

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
Central District of California  
San Fernando Valley  
Victoria Kaufman, Presiding  
Courtroom 301 Calendar**

**Thursday, January 8, 2026**

**Hearing Room 301**

9:30 AM

**1: -**

**Chapter**

**#0.00 All hearings on this calendar will be conducted in Courtroom 301 at 21041 Burbank Boulevard, Woodland Hills, California, 91367. All parties in interest, members of the public and the press may attend the hearings on this calendar in person.**

**Additionally, (except with respect to evidentiary hearings, or as otherwise ordered by the Court) parties in interest (and their counsel) may connect by ZoomGov audio and video free of charge, using the connection information provided below. Members of the public and the press may only connect to the zoom audio feed, and only by telephone. Access to the video feed by these individuals is prohibited.**

Parties in interest 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). Members of the public, the press and parties in interest may participate by audio only using a telephone (standard telephone charges may apply).

Neither a Zoom nor a ZoomGov account is necessary to participate remotely and there are no fees for doing so. No pre-registration or prior approval is required.

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**CONT...**

**Chapter**

Password: 558230

For more information on appearing before Judge Kaufman by ZoomGov, please see the information entitled "Tips for a Successful ZoomGov Court Experience" on the Court's website at: <https://www.cacb.uscourts.gov/judges/honorable-victoria-s-kaufman> under the tab "Telephonic Instructions."

Docket 0

**Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

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9:30 AM

1:25-10602 World of Mistry, LLC

Chapter 11

#1.00 Motion for relief from stay [RP]

ENTERPRISE BANK & TRUST  
VS  
DEBTOR

fr. 10/16/25(stip); 12/4/25(stip)

**Stipulation to continue filed**

Docket 93

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: Hearing continued to 2/12/26 at 9:30 A.M.  
per Order entered 12/30/25.

**Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

World of Mistry, LLC

Represented By  
Ron Bender  
Todd M Arnold  
Anthony A. Friedman  
Katherine Bunker

**Movant(s):**

Enterprise Bank & Trust, its

Represented By  
Timothy J Silverman

United States Bankruptcy Court  
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9:30 AM

1:25-12190 George Daniel Hernandez and Breda Marie Mulvihill-

Chapter 13

#2.00 Motion in Individual Case for Order Imposing a Stay or  
Continuing the Automatic Stay as the Court Deems Appropriate

fr. 12/18/25

Docket 11

**Tentative Ruling:**

The Court will grant the *Motion in Individual Case for Order Imposing a Stay or Continuing the Automatic Stay as the Court Deems Appropriate* [doc. 11].

The debtors must submit the order within seven (7) days.

Note: No response has been filed. Accordingly, no court appearance by the debtors is required. Should an opposing party file a late opposition or appear at the hearing, the Court will determine whether further hearing is required and the debtors will be so notified.

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

George Daniel Hernandez

Represented By  
Matthew D. Resnik

**Joint Debtor(s):**

Breda Marie Mulvihill-Hernandez

Represented By  
Matthew D. Resnik

**Trustee(s):**

Elizabeth (SV) F Rojas (TR)

Pro Se

United States Bankruptcy Court  
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Hearing Room 301

9:30 AM

1:25-12089 Luther Holifield

Chapter 7

#3.00 Motion for relief from stay [UD]

AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES, INC.  
VS  
DEBTOR

Docket 11

**Tentative Ruling:**

Grant relief from stay pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 362(d)(1) and (d)(2).

Movant (and any successors or assigns) may proceed under applicable nonbankruptcy law to enforce its remedies to obtain possession of the property.

The 14-day stay prescribed by FRBP 4001(a)(3) is waived.

Movant must submit the order within seven (7) days.

Note: No response has been filed. Accordingly, no court appearance by movant is required. Should an opposing party file a late opposition or appear at the hearing, the Court will determine whether further hearing is required and movant will be so notified.

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Luther Holifield

Represented By  
Benjamin Heston

**Movant(s):**

Avalonbay Communities, Inc.

Represented By  
Agop Gary Arakelian

**Trustee(s):**

Nancy J Zamora (TR)

Pro Se

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Hearing Room 301

9:30 AM

1:25-12143 Juan Luis Lopez

Chapter 7

#4.00 Motion for relief from stay [PP]

AMERICREDIT FINANCIAL SERVICES  
VS  
DEBTOR

Docket 7

**Tentative Ruling:**

Grant relief from stay pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 362(d)(1) and (d)(2).

Movant (and any successors or assigns) may proceed under applicable nonbankruptcy law to enforce its remedies to repossess and sell the property.

The 14-day stay prescribed by FRBP 4001(a)(3) is waived.

Movant must submit the order within seven (7) days.

Note: No response has been filed. Accordingly, no court appearance by movant is required. Should an opposing party file a late opposition or appear at the hearing, the Court will determine whether further hearing is required and movant will be so notified.

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Juan Luis Lopez

Represented By  
Sydell B Connor

**Movant(s):**

AmeriCredit Financial Services, Inc.

Represented By  
Sheryl K Ith

**Trustee(s):**

David Keith Gottlieb (TR)

Pro Se

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Central District of California  
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## Hearing Room 301

9:30 AM

1:23-10934 Doron Horowitz

## Chapter 13

## #5.00 Motion for relief from stay [PP]

SANTANDER CONSUMER USA INC.  
VS  
DEBTOR

Docket 135

## **Tentative Ruling:**

On December 22, 2025, the debtor filed a response to the motion [doc. 141]. In the response, the debtor states that he intends to work with the movant to enter into an adequate protection order.

Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule ("LBR") 9013-1(f)(2), the response must be a complete written statement of all reasons in opposition thereto, supported by a declaration and copies of all evidence on which the responding party intends to rely. Contrary to LBR 9013-1(f)(2), the debtor did not attach to the response a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury, to support his response.

## Party Information

**Debtor(s):**

Doron Horowitz

Represented By  
Nathan A Berneman

**Movant(s):**

Santander Consumer USA Inc. dba

Represented By  
Sheryl K Ith

**Trustee(s):**

Elizabeth (SV) F Rojas (TR)

Pro Se

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## Hearing Room 301

9:30 AM

1:25-11945 Patrick Phil Jia

## Chapter 11

## #6.00 Motion for relief from stay [RP]

NEWREZ LLC  
VS  
DEBTOR

Docket 34

## **Tentative Ruling:**

The Court will condition the continuance of the automatic stay on the debtor making monthly postpetition payments to movant in the contractual amount, with any postpetition arrearages being paid by January 15, 2026 and subsequent monthly payments being provided to movant no later than the 15th of the month in which each payment is due.

Movant must submit the order within seven days.

## Party Information

**Debtor(s):**

Patrick Phil Jia

Represented By  
Andrew S Bisom

**Movant(s):**

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National

Represented By  
Asaph Abrams

**Trustee(s):**

Susan K Seflin (TR)

Pro Se

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Hearing Room 301

1:30 PM

**1:23-10270 Linda Ezor Swartzman**

**Chapter 7**

Adv#: 1:25-01015 David M. Goodrich, solely in his capacity as Chapt v. JPMorgan Chase

**#7.00** Pretrial Conference re: Complaint:

- 1) To Avoid And Recover Preferential Transfers Pursuant To 11 U.S.C. Sections 547(b) and 550; And
- 2) To Preserve The Transfers Pursuant To 11 U.S.C. Section 551

fr. 5/8/25; 9/25/25; 11/6/25(stip)

Docket 1

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: Order approving trustee's settlement entered on 10/23/25 [1:23-bk-10270, doc. 888]

**Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Linda Ezor Swartzman

Represented By  
Paul A Beck

**Defendant(s):**

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Represented By  
William E Ireland

**Plaintiff(s):**

David M. Goodrich, solely in his

Represented By  
Derrick Talerico  
Paige T Rolfe

**Trustee(s):**

David M Goodrich (TR)

Represented By  
Matthew A Lesnick  
Derrick Talerico

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**1:25-10694 Angelina Gorbaseva**

**Chapter 7**

Adv#: 1:25-01072 Moak v. Gorbaseva

**#8.00 Status conference re: Complaint**

Docket 1

**Tentative Ruling:**

The plaintiff must demonstrate that the plaintiff timely served the summons and notice of status conference and the complaint on the defendant in accordance with Local Bankr. R. 7004-1(b).

If the plaintiff did not timely serve the summons on the defendant, the plaintiff must request Another Summons from the Court. The plaintiff can obtain Another Summons by filing form F 7004-1.2.REQUEST.ANOTHER.SUMMONS, located on the Court's website. Upon receiving the filing of the *Request that the Clerk Issue Another Summons and Notice of Status Conference*, the Clerk will issue Another Summons.

The Another Summons must be served upon the defendant in accordance with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7004(b)(1) **within seven (7) days of its issuance by the Court**, pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7004(e) and Local Bankr. R. 7004-1(b). The plaintiff must attach to the Another Summons a copy of the complaint and a copy of Judge Kaufman's Status Conference Instructions.

To demonstrate proper service of the Another Summons and the complaint and instructions to be served with that summons, the plaintiff must file a proof of service indicating that the Another Summons and the documents to be served with that summons were timely served on the defendant. If the plaintiff can obtain an issued Another Summons from the Court by **January 29, 2026**, the status conference will be continued to **1:30 p.m. on March 19, 2026**.

No later than **March 5, 2026**, the parties must submit a joint status report in accordance with Local Bankr. R. 7016-1(a).

Appearances on January 8, 2026 are excused.

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**CONT... Angelina Gorbseva**

**Chapter 7**

**Debtor(s):**

Angelina Gorbseva

Represented By  
Bahram Madaen

**Defendant(s):**

Angelina Olegovna Gorbseva

Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):**

Christine Moak

Represented By  
Robert J Lynch

**Trustee(s):**

David Keith Gottlieb (TR)

Pro Se

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**1:25-11396 Jared Dean Smith**

**Chapter 7**

Adv#: 1:25-01073 Detchev et al v. Smith

**#9.00 Status conference re: complaint**

Docket 1

**\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: Summons issued on Amended Complaint on 11/18/25. Hearing is continued to 1/15/26 at 1:30 PM.**

**Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Jared Dean Smith

Represented By  
Michael Jay Berger

**Defendant(s):**

Jared Dean Smith

Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):**

Georgui G Detchev

Represented By  
John D Monte

Youlia K Doneva

Represented By  
John D Monte

**Trustee(s):**

Sandra McBeth (TR)

Represented By  
Samuel Mushegh Boyamian

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1:30 PM

**1:23-10324 Lisa Fancher**

**Chapter 13**

Adv#: 1:23-01026 Mayorga v. Fancher et al

**#9.01** Hearing Re: Attorney's fees and costs

fr. 10/9/25; 11/13/25; 12/18/25

Docket 228

**Tentative Ruling:**

For the reasons set forth below, the Court will award plaintiff Louis Mayorga attorney's fees and costs in the aggregate amount of \$520,932.92. Mr. Mayorga must lodge a proposed judgment within 7 days.

**I. BACKGROUND**

On July 30, 2025, the Court entered its *Memorandum of Decision After Trial* (the "Memorandum of Decision") [doc. 228]. In the Memorandum of Decision, the Court determined that Mr. Mayorga was entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1717 and "may submit additional evidence regarding" that. *Id.*, pp. 35-36. In order for Mr. Mayorga to do so, the hearing on this matter has been continued. *See Order Setting Continued Hearing Regarding Plaintiff's Attorney's Fees and Costs* (the "Order Setting Continued Hearing") [doc. 238]; *see also Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Plaintiff's Application for In Camera Review of Unredacted Billing Records* (the "Order re Unredacted Billing Records") [doc. 241].

Mr. Mayorga has submitted the following evidence regarding the reasonable attorney's fees and costs that his counsel, Martorell Law APC (the "Firm"), incurred on his behalf:

- (1) a *Declaration of Eduardo Martorell Regarding Plaintiffs' [sic] Claim for Attorneys' Fees and Costs* (the "Martorell Declaration" or "Martorell Decl.") [doc. 231];
- (2) tables of billing entries for the Firm for a period beginning March 24, 2023, and ending November 3, 2025. *Martorell Decl.*, supplemental [FN 1] Ex. J

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**CONT... Lisa Fancher Chapter 13**  
thereto [doc. 244-1];

- (3) tables of Mr. Mayorga's costs incurred for a period beginning April 4, 2023, and ending July 2, 2025. *Martorell Decl.*, Ex. B (at pp. 151–53) [doc. 231];
- (4) various receipts relating to Mr. Mayorga's costs incurred. *Martorell Decl.*, Ex. C thereto (at pp. 285–430) [FN 2] [doc. 232-2];
- (5) a copy of the Laffey Matrix, which the Firm relies on to establish its rates. *Martorell Decl.*, ¶ 17 (at p. 6) and Ex. D thereto (at pp. 155–56) [doc. 231];
- (6) a table setting forth the names and yearly adjusted billing rates of the Firm's professionals that rendered services in this matter. *Martorell Decl.*, ¶ 18 (at p. 6) and Ex. E thereto (at pp. 158) [doc. 231]; and
- (7) a document setting forth a description of the professional education and experience of each of the Firm's professionals that rendered services in this matter. *Supplement to Ex. E to the Martorell Decl.* [doc. 243] [FN 3].

**II. ATTORNEY'S FEES**

Taking into account the adjustments that the Court will make as set forth below, the Court will award Mr. Mayorga attorney's fees in the aggregate amount of \$482,541.84.

**A. *Noncompensable Fees***

In the Order Setting Continued Hearing, the Court ruled:

In accordance with the reasoning set forth in the Memorandum of Decision, the Court will be evaluating the reasonableness of attorney's fees of counsel to Mr. Mayorga, for services provided after March 16, 2023, for the litigation of the Adversary Proceeding. Services rendered by counsel to Mr. Mayorga prior to March 16, 2023 or which were not integral to this Court's ruling in the Adversary Proceeding, e.g., monitoring Ms. Fancher's bankruptcy case, preparing Mr. Mayorga's proof of claim or concerning Ms. Fancher's objection to Mr. Mayorga's proof of claim because he filed it after the bar date, will not

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be included in the Court's award of attorney's fees.

*Order Setting Continued Hearing*, p. 3 [doc. 238].

Separately, secretarial and clerical work generally is noncompensable. *See, e.g., In re Schneider*, 2008 WL 4447092, \*11 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. Sept. 26, 2008) (court disallowed billing for services including: monitoring and reviewing docket; electronically distributing documents; preparing services packages, serving pleadings, updating service lists and preparing proofs of service; and e-filing and uploading pleadings); *In re Ness*, 2007 WL 1302611, at \* 1 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. Apr. 27, 2007) (data entry noncompensable as secretarial in nature); *In re Dimas*, 357 B.R. 563, 577 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. 2006) ("Services that are clerical in nature are not properly chargeable to the bankruptcy estate. They are not in the nature of professional services and must be absorbed by the applicant's firm as an overhead expense. Fees for services that are purely clerical, ministerial, or administrative should be disallowed."), *aff'd in part, rev'd in part on other grounds*, 2009 WL 7809032, at \*1 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. Feb. 25, 2009).

Because the services set forth in the table below are noncompensable as secretarial work or pursuant to the Order Setting Continued Hearing, the Court will reduce the fees sought by \$19,613.90.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Timekeeper</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Hours Billed</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Amount Sought</b>
3/30/23	J. Zim	Attend Status Conference re: Bankruptcy hearing	0.70	\$437.00	\$305.90
3/30/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell re: follow up re: Status Conference	0.10	\$437.00	\$43.70
3/31/23	E. Martorell	Telephone call and emails with reporter from Daily Journal regarding new story	0.30	\$829.00	\$248.70
5/26/23	J. Zim	Conduct legal research re: Proof of Claim	0.10	\$437.00	\$43.70
6/27/23	G. Perez	Review email from Eduardo re Motion for Relief from Stay	0.10	\$437.00	\$43.70

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**CONT... Lisa Fancher**

**Chapter 13**

6/29/23	E. Martorell	Teams meeting with Jordan and Jessica regarding motion for leave to file late claim and to file late Opposition to Objection to Claim and drafting of Opposition to Objection to Claim (0.3); Teams meeting with Jordan regarding motion for leave to file late claim (0.2); Teams meeting with Gabriela and Jordan regarding motion for relief from stay and non-dischargeability complaint (0.3)	0.80	\$829.00	\$663.20
6/29/23	G. Perez	Teams meeting with Eduardo and Jordan regarding Motion for Relief of stay	0.20	\$437.00	\$87.40
6/29/23	G. Perez	Review motion to stay samples sent from Eduardo's cousin	1.50	\$437.00	\$655.50
6/29/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell and G. Perez re: Motion for Relief from Stay	0.20	\$437.00	\$87.40
6/29/23	J. Zim	Pull bankruptcy docket	0.10	\$437.00	\$43.70
6/29/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell and J. Sotolongo re: deadlines	0.40	\$437.00	\$174.80
6/29/23	J. Zim	Conduct legal research re: excusable neglect and untimely proof of claim; draft Motion for Leave	4.40	\$437.00	\$1,922.80
6/29/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell re: excusable neglect and untimely proof of claim research findings	0.40	\$437.00	\$174.80
6/30/23	G. Perez	Review Jordan's research regarding the timing requirements for an informal proof of claim	1.00	\$437.00	\$437.00
6/30/23	G. Perez	Research the late proof of claim filing exceptions and the effects of adversarial proceedings	2.50	\$437.00	\$1,092.50
6/30/23	G. Perez	Draft email to Eduardo and Jordan on the research findings	0.50	\$437.00	\$218.50
6/30/23	J. Zim	Conduct legal research re: requirements for informal proof of claim	0.40	\$437.00	\$174.80
7/6/23	G. Perez	Analyze motion for relief from stay exhibits and addendums in preparation of drafting a motion to stay outline	2.50	\$437.00	\$1,092.50

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7/7/23	G. Perez	Draft an outline for the motion for relief from stay	2.00	\$437.00	\$874.00
7/10/23	E. Martorell	Review docket for information on hearings on 7/11/23; review various documents regarding same; telephone calls to Trustee; research Bankruptcy website regarding hearings	1.80	\$829.00	\$1,492.20
7/10/23	E. Martorell	Draft/revise Motion for Leave to Accept Late Filing; Teams meeting with Jordan and Gabriela regarding same	1.10	\$829.00	\$911.90
7/10/23	G. Perez	Teams meeting with Eduardo and Jordan regarding motion to leave	1.10	\$437.00	\$480.70
7/10/23	G. Perez	Review case file in preparation to draft a motion to leave	1.20	\$437.00	\$524.40
7/10/23	G. Perez	Draft statement of facts and part of an argument on the motion for leave	2.00	\$437.00	\$874.00
7/10/23	G. Perez	Draft declaration from Eduardo to support motion for leave	1.00	\$437.00	\$437.00
7/10/23	G. Perez	Continue drafting statement of facts for motion for relief from stay	1.00	\$437.00	\$437.00
7/10/23	G. Perez	Email to Eduardo regarding motions and declarations	0.20	\$437.00	\$87.40
7/10/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell re: bankruptcy research findings	0.60	\$437.00	\$262.20
7/10/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell and G. Perez re: Motion for Leave to Accept Late Filing	1.10	\$437.00	\$480.70
7/11/23	E. Martorell	Draft/revise Motion for Leave to File Late Opposition; draft/revise Declaration in support of same	1.80	\$829.00	\$1,492.20
7/11/23	E. Martorell	Attending hearing on Objection to Late-Filed Proof of Claim	0.80	\$829.00	\$663.20
7/11/23	E. Martorell	Telephone call with bankruptcy attorney regarding late-filed proof of claim	0.30	\$829.00	\$248.70
7/11/23	G. Perez	Teams meeting with Eduardo regarding status of bankruptcy hearing and next steps on motions	0.10	\$437.00	\$43.70
7/11/23	G. Perez	Continue drafting statement of facts and part of an argument section for motion for leave	1.00	\$437.00	\$437.00

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Date	Timekeeper	Description	Hours Billed	Rate	Reduced Amount
7/11/23	J. Zim	Confer with E. Martorell and client re: status of bankruptcy	0.70	\$437.00	\$305.90
7/12/23	J. Zim	Draft Status Report re: Bankruptcy	0.80	\$437.00	\$349.60
8/30/23	E. Stepanian	Filed, served and mailed out service copies for Request to clerk	0.50	\$225.00	\$112.50
10/19/23	J. Zim	Confer with vendor to deliver chambers copies to court	0.60	\$437.00	\$262.20
2/16/24	J. Zim	Finalize and file request for mediation, mediation order, notice of lodging, and proof of service, submit courtesy copies re: same	2.80	\$437.00	\$1,223.60
5/28/25	Paralegal/Clerk	Review defendant's motion to modify or suspend payment plan; review applicable LBR to confirm opposition and related deadlines; calendar deadlines accordingly	0.40	\$258.00	\$103.20

**B. Excessive Fees**

In light of the applicable billing rate and based on the Court's review of the related pleadings filed, the Firm spent an excessive amount of time on the identified tasks set forth in the table. *See, e.g., Plaintiff Louis Mayorga's Unilateral Status Report*, p. 4 [doc. 86] ("[The Firm] did not attempt to initiate the joint status report due to a misunderstanding and erroneous belief a unilateral status report would suffice. .... Plaintiff recognizes the importance of the joint status report and regrets the lack of compliance in this instance."); *Tentative Rulings for Feb. 13, 2025 Calendar*, [https://ecf-ciao.cacb.uscourts.gov/kioskPDF/VK\\_021325.pdf](https://ecf-ciao.cacb.uscourts.gov/kioskPDF/VK_021325.pdf) (under matter #7.00) (Feb. 10, 2025, 1:08 PM); *Plaintiff Louis Mayorga's Brief in Support of Exclusion of Wayne Greene's Trial Testimony* [doc. 195]. As a result, the Court will adjust the hours billed for each entry as set forth in the table below, which will reduce the fees sought by \$12,169.20.

Date	Timekeeper	Description	Hours Billed	Reduced Hours	Rate	Reduced Amount
7/09/24	J. Belmontes	Draft unilateral status report and supporting declaration	2.80	0.70	\$437.00	\$305.90
7/10/24	E. Martorell	Draft/revise Unilateral Status Report	1.10	0.50	\$878.00	\$439.00

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2/06/25	J. Belmontes	Finalize and file pretrial stipulation and declaration in support of same	0.60	0.30	\$581.00	\$174.30
3/23/25	J. Belmontes	Prepare powerpoint presentation for opening argument at trial	2.20	0.00	\$581.00	\$0.00
4/03/25	J. Belmontes	Draft brief in support of exclusion of Wayne Greene's testimony	5.20	3.00	\$581.00	\$1,743.00
5/29/25	J. Belmontes	Continue drafting post-trial closing brief	9.80	5.00	\$581.00	\$2,905.00
1/22/24	J. Zim	Review Local Rules re: filing Order and prepare word version of Order Assigning Matter to Mediation and draft notice of lodging	4.80	2.00	\$437.00	\$874.00
9/4/25	E. Martorell	Draft Declaration in support of Attorneys' Fees; draft spreadsheet for all time rates; create time records exhibits	7.20	3.00	\$948.00	\$2,844.00

**C. Inappropriate Lumping**

Lumped or blocked billing is generally frowned upon by courts because it prevents the court from "fairly evaluating whether individual tasks were expeditiously performed within a reasonable time frame." *In re Thomas*, 2009 WL 7751299, at \*5 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. July 6, 2009), *aff'd*, 474 F. App'x 500 (9th Cir. 2012) (quoting *In re Hudson*, 364 B.R. 875, 880 (Bankr. N.D. N.Y. 2007)). When fee applications contain lumped billing, courts disallow or reduce the lumped entries. *See In re Breeden*, 180 B.R. 802, 810 (Bankr. N.D.W. Va. 1995) (disallowing all lumped fee entries solely because of their format); *Welch v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.*, 480 F.3d 942, 948 (9th Cir. 2007) (court may properly impose a reduction for block billing).

Several of the Firm's billing entries, as set forth in the table below and totaling \$18,244.80, contain entries with lumped services and otherwise constitute vague descriptions. Accordingly, this Court will reduce the fees based on lumped billing by 20%, which will reduce the fees sought by \$3,648.96. *See e.g. Thomas* at \*7

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(upholding 10% reduction of fees from lumped billing); *Darling Intern., v. Baywood Partners, Inc.*, 2007 WL 4532233, at \*9 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 19, 2007) ("courts typically make an adjustment ranging from 5% to over 30%"); *In re SAIF, Inc.*, 2009 WL 6690966, at \*2 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. Sept. 25, 2009) (due to substantial lumping, reducing fees sought by 10%); *In re Stewart*, 2008 WL 8462960, at \*6 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. Mar. 14, 2008) (upholding 20% reduction for inappropriate lumping).

<b>Date</b>	<b>Timekeeper</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Hours Billed</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Amount Sought</b>
6/26/24	E. Martorell	Draft/revise Opposition to Motion for Summary Adjudication; manage filing of same; confer with Jesse and Rosie regarding same	1.60	\$878.00	\$1,404.80
6/26/24	E. Martorell	Draft/review EM Declaration in support of Opposition to Motion for Summary Adjudication; review exhibits; manage filing of same; confer with Jesse and Rosie regarding same	0.80	\$878.00	\$702.40
6/26/24	E. Martorell	Draft/review Response to Separate Statement in support of Opposition to Motion for Summary Adjudication; manage filing of same; confer with Jesse and Rosie regarding same	0.70	\$878.00	\$614.60
7/17/24	E. Martorell	Review Tentative Ruling; review Briefs; draft outline for oral argument on Motions for Summary Judgment and Status Conference	1.70	\$878.00	\$1,492.60
3/22/25	E. Martorell	Draft Opening Statement; review transcripts of proceedings from trial in preparation for same; review various exhibits; draft examination outline of Lisa Fancher	6.20	\$948.00	\$5,877.60
3/23/25	E. Martorell	Draft/revise Examination Outline for Lisa Fancher; review exhibits; draft Opening Statement; confer with Jesse	8.60	\$948.00	\$8,152.80

**III. COSTS**

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Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7054(b)(1) provides, in relevant part, that "[t]he court may allow costs to the prevailing party, unless a federal statute or these rules provide otherwise."

28 U.S.C. §§ 1821 and 1920 provide what costs are taxable in federal litigation to include filing fees and copying costs, and witness fees. These statutes do not limit cost recovery if a contract authorizes additional costs. *Crawford Fitting Co. v. J.T.*

*Gibbons, Inc.*, 482 U.S. 437, 445, 107 S.Ct. 2494, 96 L. Ed. 2d 385 (1987); *see also Hobson v. Orthodontic Centers of Am. Inc.*, 220 F. App'x 490, 491 n.7 (9th Cir. 2007) ("Although *Crawford* deals with a party's expert witness fees, the Supreme Court's explanation of the relationship between § 1920 and Rule 54(d) is not limited to those facts.").

Here, the agreement between the parties explicitly authorizes additional costs. *See Memorandum of Decision*, p. 5 [doc. 228] (quoting relevant portion of agreement, which includes as recoverable "any and all loss, damage, or liability, including reasonable attorneys fees, resulting from any claims breach by [Mr. Mayorga] of this agreement...."). The Court interprets this expansive language to authorize Mr. Mayorga's recovery of expert witness fees for Ms. Boschan and transportation costs.

Nevertheless, the Firm included in its costs an entry for "Trial Expenses" in the amount of \$167.40. *See Martorell Decl.*, Ex. B [doc. 231] (reference no. 254 at p. 151). These costs appear to relate to food and drink purchases during trial, which ordinarily are not recoverable. *See Martorell Decl.*, Ex. C thereto (at pp. 401–02) [doc. 232-2] (screenshot of credit card statement for Mar. 24-26, 2025). The Court will disallow these costs in their entirety.

Accordingly, the Court will award Mr. Mayorga costs in the aggregate amount of \$38,391.08.

**FOOTNOTES**

FN 1: Exhibit J to the Martorell Declaration contains redactions to "limited portions of the billing entries solely to remove privileged attorney-client communications involving Mr. Mayorga and private or personally identifying information[.]" *Plaintiff's Notice of Filing Redacted Billing Records in Support of Motion for Attorneys' Fees Pursuant to Court's October 29, 2025*

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*Order*, p. 2 [doc. 244].

FN 2: The receipts appearing at pages 285–430 "relate to the costs incurred after March 16, 2023." *Plaintiff's Notice of Filing Redacted Billing Records in Support of Motion for Attorneys' Fees Pursuant to Court's October 29, 2025 Order*, p. 2 [doc. 244].

FN 3: The Court ordered Mr. Mayorga to supplement Exhibit E to the Martorell Declaration "to include the name and provide a description of the professional education and experience of each of the individuals rendering services, including identification of the professional school attended, publications or other achievements, and explanation of any specialized background or expertise in bankruptcy-related matters." *Order Setting Continued Hearing*, p. 3 [doc. 238]; *Order re Unredacted Billing Records*, p. 4 [doc. 241].

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Lisa Fancher	Represented By James R Seltz Catherine Liu
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**Defendant(s):**

Lisa Fancher	Represented By James R Seltz Derrick Talerico Catherine Liu
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BMG Rights Management (US)	Pro Se
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**Plaintiff(s):**

Louis Mayorga	Represented By Eduardo Martorell
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**Trustee(s):**

Elizabeth (SV) F Rojas (TR)

Pro Se

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**1:23-11082 Philip M. Lawrence, II**  
Adv#: 1:23-01053 Moi et al v. Lawrence, II

**Chapter 7**

**#9.02 Motion by RHM Law to Withdraw as Counsel to Patrizio Moi**

Docket 51

**Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Philip M. Lawrence II	Represented By Leslie A Cohen
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**Defendant(s):**

Philip M. Lawrence II	Represented By Leslie A Cohen
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**Plaintiff(s):**

Patrizio Moi	Represented By Matthew D. Resnik
Moi Productions, Inc., a Delaware	Represented By Matthew D. Resnik Brian K Trinidad
The Record Plant, Inc., a Delaware	Represented By Matthew D. Resnik Brian K Trinidad

**Trustee(s):**

David Keith Gottlieb (TR)	Represented By Ron Bender Jeffrey S Kwong Joseph M Rothberg
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1:25-11397 Rene Allison Weisser-Ashton

## Chapter 7

Adv#: 1:25-01061 Rosenberg v. Weisser-Ashton

**#10.00 Plaintiff's Motion For Summary Judgment of the Adversary Complaint to Determine That The Debt Owed To Plaintiff is a Non-Dischargeable Domestic Support Obligation**

Docket 6  
\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: Hearing continued to 2/24/26 at 2:00 p.m.  
per Order entered 12/19/25. [Dkt. 23].

### **Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

## Party Information

**Debtor(s):**

Rene Allison Weisser-Ashton

Represented By  
Julie J Villalobos

**Defendant(s):**

Rene Allison Weisser-Ashton

Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):**

Charles Rosenberg

Pro Se

**Trustee(s):**

Nancy J Zamora (TR)

Pro Se

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**1:25-11397 Rene Allison Weisser-Ashton**

**Chapter 7**

Adv#: 1:25-01061 Rosenberg v. Weisser-Ashton

**#11.00** Status conference re: complaint to determine dischargeability  
of state court order

fr. 11/25/25; 12/18/25

Docket 1

\*\*\* VACATED \*\*\* REASON: Status conference continued to 2/24/26 at  
2:00 p.m. per Order entered 12/19/25. [Dkt. 23].

**Tentative Ruling:**

- NONE LISTED -

**Party Information**

**Debtor(s):**

Rene Allison Weisser-Ashton

Represented By  
Julie J Villalobos

**Defendant(s):**

Rene Allison Weisser-Ashton

Pro Se

**Plaintiff(s):**

Charles Rosenberg

Pro Se

**Trustee(s):**

Nancy J Zamora (TR)

Pro Se