4004(a); and (2) the trustee and all creditors' deadline to bring a motion to dismiss under § 707(b) or (c) for abuse, other than presumed abuse, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1017(e). These deadlines are no longer set at 60 days after the first creditors' meeting.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court will issue a minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are stated in the Civil Minutes of the hearing.

IT IS ORDERED that the Motion to Dismiss is denied on the condition that the debtor attend the next continued § 341(a) meeting of creditors scheduled for January 6, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. But if the debtor does not appear at this continued meeting, the case will be dismissed on trustee's declaration without further notice or hearing.

IT IS ALSO ORDERED that following deadlines shall be extended to 60 days after the next continued date of the creditors' meeting: (1) the trustee and all creditors' deadline to object to discharge under § 727, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4004(a); and (2) the trustee and all creditors' deadline to bring a motion to dismiss under § 707(b) or (c) for abuse, other than presumed abuse, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1017(e).

## 24. 19-10185-A-7 IN RE: SEQUOIA SURGICAL SPECIALISTS MEDICAL

INC.

JES-4

MOTION TO PAY 11-19-2019 [84]

JAMES SALVEN/MV

## Final Ruling

**Motion:** Allow Administrative Expense [Estate Taxes] **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition:** Granted

Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

## ALLOWANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE

"Subject to limited exceptions, a trustee must pay the taxes of the estate on or before the date they come due,  $28 \text{ U.S.C.} \S 960(b)$ , even if no request for administrative expenses is filed by the tax authorities,  $11 \text{ U.S.C.} \S 503(b)(1)(D)$ , and the trustee must insure that 'notice and a hearing' have been provided before doing so, see  $id. \S 503(b)(1)(B)$ . The hearing requirement insures that interested parties . . . have an opportunity to contest the amount of tax paid before the estate's funds are diminished, perhaps irretrievably." In re Cloobeck, 788 F.3d 1243, 1246 (9th Cir. 2015). It is error to approve a trustee's final report without first holding a hearing, see  $11 \text{ U.S.C.} \S 102(1)$ , to allow creditors and parties in interest an opportunity to object to the allowance or amount of tax before it is paid. Id. 1245 n.1, 1246.

Creditors and parties in interest have had an opportunity to contest the allowance and amount of the estate taxes in this case. No objection has been made. Accordingly, the taxes specified in the motion shall be allowed as an administrative expense under 11 U.S.C.  $\S 503(b)(1)(B)$ .

## CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

The chapter 7 trustee's motion for allowance of administrative expense has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The court allows California state taxes of \$828.00 as an administrative expense under 11 U.S.C. \$503(b)(1)(B).

25.  $\frac{17-12389}{WF-16}$  -A-7 IN RE: DON ROSE OIL CO., INC.

MOTION TO PAY 11-19-2019 [1004]

RANDELL PARKER/MV RILEY WALTER/ATTY. FOR DBT. DANIEL EGAN/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

**Motion:** Allowance and Payment of Administrative Expenses **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

**Disposition**: Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Description of Expenses: ministorage unit expenses

Statutory Basis for Administrative Priority: § 503(b)(1)(A) ("actual and necessary expenses of preserving the estate")

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

"A creditor claiming administrative expense treatment under § 503(b)(1)(A) must show that the claim: [1] arose postpetition; [2] arose from a transaction with the trustee or DIP (as opposed to the preceding [prepetition] entity) or that the claimant gave consideration to the trustee or DIP; and [3] directly and substantially benefited the estate." Kathleen P. March, Hon. Alan M. Ahart & Janet A. Shapiro, California Practice Guide: Bankruptcy ¶ 17:507 (rev. 2017) (citing cases).

These expenses arose postpetition. They arose from transactions between the claimant and the estate. And by incurring these expenses, the estate received in exchange a direct and substantial benefit. Thus, the expenses described are actual and necessary costs or expenses of preserving the estate under  $\S 503(b)(1)(A)$ .

These expenses will be allowed as an administrative expense under § 503(b)(1)(A) and may distributed in accordance with the priorities set forth in § 726(a)(1) and § 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# 26. $\frac{17-12389}{WF-17}$ A-7 IN RE: DON ROSE OIL CO., INC.

MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH NATIONS FUND I, LLC 11-19-2019 [1007]

RANDELL PARKER/MV RILEY WALTER/ATTY. FOR DBT. DANIEL EGAN/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Final Ruling

Motion: Approve Compromise of Controversy

Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

### APPROVAL OF COMPROMISE

In determining whether to approve a compromise under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019, the court determines whether the compromise was negotiated in good faith and whether the party proposing the compromise reasonably believes that the compromise is the best that can be negotiated under the facts. In re A & C Props., 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir. 1982). More than mere good faith negotiation of a compromise is required. The court must also find that the compromise is fair and equitable. Id. "Fair and equitable" involves a consideration of four factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties to be encountered in collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation, and expense, delay and inconvenience necessarily attendant to litigation; and (iv) the paramount interest of creditors and a proper deference to the creditors' expressed wishes, if any. Id. The party proposing the compromise bears the burden of persuading the court that the compromise is fair and equitable and should be approved. Id.

The movant requests approval of a compromise. The compromise is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as an exhibit. Based on the motion and supporting papers, the court finds

that the compromise presented for the court's approval is fair and equitable considering the relevant A & C Properties factors. The compromise or settlement will be approved.

### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Randell Parker's motion to approve a compromise has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The court hereby approves the compromise that is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as exhibit and filed at docket no. 1010.

27.  $\frac{17-12389}{WF-18}$ -A-7 IN RE: DON ROSE OIL CO., INC.

MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH JASON CASTELLUCCI, JOHN CASTELLUCCI AND LINDA CASTELLUCCI

11-27-2019 [1015]

RANDELL PARKER/MV RILEY WALTER/ATTY. FOR DBT. DANIEL EGAN/ATTY. FOR MV.

## Tentative Ruling

**Motion:** Approve Compromise or Settlement of Controversy **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required

Disposition: Granted
Order: Civil minute order

Parties to Compromise: John Castellucci, Linda Castellucci and Jason Castellucci

Dispute Compromised: Preference and Fraudulent Transfer Claims
Summary of Material Terms: \$140,000 in two installments

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### APPROVAL OF COMPROMISE

In determining whether to approve a compromise under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019, the court determines whether the compromise was negotiated in good faith and whether the party proposing the compromise reasonably believes that the compromise is the best that can be negotiated under the facts. In re A & C Props., 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir. 1982). More than mere good faith negotiation of a compromise is required. The court must also find that the compromise is fair and equitable. Id. "Fair and equitable" involves a consideration of four factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties to be encountered in collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation, and expense, delay and inconvenience necessarily attendant to litigation; and (iv) the paramount interest of creditors and a proper deference to the creditors' expressed wishes, The party proposing the compromise bears the burden of persuading the court that the compromise is fair and equitable and should be approved. Id.

The movant requests approval of a compromise that settles the dispute described above. The compromise is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as an exhibit. Based on the motion and supporting papers, the court finds that the compromise presented for the court's approval is fair and equitable considering the relevant A & C Properties factors. The compromise or settlement will be approved.

## CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

Randell Parker's motion to approve a compromise has been presented to the court. Having considered the motion, oppositions, responses and replies, if any, and having heard oral argument presented at the hearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted. The court hereby approves the compromise that is reflected in the settlement agreement attached to the motion as an exhibit and filed at docket no. 1017.

# 28. $\frac{19-11394}{VVF-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: GURDEEP/RANJODH BILLAN

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY AND/OR MOTION FOR ADEQUATE PROTECTION  $12-2-2019 \quad \mbox{ [72]}$ 

AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE
CORPORATION/MV
RILEY WALTER/ATTY. FOR DBT.
VINCENT FROUNJIAN/ATTY. FOR MV.
DISCHARGED

## Tentative Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief

**Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required **Disposition:** Granted in part, denied in part as moot

Order: Civil minute order

Subject: 2019 Honda Odyssey
Value of Collateral: \$34,975.00

Liens Encumbering Collateral: \$44,617.98

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### AS TO DEBTOR

The motion will be denied in part as moot to the extent it seeks stay relief as to the debtor. The stay that protects the debtor terminates at the entry of discharge. 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(2). In this case, discharge has been entered. As a result, the motion is moot as to the debtor.

#### AS TO ESTATE

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada, Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

#### CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form: Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

America Honda Finance Corp's motion for relief from the automatic stay has been presented to the court. Having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose, or otherwise defend in the matter, and having considered the well-pleaded facts of the motion.

IT IS ORDERED that the motion is granted in part and denied as moot in part. The automatic stay is vacated with respect to the interest of the trustee in the property described in the motion, commonly known as 2019 Honda Odyssey. Relief from the automatic stay as to the interest of the debtor in such property is denied as moot given the entry of the discharge in this case. 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(2)(C).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the 14-day stay of the order under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) is waived. Any party with standing may pursue its rights against the property pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no other relief is awarded. To the extent that the motion includes any request for attorney's fees or other costs for bringing this motion, the request is denied.

# 29. $\frac{19-13871-A-7}{ICE-1}$ IN RE: JENNA LONG

OPPOSITION RE: TRUSTEE'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SEC. 341(A) MEETING OF CREDITORS 11-6-2019 [17]

No Ruling.

# 30. $\frac{19-14433}{BDB-1}$ -A-7 IN RE: JOSE/LORUHAMA DIAZ

MOTION TO AVOID LIEN OF CACH, LLC 11-14-2019 [12]

JOSE DIAZ/MV BENNY BARCO/ATTY. FOR DBT.

## Final Ruling

**Motion:** Avoid Multiple Liens that Impair Exemption **Notice:** LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required

Disposition: Granted

Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

### LIEN-AVOIDANCE STANDARDS

Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the court to avoid a lien "on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(1). There are four elements to avoidance of a lien that impairs an exemption: (1) there must be an exemption to which the debtor would have been entitled; (2) the property must be listed on the schedules and claimed as exempt; (3) the lien must impair the exemption claimed; and (4) the lien must be a judicial lien or nonpossessory, nonpurchase-money security interest in property described in § 522(f)(1)(B). Goswami v. MTC Distrib. (In re Goswami), 304 B.R. 386, 390-91 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. Impairment is statutorily defined: a lien impairs an exemption "to the extent that the sum of - (i) the lien; (ii) all other liens on the property; and (iii) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property; exceeds the value that the debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens." 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(A).

### REVERSE-PRIORITY ANALYSIS

In cases in which there are multiple liens to be avoided, the liens must be avoided in the reverse order of their priority. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. 84, 87-88 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2007). "[L]iens already avoided are excluded from the exemption-impairment calculation with respect to other liens." Id.; 11 U.S.C § 522(f)(2)(B).

The court finds it unnecessary to apply the reverse-priority analysis individually to each of the respondents' liens. See In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 88 ("[0]ne must approach lien avoidance from the

back of the line, or at least some point far enough back in line that there is no nonexempt equity in sight.").

Under the reverse-priority analysis, Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC's judicial lien would be the last judicial lien to be avoided because of its higher priority than the other judicial liens (but it remains subject to any senior consensual lien). In determining whether Cach, LLC's lien may be avoided, the court must exclude all junior judicial liens that would already have been avoided under such analysis. See 11 U.S.C. § 522(f)(2)(B); In re Meyer, 373 B.R. at 87-88.

The senior judicial lien, plus all other liens (excluding junior judicial liens lower in priority), plus the exemption amount together equal 200,000.00. This sum exceeds the property's value by an amount greater than or equal to the senior judicial lien. As a result, Cach, LLC's judicial lien may be avoided entirely.

Because the highest-priority judicial lien is avoidable, all other junior judicial liens are also avoidable, and the reverse-priority analysis is unnecessary to apply to each judicial lien. Stated differently, the sum of the debt secured by the consensual liens plus the debtor's exemption amount equals or exceeds the fair market value of the real property, so all judicial liens on the debtor's property are avoidable under § 522(f).