Tuesday, December 30, 2025

**Hearing Room** 

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1:30 PM 1:00-00000

Chapter

#0.00 The 1:30 pm calendar will be conducted remotely, using ZoomGov video and audio.

Parties in interest and members of the public may connect to the video and audio feeds, free of charge, using the connection information provided below.

Individuals may participate by ZoomGov video and audio using a personal computer (equipped with camera, microphone and speaker), or a handheld mobile device (such as an iPhone or Android phone). Individuals may opt to participate by audio only using a telephone (standard telephone charges may apply).

Neither a Zoom nor a ZoomGov account is necessary to participate and no pre-registration is required. The audio portion of each hearing will be recorded electronically by the Court and constitutes its official record.

Video/audio web address: <a href="https://cacb.zoomgov.com/j/1610335958">https://cacb.zoomgov.com/j/1610335958</a>

Meeting ID: 161 033 5958

Password: 476027

Telephone Conference Lines: 1 (669) 254-5252 or 1 (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 161 033 5958

Password: 476027

Judge Mund seeks to maintain a courtroom in which all persons are treated with dignity and respect, irrespective of their gender identity, expression or preference. To that end, individuals are invited to identify their preferred pronouns (he, she, they, etc.) and their preferred honorific (Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs., Mx, M, etc.) in their

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screen name, or by advising the judge or courtroom deputy.

Docket 0

**Tentative Ruling:** 

- NONE LISTED -

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1:23-10520 Christophe Doumaiselle

Chapter 7

Adv#: 1:23-01029 Feuvrier et al v. Doumaiselle

#1.00 Plaintiff's Motion to Allow Remote Appearance of Witnesses

Docket 77

### **Tentative Ruling:**

This adversary proceeding has 18 plaintiffs, all with the same basic story. The Plaintiffs are located in France and there is a major economic burden to bring all of them to the U.S. to testify. Counsel for Plaintiffs suggests that at least two of the Plaintiffs come to give testimony in court and that the balance be examined by zoom. Defendant's counsel does not oppose this plan, but is concerned about making sure that the on-line witnesses are not coached during testimony. Thus the Defendant suggests that the examinations take place at the American embassy or consulate or some such place. There will need to be an interpreter.

Because the Defendant is willing to stipulate to remote appearances, international law, etc. is not really an issue. Do the parties agree to this?

If everyone were in the courthouse, would Defendant's counsel ask that each Plaintiff be excluded until he/she testifies? Is that even appropriate since each person is a plaintiff and not a witness for a different plaintiff? If there is no issue of exclusion, can the plaintiffs who are in France have access to the zoom hearing?

Defendant also does not request that he be examined online, but agrees to appear in person.

### Here are my suggestions:

The testimony of each Plaintiff from France will take place in a mutually agreed-to location. The American embassy or consulate is preferable, but a law office or any other location that the parties agree to is acceptable. It will be up to the Plaintiffs' counsel to arrange this, but you need to do so in consultation with the Defendant's counsel. The selection of the interpreter is to be mutually agreed on. Please use a well known company to provide the person.

# **United States Bankruptcy Court Central District of California** San Fernando Valley

**Geraldine Mund, Presiding** Courtroom 302 Calendar

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#### CONT... **Christophe Doumaiselle**

Chapter 7

If desired. Defendant can have someone in the room to monitor that there is nothing untoward occurring. That person needs to be a neutral observer and agreed to by both parties. While there should be a tech person nearby, the only people in the room will be the Plaintiff who is testifying, the interpreter, and (if desired) the Defendant's observer.

We will start the trial at 9:00 a.m., which is 6:00 p.m. in Paris. Each day we will complete testimony by any plaintiffs who are in Paris by 10:00 p.m. local time. We will then break for lunch (1:00 p.m. Los Angeles time) and will use the afternoon for live testimony in the courtroom or other evidence, etc.

The plaintiffs will determine which of their group will be in Los Angeles to testify, but at least two members of the group of plaintiffs are to be in the courtroom for that purpose.

As to the order of trials, see the tentative rulings in the status conference for each of the adversary proceedings.

### **Party Information**

**Debtor(s):** 

Christophe Doumaiselle Represented By

Jeffrey J Hagen

**Defendant(s):** 

Christophe Doumaiselle Represented By

Stella A Havkin

**Plaintiff(s):** 

Anthony Petit Represented By

> Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

Antoine David Represented By

> Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

Alexandre Jagorel Represented By

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Michel Audoin		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Bruno Larue		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Stephane Nicolay		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Pascal Cron		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Erwann Brion		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Dorain Grossan		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Oliver Derrieu		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Alexandre Mantrana		Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Seba	stien Patrick Morel	Represented By Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim		
Sebastien Veyrat Masson		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		

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CONT... Christophe Doumaiselle Chapter 7

Jordan M Zim

Clement Deforet Represented By

Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

Eric Meziere Represented By

Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

Albert Liaumon Represented By

Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

Eric Feuvrier Represented By

Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

Jocelin Laborde Represented By

Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

**Trustee(s):** 

David Keith Gottlieb (TR)

Pro Se

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1:23-10520 Christophe Doumaiselle

Chapter 7

Adv#: 1:23-01028 Charbonnier v. Doumaiselle

#2.00 Pretrial conference re: Complaint for nondischargeability and objecting to discharge

fr. 11/18/25

Docket 1

### **Tentative Ruling:**

Although the Defendant would like to try this adversary proceeding first and that was my initial plan, I have now read the joint prertrials in both adversary proceeding and do not see that there is a sufficient linkage. Mr. Doumaiselle asserts a defense to the car purchase case in that Mr. Charbonnier and others did not perform and even defrauded him. Also that covid 19 interfered with his ability to perform. But my understanding of the Charbonnier case is that Plaintiff intended to invest in one of the companies owned and run by the Defendant and that he transferred \$175,000 for this purpose. He asserts that Defendant agreed to pay him back for this investment, but never did. He claims that the investment was induced by fraud and used by Defendant for his own personal things and not for the company.

But it wasn't just Mr. Charbonnier who prevented him from buying and delivering the cars to the customers, but several others. So I do not see how resolving the relationship of Charbonnier and Doumaiselle is critical to the outcome of the Feuvrier adversary proceeding.

Again, I am still new to these cases and it is possible that Ms. Havkin can convince me otherwise.

#### prior tentative ruling

This is the first time that I have been involved in this case or its companion case. The Joint Pretrial is of great help, but there are issues that we have to discuss before I can set this for trial. As far as I can tell, the two adversary proceedings have nothing to do with each other except that there is the same defendant and the same attorneys are involved. So we need to decide which

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### **CONT...** Christophe Doumaiselle

Chapter 7

case to try first. It seems like the Charbonnier one should be first. But there are common issues that need to be ruled on. Here are a few:

- (1) does the debtor/defendant need to personally appear or can he participate through Zoom?
- (2) similarly, do the plaintiffs need to personally appear or can they participate through Zoom?
- (3) to the extent that someone will be testifying by Zoom and is not currently within the United States, are there any special procedures? For example, I believe that depositions need to be taken at an American Embassy or Consolate. Is this also true of live testimony?
- (4) many of the parties will need French translators. Who is providing them? How will we use them?
- (5) if parties are testifying from outside California, how can we accommodate the difference in time zones for the parties/witnesses/court?

I am sure that there are other technical or legal issues that we will need to discuss, but these come to mind. And please note that I took Spanish in high school, not French. So my pronunciation of names is bound to be terrible for which I apologize.

As to this adversary proceeding, it involves a single plaintiff and is brought under §523(a)(2)(A) and §523(a)(6). It has a five day trial estimate. Basically it concerns an investment that the plaintiff made in a company of the defendant. I suggest that we try this first. I would like to do this during the first week of February.

#### **Party Information**

#### **Debtor(s):**

Christophe Doumaiselle Represented By

Jeffrey J Hagen

### **Defendant(s):**

Christophe Doumaiselle Represented By

Stella A Havkin
Eduardo Martorell

# United States Bankruptcy Court Central District of California San Fernando Valley

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**CONT...** Christophe Doumaiselle

Chapter 7

**Plaintiff(s):** 

Laurent Charbonnier Represented By

Eduardo Martorell Jordan M Zim

**Trustee(s):** 

David Keith Gottlieb (TR) Pro Se

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### 1:23-10520 Christophe Doumaiselle

Chapter 7

Adv#: 1:23-01029 Feuvrier et al v. Doumaiselle

#3.00 Pretrial conference re: complaint for nondischargeability and objecting to discharge

fr. 9/27/23, 5/22/23 (Stip), 5/29/24, 8/7/24; 9/11/24; 10/9/24(stip); 12/11/24; 12/12/24; 2/6/25; 5/8/25; 6/5/25; 7/10/25; 8/28/25; 9/4/25; 10/9/25; 11/18/25

Docket 1

### **Tentative Ruling:**

See my tentative ruling as to the Charbonnier adversary proceeding.

#### prior tentative ruling

See my comments and guestions under cal. #5.

This will be a more complex trial to handle. I concerns §523(a)(2)(A). There are some 18 plaintiffs and each has slightly different facts. Each purchased a car through the defendant or his company. Each paid for the car. The cars were never delivered. It appears that there is an agreement as to the funds that were transferred, the dates of the transfers, and the kind of car to be purchased for each plaintiff. They also agree that the cars were not delivered. The questions seem to be why, what happened to the money, the intent of the defendant, the representations made by the defendant, the reliance on those representations, etc. Also, since punitive damages are sought, the current financial condition of the defendant is a relevant issue.

This has an 8 day trial estimate.

I suggest that we trail this as a status conference to the same dates as the trial on 23-01028. Once that trial is completed, we can set this for trial.

#### **Party Information**

### **Debtor(s):**

Christophe Doumaiselle

Represented By

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<b>Defenda</b>	ant(s):			
Christophe Doumaiselle		Represented By Stella A Havkin		
<u>Plaintiff</u>	<u> (s):</u>			
Anthony Petit		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Antoine David		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Alexandre Jagorel		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Mic	hel Audoin	Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Brur	no Larue	Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Stephane Nicolay		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Pascal Cron		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Erwann Brion		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Dora	ain Grossan	Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Oliver Derrieu		Represented By Eduardo Martorell		
Alex	kandre Mantrana	Represented By Eduardo Martorell		

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Sebastien Patrick Morel

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Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

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Sebastien Veyrat Masson Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

Clement Deforet Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

Eric Meziere Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

Albert Liaumon Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

Eric Feuvrier Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

Jocelin Laborde Represented By

Eduardo Martorell

**Trustee(s):** 

David Keith Gottlieb (TR) Pro Se