Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

<u>10:30 AM</u>

2:20-17121 Juanita Lucia Massie

Chapter 7

#1.00 Hearing re: Motion for relief from stay

(Christina Lawson and Louis Chambers VS Debtor)

Docket 14

*** VACATED *** REASON: Settled by Stipulation per order entered on 11/16/20-mb.

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. Motion resolved by stipulation and order. No appearances are required on 12/1/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Juanita Lucia Massie Represented By

Shirlee L Bliss

Trustee(s):

Howard M Ehrenberg (TR) Pro Se

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

10:30 AM

2:20-19559 Cynthia Beltran

Chapter 7

#2.00 Hearing re: Motion for relief from stay

(Cab West, LLC VS Debtor)

Docket 7

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the movant's stay relief motion, the court determines that oral argument on the motion is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to granting of the motion, rules on the motion on the papers, and grants relief from stay pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 362(d) (1) and (2) to pursue non-bankruptcy remedies for the reasons stated in the moving papers and for lack of timely written opposition. The 14-day waiting period under FRBP 4001(a)(3) is waived. No appearances are required on 12/1/20. Movant to submit a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Cynthia Beltran Represented By

D Justin Harelik

Trustee(s):

Brad D Krasnoff (TR) Pro Se

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

<u>10:30 AM</u>

2:20-19559 Cynthia Beltran

Chapter 7

#3.00 Hearing re: Motion for relief from stay

(American Honda Finance Corporation VS Debtor)

Docket 10

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the movant's stay relief motion, the court determines that oral argument on the motion is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to granting of the motion, rules on the motion on the papers, and grants relief from stay pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 362(d) (1) and (2) to pursue non-bankruptcy remedies for the reasons stated in the moving papers and for lack of timely written opposition. The 14-day waiting period under FRBP 4001(a)(3) is waived. No appearances are required on 12/1/20. Movant to submit a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Cynthia Beltran Represented By

D Justin Harelik

Movant(s):

American Honda Finance Represented By

Vincent V Frounjian

Trustee(s):

Brad D Krasnoff (TR) Pro Se

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#4.00 Show cause hearing why defendant's attorney James Bryant should not be sanctioned for failure to appear at the October 27, 2020 pretrial conference

Docket 471

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding

Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

Cont'd hearing re: Plaintiff/creditor, James Lee Clark's notice of motion to compel **#5.00** further discovery responses to defendant/debtor Rita Gail Ellison-Farris

fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 377

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

I alty illivilliation	Party	Inforn	nation
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Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

Christian T Kim

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

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United States Bankruptcy Court Central District of California Los Angeles Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Los Angeles

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#6.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion to abstain

fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 414

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

I alty illivilliation	Party	Inforn	nation
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Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR)

Represented By

Christian T Kim

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

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United States Bankruptcy Court Central District of California Los Angeles Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Los Angeles

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#7.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion to amend adversary complaint and to add Jennifer, quiet title,

cancel the deed and note

fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 399

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

Party			

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

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United States Bankruptcy Court Central District of California Los Angeles Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding

Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020 Hearing Room 1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Chapter 7

Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#8.00 Cont'd hearing re: Plaintiff/creditor, James Lee /Clark's notice of motion to compel inspection and to produce documents and response from and to defendant/debtor Rita Gail Ellison-Farris; request for terminating sanctions

fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 390

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#9.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion of plaintiff/creditor James Lee Clark for an order compelling discovery and sanctions against defendant/debtor Rita Ellison-Farris fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 351

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

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Party	Int	arm	otion
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Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

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United States Bankruptcy Court Central District of California Los Angeles Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding

Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room 1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Chapter 7

Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#10.00 Cont'd hearing re: Plaintiff/creditor James Lee Clark's motion for an order for sanctions including terminating sanctions against defendant/debtor Rita Ellison-Farris fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 362

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

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Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

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Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR)

Represented By Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#11.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion to compel inspection and to produce documents and responses from and to defendant/debtor Rita Gail Ellison-Farris; request for terminating sanctions fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 412

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

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Party.	HIDIH	iauon

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

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Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR)

Represented By Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#12.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion to compel inspection and to produce documents and responses from and to defendant/debtor Rita Gail Ellison-Farris; request for terminating sanctions fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 397

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR)

Represented By Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:12-01830 Clark v. Farris-Ellison et al

#13.00 Cont'd pretrial conference re: Complaint: 1) objecting to discharge

- 2) breach of contract 3) breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing 4) conversion 5) negligence 6) breach of fiduciary duty 7) constructive fraud 8) fraudulent concealment 9) wrongful foreclosure
- 10) interference with prospective economic advantage
- fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Prior tentative ruling. No tentative ruling on the merits. Since the parties attended mediation, which did not result in settlement, the court will discuss setting a pretrial conference and a deadline for filing a joint pretrial stipulation. The court will also discuss how the trial will be conducted because the court is not conducting in person hearings at this time. The court may conduct the trial on Zoom depending on the parties' technical capabilities. Appearances are required on 9/23/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

Prior tentative ruling as of 10/22/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 10/27/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

Prior tentative ruling. No tentative ruling on the merits. Since the parties attended mediation, which did not result in settlement, the court will discuss setting a pretrial conference and a deadline for filing a joint pretrial stipulation. The court will also discuss how the trial will be conducted because the court is not conducting in person hearings at this time. The court may conduct the trial on Zoom depending on the parties' technical capabilities. Appearances are required on 9/23/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

Party Information

Attorney(s):

Deborah Bronner

Represented By Deborah R Bronner

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

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Los Angeles

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Just that EZ Financial Pro Se

Lenders Escrow Inc Pro Se

Does 1 Through 100 Inclusive Pro Se

Mediator(s):

David A. Gill Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Represented By

Justin D Graham

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

Christian T Kim

Sam S Leslie (TR) Pro Se

U.S. Trustee(s):

United States Trustee (LA) Pro Se

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:14-01088 Clark v. Farris-Ellison

#14.00 Show cause hearing why defendant's attorney James Bryant should not be sanctioned for failure to appear at the October 27, 2020 pretrial conference

Docket 82

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

CONT... Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

Christian T Kim

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding

Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

11:00 AM

2:11-33861 Rita Gail Farris-Ellison

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:14-01088 Clark v. Farris-Ellison

#15.00 Cont'd pretrial conference re: Creditor, James Lee Clark's complaint to

determine nondischargeability of debtors/defendant's debt [Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(2); 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(6)]

fr. 7/15/20, 9/23/20, 10/27/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. See tentative ruling for item number 13.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Represented By

James Bryant

Defendant(s):

Rita Gail Farris-Ellison Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

James Lee Clark Pro Se

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Represented By

Christian T Kim

Sam S Leslie (TR) Pro Se

U.S. Trustee(s):

United States Trustee (LA) Pro Se

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

1:30 PM

2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01258 Goodrich v. Yeftadonay

#16.00

Cont'd hearing re: Motion for entry of default judgement against defendant Jan Yaftadonay Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55 as Incorporated by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7055 and Local bankruptcy Rule 7055-1 fr. 8/4/20, 8/18/20, 9/29/20

Docket 15

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. Off calendar. Plaintiff filed a notice of withdrawal of the motion on 11/30/20. No appearances are required on 12/1/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour Keith F Rouse

Defendant(s):

Jan Yeftadonay Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

1:30 PM

2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01258 Goodrich v. Yeftadonay

#17.00 Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for: (1) Avoidance of preferential transfers pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 547; (2) Recovery of property pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 550; (3) Preservation of avoided transfers pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 551; (4) Disallowance of claims pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d); and (5) Turnover of property of the estate pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542 fr. 8/4/20, 8/18/20, 9/29/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

1:30 PM

CONT... SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour

Defendant(s):

Jan Yeftadonay Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

1675

1:30 PM

2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01435 Goodrich v. Amazon Loan Services

#18.00 Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for: 1) Avoidance of preferential transfers pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 547; 2) Recovery of property pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 550; 3) Preservation of avoided transfers pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 551; 4) Disallowance of claims pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d); and 5) Turnover of property of the estate pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542 fr. 9/1/20, 9/29/20, 10/27/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. The court notes that plaintiff filed an amended notice of the motion to approve compromise of this adversary proceeding on 11/30/20, but the service list did not include one creditor listed on the creditor mailing matrix, Harvest Commercial Capital, LLC. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You

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CONT... SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Prior tentative ruling as of 10/22/20. Trustee has filed a motion to approve No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 10/27/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour

Defendant(s):

Amazon Loan Services Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

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2:19-22853 Arka Sangbarani Oroojian

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:20-01020 Yates v. Oroojian

#19.00 Cont'd status conference re: Complaint to determine dischargeability of debt pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §523 (a)(6); demand for jury trial fr. 4/7/20, 5/5/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los

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Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Prior updated and supplemental tentative ruling as of 5/4/20. After considering the supplemental briefing of the parties ordered by the court, the court provides the following as its supplemental tentative ruling to its tentative ruling of 5/1/20: The court will abstain from determining the underlying state law tort claims that plaintiff has against defendant pursuant to statutory permissive abstention under 28 U.S.C. 1334(c)(1) and nonstatutory abstention under Colorado River Water Conservation District v. United States, 424 U.S. 800 (1976). The factors that the court has considered for permissive abstention are set forth in In re Tucson Estates, Inc., 912 F.2d 1162, 1167 (9th Cir. 1990): 1) the effect or lack thereof on the efficient administration of the estate if a Court recommends abstention (favoring abstension for lack of effect on efficient administration of the estate), (2) the extent to which state law issues predominate over bankruptcy issues (favoring abstention since plaintiff's tort claims are governed by state law), (3) the difficulty or unsettled nature of the applicable law (neutral since the applicable law is not difficult or unsettled), (4) the presence of a related proceeding commenced in state court or other nonbankruptcy court (favoring abstention, there is pending state law court action stayed by this bankruptcy case), (5) the jurisdictional basis, if any, other than 28 U.S.C. § 1334 (favoring abstention since the only basis for jurisdiction is the court's related to jurisdiction), (6) the degree of relatedness or remoteness of the proceeding to the main bankruptcy case (favoring abstention since the dispute in the adversary proceeding is remote to the main bankruptcy case), (7) the substance rather than form of an asserted "core" proceeding (favoring abstention because the underlying tort claims are noncore proceedings), (8) the feasibility of severing state law claims from core bankruptcy matters to allow judgments to be entered in state court with enforcement left to the bankruptcy court (favoring abstention, severance of state law claims to be tried in state court from the dischargeability claim can be accomplished), (9) the burden of [the bankruptcy court's] docket (favoring

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abstention, trying the tort claim would be burdensome on the bankruptcy court or district court's docket pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 157(b)(5)), (10) the likelihood that the commencement of the proceeding in bankruptcy court involves forum shopping by one of the parties (this factor is neutral as the court makes no determination of forum shopping), (11) the existence of a right to a jury trial (favoring abstention since the parties have the right to jury trial on the tort claims), and (12) the presence in the proceeding of nondebtor parties (not favoring abstention since the only parties to the dispute are before the court). Based on the overwhelming presence of factors favoring absention, the court exercises permissive abstention as to plaintiff's tort claims underlying her nondischargeability action.

The court also exercises nonstatutory Colorado River abstention as the factors for such abstention favor abstention because: (1) state law provides the rule of decision on the merits; (2) the state court proceeding is adequate to protect the parties' rights; and (3) the state court obtained and exercised jurisdiction first as the state court action was ready to go to trial before defendant filed his bankruptcy case, staying that action. In re Bellucci, 119 B.R. 763, 775-776 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 1990) (citations omitted). "Under the Colorado River doctrine, a federal trial court has discretion in 'exceptional circumstances' and despite the general obligation to exercise jurisdiction, to stay or dismiss an action for reasonable of wise judicial administration solely because of parallel litigation in state court." Id. At 775 (citations omitted). Thus, the court abstains from hearing plaintiff's state law tort claims and stays this action until the state court determines those claims, and afterwards, the court will then determine plaintiff's debt dischargeability claims in this adversary proceeding.

In so abstaining, the court will also grant stay relief sua sponte to allow the state court action to proceed to judgment, but not permitting enforcement of any judgment against the debtor or property of the estate unless further stay relief is obtained by order of the court or by operation of statute. In re Belluci, 119 B.R. at 778-779; accord, In re Calkins, BAP No. AZ-17-1284-LBTa, 2019 WL 1594016 (9th Cir. BAP 2019), slip op. at *4.

Prior tentative ruling as of 5/1/20. The court has reviewed the supplemental briefing of the parties regarding the court's prior tentative ruling on abstention

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and stay relief. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 5/5/20 to discuss whether further proceedings should be set, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

Revised tentative ruling as of 4/6/20. Having read the joint status report noting pending litigation in the state court to liquidate any alleged debt of defendant to plaintiff from alleged personal injuries based on tort, which is stayed by the underlying bankruptcy case, the court is inclined to abstain and grant stay relief to allow plaintiff's state court action to proceed to liquidate the debt, if any, either under mandatory or permissive abstention under 28 U.S.C. 1334(c)(1) or (2). See In re Tucson Estates, Inc., 912 F.2d 1162 (9th Cir. 1990). In this matter, plaintiff seeks a determination of debt dischargeability where the alleged debt based on personal injury torts has not been liquidated. Debt dischargeability cannot be determined until the liability for the debt has been determined and liquidated. The underlying tort liability is not pleaded in the adversary complaint, and it is unclear from the pleadings where the underlying tort liability should be tried and determined, i.e., whether in this adversary proceeding or in the state court proceeding, which is now stay by the bankruptcy case. One consideration is that any personal injury tort claims if not tried in state court must be tried in the district court in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 157(b)(4), though perhaps the parties could consent to this court so trying these claims. If the court abstains, the court would stay the pending adversary proceeding for dischargeability of debt pending the outcome of the state court tort litigation. The court intends to issue an order to show cause why this court should not abstain from hearing the unpled but underlying personal injury tort claims, but otherwise, retaining the debt dischargeability claim to be determined after the alleged debt liability has been determined. The court would consider the factors for persmissive abstention and stay relief in In re Tucson Estates, Inc., 912 F.2d at 1166-1167. In reviewing the status report, the court is of the view that the proposed pretrial and trial schedule is unrealistic, given the social turmoil from the current coronavirus pandemic and the need for extensive discovery proceedings relating to determination of the underlying alleged tort liability and the need for a trial of the personal injury tort claims in the district court if the court does not abstain. Appearances are required on 4/7/20, but counsel must appear by telephone.

Party Information

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Chapter 7

Debtor(s):

Arka Sangbarani Oroojian Represented By

Roland H Kedikian

Defendant(s):

Arka Sangbarani Oroojian Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

Rhianna Yates Represented By

Jesenia Martinez

Trustee(s):

Sam S Leslie (TR) Pro Se

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2:20-15742 Sara Victoria

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:20-01632 Adam, DC et al v. Victoria

#20.00 Status conference re: Complaint for determination of nondischargeability of debt pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§523(a)(2)(A), 523(a)(4), and 523(a)(6)

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

The court notes that in the adversary complaint plaintiffs demanded a jury trial, but there is no jury trial right for the claims under 11 U.S.C. 523(a)(2), (4) and (6) in this adversary proceeding since the debt dischargeability claims are equitable in nature. In re Hashemi, 104 F.3d 1122, 1124-1125 and n. 1 (9th Cir. 1997). The court also notes that the underlying alleged debts have not been liquidated yet, though plaintiffs have a pending action in state court, asserting state law tort claims against defendant, which action is now stayed due to the automatic stay arising from this bankruptcy case. Although the determination of claims, whether the alleged debts of defendant are dischargeable, is equitable, the determination of the existence of the alleged debts may be legal in nature since the alleged debts would arise in tort under state law, and it is an open question on that issue, and there may be a right to a jury trial. Id. at 1125 and n. 1. The issue of whether a partial right to jury trial exists here would have to be briefed. If there is a right to jury trial in part in this case, this bankruptcy court can hold a civil jury trial with the consent of the parties, or the parties could waive jury trial if there is such a right. Alternatively, the court could permissively abstain under 28 U.S.C. 1334(c)(1) and grant stay relief to allow the state court to determine the alleged debts under state law with or without the assistance of a civil jury, and stay this adversary proceeding until the state court determines the underlying debts, and then determine debt dischargeability afterwards. See In re Oroojian, Adv. No. 2:20-ap-01020 RK, 2020 WL 2201939 (Bankr. C.D. Cal., May 5, 2020); see also, In re Eber, 687 F.3d 1123, 1128 and n. 5 (9th Cir. 2012) (bankruptcy court has exclusive jurisdiction over debt dischargeability claims under 11 U.S.C. 523(a)(2), (4) and (6), citing 11 U.S.C. 523(c)).

Assuming that the court adopts its tentative ruling on defendant's motion to dismiss also on calendar on 12/1/20 and denies the motion, and the court

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CONT... Sara Victoria

Chapter 7

does not abstain from determining the merits of the underlying alleged debts as discussed above, set a discovery cutoff date of 5/31/20 and a postdiscovery status conference on 6/15/21 at 1:30 p.m. with a joint status report due on 6/8/21. Plaintiffs to lodge a proposed scheduling order within 7 days of hearing.

Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone. With the consent of the parties, the court can advance the hearing on defendant's motion to dismiss on the 2:30 p.m. hearing calendar to be conducted with the status conference.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the

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Chapter 7

hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Sara Victoria Represented By

Freddie V Vega

Defendant(s):

Sara Victoria Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

Scott Adam, DC Represented By

Aisha Shelton Adam Kerry A. Moynihan

Adam Chiropractic and Wellness Represented By

Aisha Shelton Adam Kerry A. Moynihan

Trustee(s):

Peter J Mastan (TR) Pro Se

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2:13-20962 Soghra Ganji

Chapter 7

#21.00 Hearing re: Order to show cause why (1) debtor's motion to avoid lien of Citibank, N.A. pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §522(f) should not be denied with prejudice and (2) this case should not be closed due to lack of prosecution

Docket 65

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. Debtor needs to address the issues raised in the order to show cause. See In re Chiu, 266 B.R. 743, 751 (9th Cir. BAP 2001)(the operative date for determining the impairment of debtor's exemption by a lien pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 522(f) is the petition date). Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance

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CONT... Soghra Ganji

Chapter 7

reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Soghra Ganji Represented By

Michael H Moghtader

Trustee(s):

Timothy Yoo (TR) Pro Se

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2:30 PM

2:11-17125 Ramon De Jesus Contreras and Maria Del Rosario

Chapter 7

#22.00 Hearing re: Trustee's final report and account;

Application for fees and expenses [Carolyn A. Dye, Chapter 7 Trustee]

Docket 626

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the final report and fee application of the trustee, the court determines that oral argument on the final report and fee application is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to approval of the final report and fee application, rules on the final report and fee application for the reasons stated in the final report and fee application and for lack of timely written opposition. No appearances are required on 12/1/20. Trustee to lodge a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Ramon De Jesus Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Joint Debtor(s):

Maria Del Rosario Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Trustee(s):

Carolyn A Dye (TR) Represented By

James A Dumas Jr

John K Park Christian T Kim

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Chapter 7

Miri Kim Wakuta

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2:11-17125 Ramon De Jesus Contreras and Maria Del Rosario

Chapter 7

#23.00 Hearing re: Application for fees and expenses

[LEA Accountancy, LLP, Accountant for Chapter 7 Trustee]

Docket 619

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the final fee application of accountant for the trustee, the court determines that oral argument on the final fee application is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to approval of the final fee application, rules on the final fee application on the papers, and approves the final fee application for the reasons stated in the final fee application and for lack of timely written opposition. No appearances are required on 12/1/20. Applicant or trustee to lodge a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Ramon De Jesus Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Joint Debtor(s):

Maria Del Rosario Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Trustee(s):

Carolyn A Dye (TR) Represented By

James A Dumas Jr

John K Park Christian T Kim Miri Kim Wakuta

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2:11-17125 Ramon De Jesus Contreras and Maria Del Rosario

Chapter 7

#24.00 Hearing re: Application for fees and expenses

[Dumas & Associates, Attorney for Chapter 7 Trustee]

Docket 606

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the final fee application of attorney for the trustee, the court determines that oral argument on the final fee application is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to approval of the final fee application, rules on the final fee application on the papers, and approves the final fee application for the reasons stated in the final fee application and for lack of timely written opposition. No appearances are required on 12/1/20. Applicant or trustee to lodge a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Ramon De Jesus Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Joint Debtor(s):

Maria Del Rosario Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Trustee(s):

Carolyn A Dye (TR)

Represented By

James A Dumas Jr

John K Park

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Christian T Kim Miri Kim Wakuta

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2:11-17125 Ramon De Jesus Contreras and Maria Del Rosario

Chapter 7

#25.00 Hearing re: Application for fees and expenses

[Michael J. Berger, Debtor's Attorney - Chapter 11]

Docket 325

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the final fee application of attorney for debtors in possession, the court determines that oral argument on the final fee application is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to approval of the final fee application, rules on the final fee application on the papers, and approves the final fee application for the reasons stated in the final fee application and for lack of timely written opposition. No appearances are required on 12/1/20. Applicant or trustee to lodge a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Ramon De Jesus Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Joint Debtor(s):

Maria Del Rosario Contreras Represented By

Andrew Edward Smyth

Trustee(s):

Carolyn A Dye (TR) Represented By

James A Dumas Jr

John K Park Christian T Kim Miri Kim Wakuta

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2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01276 Goodrich v. Shemtov

#26.00 Hearing re: Motion of chapter 7 trustee for summary judgment against George Shemtov

Docket 29

*** VACATED *** REASON: Cont'd from 12/1/20 to 1/19/21 at 2:30 p.m. per stip & order entered on 11/24/20-mb.

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. Continued by stipulation and order to 1/19/21 at 2:30 p.m. No appearances are required on 12/1/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour Keith F Rouse

Defendant(s):

George Shemtov Represented By

Keith F Rouse

Movant(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

11/30/2020 6:40:36 PM

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2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01276 Goodrich v. Shemtov

#27.00 Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for: (1) Avoidance of Preferential Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 547; (2) Recovery of Property Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 550; (3) Preservation of Avoided Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 551; (4) Disallowance of Claims Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d); and (5) Turnover of Property of the Estate Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542 fr. 6/30/20, 8/18/20, 11/10/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

In order to appear for the court hearing by telephone, you will need to arrange to make the telephone call through CourtCall, the contract telephone appearance service, which arranges telephone appearances before this court. CourtCall's telephone number is: (866) 582-6878. Through March 31, 2021, CourtCall is offering discounted rates to attorneys and FREE access for parties who do not have an attorney (pro se or self-represented parties). You need make an advance reservation with CourtCall to appear by telephone before the hearing, preferably a week before the hearing, and no later than the day before the hearing. After you made your telephone appearance

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reservation with CourtCall, on the day of the court hearing, you will need to call CourtCall at its telephone number at least 5 minutes before the scheduled hearing, and identify the United States Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles as the court and Judge Robert Kwan as the judge, and the CourtCall operator will put you into the telephonic court hearing. Given the large demand for telephone court appearances, there may be some delay in connecting to the hearing. If you are having problems connecting to the hearing, please call and advise Judge Kwan's courtroom deputy at (213) 894-3385.

Prior tentative ruling as of 11/9/20. Off calendar. The court has reviewed the joint status report noting that plaintiff has noticed his motion for summary judgment for 12/1/20 and the parties have stipulated to extend the discovery date to 1/31/21, which the court has approved. In light of these developments, the court on its own motion continues the status conference to 12/1/20 at 2:30 p.m. to be conducted the same time as the hearing on plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. No appearances are required on 11/10/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour

Defendant(s):

George Shemtov Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

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2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01277 Goodrich v. Shemtov

#28.00

Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for: (1) Avoidance of Preferential Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 547; (2) Recovery of Property Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 550; (3) Preservation of Avoided Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 551; (4) Disallowance of Claims Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d); and (5) Turnover of Property of the Estate Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542 fr. 6/30/20, 8/18/20, 11/10/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the court hearing before Judge Robert Kwan of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will be conducted telephonically. However, instead of having to physically appear in court, you must appear by telephone because the court is not conducting in person hearings on that date in light of the public health conditions from the COVID-19 pandemic. The courtroom will be locked; parties must appear by telephone and will not be permitted to appear in the courtroom.

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2:30 PM

CONT... SOCALDEAL INC

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Prior tentative ruling as of 11/9/20. Off calendar. The court has reviewed the joint status report noting that plaintiff has noticed his motion for summary judgment for 12/1/20 and the parties have stipulated to extend the discovery date to 1/31/21, which the court has approved. In light of these developments, the court on its own motion continues the status conference to 12/1/20 at 2:30 p.m. to be conducted the same time as the hearing on plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. No appearances are required on 11/10/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour

Defendant(s):

Jack Shemtov Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

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2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

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Adv#: 2:19-01278 Goodrich v. Shemtov

#29.00 Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for: (1) Avoidance of Preferential Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 547; (2) Recovery of Property Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 550; (3) Preservation of Avoided Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 551; (4) Disallowance of Claims Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d); and (5) Turnover of Property of the Estate Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542 fr. 6/30/20, 8/18/20, 11/10/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

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Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour

Defendant(s):

Najid Shemtov Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

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Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

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2:18-12119 SOCALDEAL INC

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01279 Goodrich v. Shemtov

#30.00

Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for: (1) Avoidance of Preferential Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 547; (2) Recovery of Property Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 550; (3) Preservation of Avoided Transfers Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 551; (4) Disallowance of Claims Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d); and (5) Turnover of Property of the Estate Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542 fr. 6/30/20, 8/18/20, 11/10/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20. No tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

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Prior tentative ruling as of 11/9/20. Off calendar. The court has reviewed the joint status report noting that plaintiff has noticed his motion for summary judgment for 12/1/20 and the parties have stipulated to extend the discovery date to 1/31/21, which the court has approved. In light of these developments, the court on its own motion continues the status conference to 12/1/20 at 2:30 p.m. to be conducted the same time as the hearing on plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. No appearances are required on 11/10/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

SOCALDEAL INC Represented By

Fari B Nejadpour

Defendant(s):

Rojeh Shemtov Pro Se

Plaintiff(s):

David M. Goodrich Represented By

Faye C Rasch

Trustee(s):

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By

Faye C Rasch Beth Gaschen

Weiland Golden Goodrich LLP

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2:18-23282 LT Funding, LLC Chapter 7

Hearing re: Fourth interim application for award of compensation and reimbursement of #31.00 expenses of Danning, Gill, Israel & Krasnoff, LLP, as general counsel for chapter 7 trustee

> Docket 85

Tentative Ruling:

Off calendar. In light of the lack of any timely written opposition to the fourth interim fee application of attorney for the trustee, the court determines that oral argument on the fee application is not necessary and dispenses with oral argument pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(j)(3). The court deems the lack of filing and service of a timely written opposition as consent to approval of the fee application, rules on the fee application on the papers, and approves the fee application for the reasons stated in the fee application and for lack of timely written opposition. No appearances are required on 12/01/20. Applicant or trustee to lodge a proposed order within 7 days of hearing.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

LT Funding, LLC Represented By

Robert L Eisenbach III

Trustee(s):

Brad D Krasnoff (TR) Represented By

Eric P Israel

George E Schulman

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

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2:19-10246 Dean Henrik Okland

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01102 Sunderland et al v. Okland

#32.00 Hearing re: Motion to Compel Dean Okland to Appear For His Deposition and to Answer Special Interrogatories (Set Two) and Requests for Production of Documents (Set Two)

Docket 49

Tentative Ruling:

Deny plaintiffs' motion to compel defendant to appear for his deposition and to answer special interrogatories (set two) and requests for production of documents (set two) for failure to comply with the discovery dispute requirements of LBR 7026-1(c) regarding prefiling meet and confer conference and filing of a discovery dispute stipulation. There is no showing in the moving papers and the declaration in support thereof that these requirements have been met.

Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

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CONT... Dean Henrik Okland

Chapter 7

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Debtor(s):

Dean Henrik Okland Pro Se

Defendant(s):

Dean Henrik Okland Represented By

Gary R Wallace

Plaintiff(s):

HOWARD M EHRENBERG Represented By

Jeffrey S Shinbrot

Jennifer Sunderland Represented By

Kimberly Wright

James Farrow Represented By

Kimberly Wright

Trustee(s):

Howard M Ehrenberg (TR)

Represented By

Jeffrey S Shinbrot

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

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2:19-10246 Dean Henrik Okland

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01102 Sunderland et al v. Okland

#33.00 Hearing re: Plaintiff's motion for leave to file amended complaint to add cause of action for denial of discharge for failure to obey this court's order

Docket 51

Tentative Ruling:

The court will exercise its discretion to deny the co-plaintiff trustee's motion for leave to file an amended complaint to add a cause of action to deny debtor's discharge for failure to comply with the court's discovery order in this adversary proceeding pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 727(a)(6). As stated in March, Ahart and Shapiro, Rutter Group California Practice Guide: Bankruptcy, paragraph 22:1013 (online edition, December 2019 update): "In many cases, denial of discharge for failing to comply with a court order is seen as "overkill." A less drastic alternative is to hold the debtor in contempt [In re Weir (BC ED CA 1994) 173 BR 682, 691—denial of discharge was "disproportionate to the transgression" where debtor failed to comply with order requiring statement of intention to reaffirm a debt or to redeem or surrender collateral; see also In re Barman (BC ED MI 1999) 237 BR 342, 351—court must balance policy of liberally applying discharge to the honest debtor against policy of denying relief to debtors who intentionally engage in dishonest practices]. However, it is well within the bankruptcy court's discretion to find a particular violation of the court's order so serious as to require denial of discharge under § 727(a)(6)(A). [In re Devers (9th Cir. 1985) 759 F2d 751, 755; In re Weir, supra, 173 BR at 691]." In this instance, the amendment of the complaint for this purpose is overkill, and a less drastic alternative here is to consider the co-plaintiffs' motion for sanctions for defendant's failure to comply with the order.

Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS

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Chapter 7

MATTER:

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Party Information

Debtor(s):

Dean Henrik Okland Pro Se

Defendant(s):

Dean Henrik Okland Represented By

Gary R Wallace

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

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CONT... Dean Henrik Okland

Chapter 7

Plaintiff(s):

HOWARD M EHRENBERG Represented By

Jeffrey S Shinbrot

Jennifer Sunderland Represented By

Kimberly Wright

James Farrow Represented By

Kimberly Wright

Trustee(s):

Howard M Ehrenberg (TR)

Represented By

Jeffrey S Shinbrot

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Hearing Room

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2:19-10246 Dean Henrik Okland

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:19-01102 Sunderland et al v. Okland

#33.10 Cont'd hearing re: Motion for sanctions for defendant's failure to comply with court's October 7, 2020 discovery order fr. 11/17/20

Docket 40

Tentative Ruling:

Grant in part and deny in part plaintiffs' motion for sanctions for defendant's failure to comply with the court's October 7, 2020 discovery order compelling defendant's responses to requests for production of documents and interrogatories. Based on the evidence of defendant's noncompliance with the order in failing to respond to these discovery requests and pay the sanctions as previously ordered by the deadline of October 21, 2020, and defendant's lack of response to the sanctions motion, the court determines that plaintiffs have demonstrated "willfulness" or "bad faith" by defendant, which is "disobedient conduct not shown to be outside the control of the litigant." Henry v. Gill Industries, Inc., 983 F.2d 943, 948 (9th Cir. 1993); see also, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau v. Morgan Drexen, Inc., 101 F.Supp.3d 856, 868 (C.D.Cal. 2015). Plaintiffs request that the court sanction defendant by striking his answer in this adversary proceeding and entering his default, or in the alternative, holding him in contempt. Once the court finds that discovery violations are "due to willfulness, bad faith, or fault of the party," it weighs the following five factors in determining whether to impose a terminating sanction: (1) the public interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to manage its docket; (3) the prejudice to other parties from the discovery violations (which includes inquiry into materiality of the evidence withheld); (4) public policy favoring disposition of cases on the merits (not a controlling factor where other factors favor dismissal); and (5) whether less drastic sanctions are available and would provide effective deterrence for the particular violation; and specifically whether the court (a) considered lesser sanctions, (b) tried them, and (c) warned the recalcitrant party of the possibility of terminating sanctions. Hester v. Vision Airlines, Inc., 687 F.3d 1162, 1169-1170 (9th Cir. 2012). In weighing these factors, the

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court is not inclined to order terminating sanctions at this time since it had not previously imposed lesser sanctions, such as holding defendant in civil contempt to coerce his compliance and had not given prior warning that it would impose terminating sanctions. While the other factors of the public interest in expeditiously resolving this litigation and the possible prejudice to plaintiffs in not getting the requested discovery exist, they do not outweigh the factor of trying first lesser sanctions and giving defendant prior warning of possible terminating sanctions. Accordingly, the court will apply the lesser sanction of holding defendant in civil contempt for his willful failure to comply with the court's discovery order and award compensatory sanctions to plaintiffs against defendant of reasonable attorneys' fees for having to bring this sanctions motion to coerce defendant's compliance with the court's discovery order. The court will also order that defendant must comply with the discovery order within 30 days of entry of the order on this motion, or otherwise, the court will impose terminating sanctions for continued failure to comply with the discovery order, which would include striking defendant's answer and entering default against him.

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Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

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Chapter 7

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Prior tentative ruling as of 11/13/20. The parties should be prepared to discuss the impact of the trustee's pending motion to amend the complaint and motion for summary judgment and plaintiffs' other motion to compel discovery on this motion for sanctions. Otherwise, no tentative ruling on the merits. Appearances are required on 11/17/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

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Party	Intor	mation
I ally	1111471	шашуп

Debtor(s):

Dean Henrik Okland Pro Se

Defendant(s):

Dean Henrik Okland Represented By

Gary R Wallace

Plaintiff(s):

Jennifer Sunderland Represented By

Kimberly Wright

James Farrow Represented By

Kimberly Wright

HOWARD M EHRENBERG Pro Se

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Trustee(s):

Howard M Ehrenberg (TR)

Represented By Jeffrey S Shinbrot

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

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2:19-24787 Bradley Edward Barnes

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:20-01064 WVJP 2017-1, LP v. Barnes et al

#34.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion to dismiss the complaint and/or for a more definite statement under Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7009

fr. 10/27/20

Docket 14

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/27/20 as of 5:30 p.m.. "A Rule 12(b)(6) dismissal may be based on either a 'lack of a cognizable legal theory' or 'the absence of sufficient facts alleged under a cognizable legal theory." Johnson v. Riverside Healthcare Sys., 534 F.3d 1116, 1121 (9th Cir. 2008) (quoting Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dept., 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1990)). In resolving a FRCP Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss, the court must construe the complaint in the light most favorable to the plaintiff and accept "all wellpleaded factual allegations as true." Johnson, 534 F.3d at 1122. "However, the court is not required to accept legal conclusions cast in the form of factual allegations if those conclusions cannot reasonably be drawn from the facts alleged." Clegg v. Cult Awareness Network, 18 F.3d 752, 754-755 (9th Cir. 1994). Nor is the court "bound by conclusory statements, statements of law, and unwarranted inferences cast as factual allegations." In re Automated Finance Corp. (Seror v. Stone), 2011 WL 10502417, *1 (Bankr. C.D. Cal 2011). See also Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555–57, 127 S.Ct. 1955, 167 L.Ed.2d 929 (2007).

In *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 173 L.Ed.2d 868 (2009), the Supreme Court elaborated as follows:

To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to "state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged. The plausibility standard is not akin to a "probability requirement," but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted

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unlawfully. Id. at 678 (internal citations omitted).

"Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice." *Id.*

The Ninth Circuit addressed post-lqbal pleading standards in *Starr v. Baca*, 652 F.3d 1202 (9th Cir. 2011) as follows:

First, to be entitled to the presumption of truth, allegations in a complaint or counterclaim may not simply recite the elements of a cause of action, but must contain sufficient allegations of underlying facts to give fair notice and to enable the opposing party to defend itself effectively. Second, the factual allegations that are taken as true must plausibly suggest an entitlement to relief, such that it is not unfair to require the opposing party to be subjected to the expense of discovery and continued litigation. *Id.* at 1216.

"The Supreme Court in *Kawaauhau v. Geiger (In re Geiger)*, 523 U.S. 57, 118 S.Ct. 974, 140 L. Ed. 2d 90 (1998), made clear that for section 523(a)(6) to apply, the actor must intend the consequences of the act, not simply the act itself." *Ormsby v. First American Title Co. of Nevada (In re Ormsby)*, 591 F. 3d 1199, 1206 (9th Cir. 2010). Both willfulness and maliciousness must be proven to prevent discharge of the debt. *Id.* But reckless or negligent acts are not sufficient to establish that a resulting injury falls within the category of willful and malicious injuries under § 523(a)(6). *Kawaauhau v. Geiger*, 523 U.S. at 64.

Willfulness means intent to cause injury. *Kawaauhau v. Geiger*, 523 U.S. at 61. "The injury must be deliberate or intentional, 'not merely a deliberate or intentional act that leads to injury." *In re Plyam*, 530 B.R. 456, 463 (9th Cir. BAP 2015) (quoting *Kawaauhau v. Geiger*, 523 U.S. at 61) (emphasis in original). The court may consider circumstantial evidence that may establish what the debtor actually knew when conducting the injury creating action and not just what the debtor admitted to knowing. *In re Ormsby*, 591 F. 3d at 1206 (citation omitted). Recklessly inflicted injuries, covering injuries from all degrees of recklessness, do not meet the willfulness requirement of § 523(a) (6). *In re Plyam*, 530 B.R. at 464. Reckless conduct requires an intent to act

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instead of an intent to cause injury. *Id.* Therefore, the willful injury requirement "...is met when the debtor has a subjective motive to inflict injury or when the debtor believes that injury is substantially certain to result from his own conduct." *Carillo v. Su (In re Su)*, 290 F.3d 1140, 1142 (9th Cir. 2002) (citation omitted).

A malicious injury is one that involves; "(1) a wrongful act, (2) done intentionally, (3) which necessarily causes injury, and (4) is done without just cause or excuse." *Petralia v. Jercich (In re Jercich)*, 238 F.3d 1202, 1209 (9th Cir. 2001). In *In re Jercich*, the court found that the debtor's withholding of wages to his employee, despite his ability to pay the employee, and use of the wage money for his own personal benefit without any just cause or excuse for withholding the wages, was substantially certain to cause injury to the employee and therefore fulfilled the malicious prong of § 523(a)(6). *Id*. "Malice may be inferred based on the nature of the wrongful act", but to make such an inference, willfulness must be established first. *In re Ormsby*, 591 F.3d 1199 at 1207.

Here, drawing reasonable inferences and accepting all well-pleaded factual allegations as true, Plaintiff has stated a plausible claim for relief under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(6). Accepting the allegations in the complaint as true, even if the state court judgment does not act as a collateral estoppel as to nondischargeability of this debt, Plaintiff has pleaded facts allowing the court to draw a reasonable inference that Mr. Barnes may have knowingly entered into the personal guaranty of the Grove loan by Dove Street and acted in concert in a fraud scheme by creating fraudulent documents to represent to Dove Street that the property was transferred to Grove to induce Dove Street to make a loan to Grove secured by the property. Although a 523(a)(6) action will not lie on negligence or breach of contract, and requires an intentional tort under state law, such as fraud, Lockerby v. Sierra, 535 F.3d 1038, 1041 (9th Cir. 2008), here, even if Mr. Barnes has the default judgment set aside on remand, the state court action could return to the state court for discovery and trial setting procedures if this court abstains, having granted stay relief. Based on the allegations in the Second Amended Complaint, it seems plausible that Plaintiff may have a claim that Mr. Barnes engaged in malicious and willful tortious acts against Dove Street related to the alleged fraudulent scheme to induce it to make the loans, and his alleged debt to Plaintiff as

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Dove Street's successor-in-interest from these alleged acts could be nondischargeable. Specifically, Plaintiff alleges in the second amended complaint that "11. Debtor, in concert with others, created fraudulent documents for the purpose of representing to Dove that they had the legal authority to transfer the Property to Grove through the Grove Deed and that the Property was legally and equitably transferred to Grove through the Grove Deed to facilitate Grove's obtaining loans secured by the Property, and using the loan proceeds for their own benefit; . . . 14. Bradley, in connection with the Loan Modification Agreement, affirmed verbally and in writing that Fey had legal authority to put the Property up as collateral; 15. Bradley executed a Personal Guarantee with Dove, guaranteeing repayment of the Grove Loan as modified; 16. Debtor, in concert with others, breached the guarantee agreements by failing to make payment after Grove defaulted on the Grove Loan[.]" ECF 26 at 4. These factual allegations, taken as true, would demonstrate that Plaintiff has a plausible claim for relief under section 523(a) (6) that Mr. Barnes created fraudulent documents to represent to Dove that the property was transferred to Grove to induce Dove to lend to Grove and used the loan proceeds for their own benefit, that he affirmed verbally and in writing that "Fey" (i.e., Grove) had legal authority to put the property up as collateral for the Loan Modification Agreement and that he executed a personal guaranty with Dove guaranteeing the repayment of the modified Grove Loan. See Exhibit 3 to Defendant's Request for Judicial Notice. (Plaintiff should clarify that it meant Grove when it referred to Fey in paragraph 14 in the second amended complaint as the personal quaranty referred to the Grove modified loan.) As to issue preclusion, Mr. Barnes may be justified in arguing that even if the judgment is reinstated, the court cannot find the debt nondischargeable because here, the default judgment did not find that he intended to maliciously and willfully injure Dove Street. However, Plaintiff may prove as a factual matter through discovery that there was willfulness and malice.

Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

TO PARTIES WHO INTEND TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING ON THIS MATTER:

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Party Information

Debtor(s):

Bradley Edward Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Defendant(s):

Bradley Edward Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Allison Platz Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

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Joint Debtor(s):

Allison Platz Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Plaintiff(s):

WVJP 2017-1, LP Represented By

Joseph Chora Cameron H Totten

Trustee(s):

Carolyn A Dye (TR) Pro Se

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2:19-24787 Bradley Edward Barnes

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Adv#: 2:20-01064 WVJP 2017-1, LP v. Barnes et al

#35.00 Cont'd hearing re: Motion for Rule 9011 sanctions against Chora Young LLP and attorneys Paul P. Young, Esq. and Joseph Chora, Esq. fr.10/27/20

Docket 17

Tentative Ruling:

Revised and updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20.

Deny defendants' motion for sanctions under FRBP 9011 because the complaint was deemed withdrawn when plaintiff filed its first amended complaint on 9/30/20 based on the deadline of 9/30/20 apparently agreed by the parties based on the court's stay ruling set forth in the notice of stay filed on 5/22/20, staying proceedings in this adversary proceeding from 5/19/20 to 9/30/20. The first amended complaint is an amendment as of right pursuant to FRBP 7015 and FRCP 15(a)(1)(B) and supersedes the original pleading (timely because filed within 21 days of defendants' FRCP 12(b) motion served on 10/1/20), effectively withdrawing the original complaint.

The 21-day safe harbor period for withdrawal of the allegedly sanctionable pleading, the complaint, commenced on 5/15/20 when defendants served but not filed their motion for sanctions on plaintiff, and only 4 days on the 21 day period had run when the court ordered the stay of proceedings, and the 21-day period was stayed until 9/30/20. Arguably, the 21-day period was tolled during the period of stay. See Upek, Inc. v. Authentec, Inc., No. C 10-00424 JF (PVT), 2010 WL 1980189 (N.D. Cal. May 17, 2010). If the 21 day safe harbor period was tolled, then the deadline for withdrawal based on the 17 days remaining in the period would have been 10/16/20 if tolling is applicable here. The amended complaint filed on 9/30/20, or 10/1/20, was thus timely.

If tolling is not applicable here, and the 21-days ran during the period of stay, the deadline for withdrawal would be 9/30/20 as the parties apparently agreed. Even so, the amendment of the complaint by the first amended

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complaint was timely filed on 9/30/20, although the complaint was filed by mistake in the main bankruptcy case rather than the adversary proceeding as evidenced by the counsel declaration filed in opposition to the sanctions motion, ECF 35, filed on 11/17/20, and the first amended complaint itself which had the adversary proceeding caption, Main Bankruptcy Case ECF 75. As indicated by the case docket, plaintiff refiled the first amended complaint in the adversary proceeding on 10/1/20 after being notified by the clerk's office that it was incorrectly filed in the main case. There is no prejudice to defendants deeming the first amended complaint as filed on 9/30/20 because it was filed with the court on 9/30/20 and served on the parties on that date by electronic means, and service would not have been misleading because the caption of the pleading was the adversary proceeding caption. As indicated in counsel declaration in support of plaintiff's opposition and defendants' reply, counsel understood that plaintiff would be amending the complaint by the deadline by their telephone conversations and email correspondence before 9/30/20.

Defendants filed their sanctions motion in the adversary proceeding on 9/30/20 at 9:58 a.m. before plaintiff filed the first amended complaint in the main case on 9/30/20 at 4:03 p.m. Plaintiff had until 11:59 p.m. on 9/30/20 to withdraw the complaint for purposes of this FRBP 9011 motion based on the deadline of 9/30/20 that the parties apparently have agreed to since the court is deemed always open for purposes of filing a pleading pursuant to FRBP 5001(a). Both parties were precluded from filing pleadings during the stay period until 9/30/20, and thus, the 21-day safe harbor period did not expire until at least 11:59 p.m. on 9/30/20, and arguably, defendants' FRBP 9011 sanctions motion was filed too early because the 21-day safe harbor period as extended by the stay had not expired when defendants filed the motion.

The court construes FRBP 9011 conservatively as the Ninth Circuit stated in Operating Engineers Pension Trust v. A-C Co., 859 F.2d 1336, 1345 (9th Cir. 1988) about its civil rule analogue in FRCP 11 that it is "an extraordinary remedy, one to be exercised with extreme caution." Plaintiff by its counsel informed defendants through counsel that it was amending the complaint and would do so by the FRBP 9011 deadline, and did so in spirit, if not in letter, and sanctions are not appropriate under these circumstances with an

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innocent mistake by counsel in uploading the first amended complaint for filing in the main bankruptcy case rather than the adversary proceeding within the main bankruptcy case should not prevent plaintiff from benefiting from its invocation of the FRBP 9011 safe harbor.

Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

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Party Information

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CONT... Bradley Edward Barnes

Chapter 7

Debtor(s):

Bradley Edward Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Defendant(s):

Bradley Edward Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Allison Platz Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Joint Debtor(s):

Allison Platz Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Plaintiff(s):

WVJP 2017-1, LP Represented By

Joseph Chora Cameron H Totten

Trustee(s):

Carolyn A Dye (TR) Pro Se

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2:19-24787 Bradley Edward Barnes

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:20-01064 WVJP 2017-1, LP v. Barnes et al

#36.00

Cont'd status conference re: Complaint for 1. for false pretenses, a false representation or actual fraud pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(6); in the alternative 2. for false pretenses, a false representation or actual fraud pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(2)(A); 3. for false pretenses, a false representation or actual fraud pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(2)(B); 4. for willful and malicious injury Y 11 U.S.C. §523(a)(6); 5. for determination that defendant's debts are not dischargeable pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §727(a)(2); 6. for a determination that defendant's debts are not dischargeable pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §727(a) (3); 7. for a determination that defendant's debts are not dischargeable pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §727(a)(4); and 8. for a determination that defendant's debts are not dischargeable pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §727(a)(5) fr. 8/18/20, 10/6/20, 10/27/20

Docket 1

Tentative Ruling:

Updated tentative ruling as of 11/30/20 at 6:30 p.m. Since the parties filed their last joint status report on 10/15/20, there have developments that will affect the course of this adversary proceeding which the parties did not expect to occur before the status conference then scheduled for 10/27/20. First, as indicated by plaintiff on the case docket on 11/24/20, the state court appeal has been decided, which reversed the trial court's order setting aside the default judgment as to Mr. Barnes, the remaining defendant named in the second amended complaint. The appellate decision reinstates the default judgment against him liquidating the debt owed to plaintiff's predecessor-ininterest, Dove Street. Mr. Barnes could seek to move to set aside the default judgment on remand, which was determined to be voidable and not void. However, further stay relief would appear to be required since this court only granted limited stay relief for the state court appeal to proceed and did not grant stay relief for further proceedings in the state trial court. The court could permissively abstain under 28 U.S.C. 1334(c)(1) and grant stay relief to allow the state trial court to determine any further motion of Mr. Barnes to set aside the default judgment and stay this adversary proceeding until the state court determines the underlying debt, and then determine debt dischargeability

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afterwards. See In re Oroojian, Adv. No. 2:20-ap-01020 RK, 2020 WL 2201939 (Bankr. C.D. Cal., May 5, 2020); see also, In re Eber, 687 F.3d 1123, 1128 and n. 5 (9th Cir. 2012) (bankruptcy court has exclusive jurisdiction over debt dischargeability claims under 11 U.S.C. 523(a)(2), (4) and (6), citing 11 U.S.C. 523(c)). That is, at this time, the default judgment stands unless Mr. Barnes brings a further motion to set it aside. If he brings such a motion and prevails, then it would be up to plaintiff to consider litigating the merits of the claims of its predecessor-in-interest to prove up such claims. If he brings such a motion and does not prevail, then presumably, the default judgment would be final and entitled to res judicata as to liquidation of the debt owed by Mr. Barnes to plaintiff. However, whether the state court judgment has collateral estoppel effect as to debt dischargeability under 11 U.S.C. 523(a)(6) remains to be litigated in this court in this adversary proceeding.

Assuming that the court adopts its tentative ruling on defendant's motion to dismiss also on calendar on 12/1/20 and denies the motion, and the court does not abstain from determining the merits of the underlying alleged debts as discussed above, the court will set a discovery cutoff date of 5/31/20 and a postdiscovery status conference on 6/15/21 at 1:30 p.m. with a joint status report due on 6/8/21. No tentative ruling on whether this matter should be referred to mediation. Plaintiff to lodge a proposed scheduling order within 7 days of hearing.

Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

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Prior tentative ruling. The court on its own motion continues the status conference to 12/1/20 at 2:30 p.m. to be conducted with continued hearings on defendant's motion to dismiss and for sanctions as it appears that the parties contemplated that the status conference on the same day as the hearings on the motions which were continued would also be continued, although the status conference was not specifically referenced in the stipulation. No appearances are required on 10/27/20.

Party Information

Debtor(s):

Bradley Edward Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Defendant(s):

Bradley Edward Barnes Pro Se

Allison Platz Barnes Pro Se

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Chapter 7

Joint Debtor(s):

Allison Platz Barnes Represented By

Susan I Montgomery

Plaintiff(s):

WVJP 2017-1, LP Represented By

Joseph Chora

Trustee(s):

Edward M Wolkowitz (TR) Pro Se

Judge Robert Kwan, Presiding Courtroom 1675 Calendar

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

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2:20-15742 Sara Victoria

Chapter 7

Adv#: 2:20-01632 Adam, DC et al v. Victoria

#37.00 Hearing re: Motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) for failure to state a claim for which relief may be granted

Docket 7

Tentative Ruling:

Deny defendant's motion to dismiss for the reasons stated in plaintiffs' opposition, because a corporate officer or employee is not immune from suit where, as alleged in the complaint here, he or she is acting on behalf of a corporation and may have liability for an intentional tort based on his or her conduct. See In re Kaplan, Adv. No. 2:12-ap-01415 RK, 2016 WL 1321138 (Bankr. C.D. Cal., April 1, 2016), slip op. at *9-10, citing inter alia, Golden v. Anderson, 256 Cal.App.2d 714, 719-720 (1967). An alter ego claim is not required to establish the liability of a corporate officer or employee for an intentional tort. Id. Appearances are required on 12/1/20, but counsel and self-represented parties must appear by telephone.

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CONT... Sara Victoria

Chapter 7

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Party Information

Debtor(s):

Sara Victoria Represented By

Freddie V Vega

Defendant(s):

Sara Victoria Represented By

Todd L Turoci

Plaintiff(s):

Scott Adam, DC Represented By

Aisha Shelton Adam Kerry A. Moynihan

Adam Chiropractic and Wellness Represented By

Aisha Shelton Adam Kerry A. Moynihan

Trustee(s):

Peter J Mastan (TR) Pro Se