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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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MATSCO, a division of WELLS FARGO
BANK, N.A.,

Petitioner,

v.

JOHN HANG D.D.S., PROF. CORP., a
professional Nevada corporation; JOHN
HANG, an individual; and DOES I through X;
and ROE Corporations I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

2:09-CV-02242-LRH-RJJ

ORDER

The underlying action involves John Hang D.D.S., Prof. Corp. (“Hang D.D.S.”), and John Hang’s (collectively, “Defendants”) alleged failure to fulfill the terms of a loan agreement (#1¹). On November 23, 2009, Plaintiff Matsco (“Plaintiff”) commenced the action against Defendants (#1). On January 12, 2010, Plaintiff served Defendants with the Summons and Complaint, to which Defendants did not respond (##6, 7). On March 3, 2010, Plaintiff filed a motion for default judgment (#14). In response, on March 29, 2010, Defendant John Hang filed a notice of pending Chapter 7 bankruptcy (#15). On July 1, 2010, the court nonetheless granted default judgment in favor of Plaintiff (#16).

¹Refers to the court’s docket entry number.

1 The automatic stay provision codified in 11 U.S.C. § 362 prohibits the commencement or
2 continuation of a judicial or administrative proceeding against a debtor to recover on a claim that
3 arose pre-bankruptcy. 11 U.S.C. § 362(a). Because Defendant John Hang filed his notice of
4 pending bankruptcy (#15) before the court issued its order granting default judgment in favor of
5 Plaintiff (#16), the court finds it proper to (1) vacate its order granting default judgment as to
6 Defendant John Hang (#16) and (2) grant an automatic stay of the proceedings against Defendant
7 John Hang.²

8 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Default Judgment (#16) be vacated for Defendant
9 John Hang.

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this action is hereby STAYED as to Defendant John
11 Hang, pending the resolution of Defendant's Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceeding.

12 IT IS SO ORDERED.

13 DATED this 13th day of August, 2010.



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16 LARRY R. HICKS
17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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20 ²Courts ordinarily fail to extend automatic stays to co-defendants. *See United States v. Dos Cabezas*
21 *Corp.*, 995 F.2d 1486, 1491 (9th Cir. 1993) (“Ordinarily, however, unless the assets of the bankrupt estate are
22 at stake, the automatic stay does not extend to actions against parties other than the debtor, such as codebtors
23 and sureties.”). Moreover, a debtor must petition a court to determine whether it qualifies for an automatic stay.
24 *See In re Richard B. Vance and Co.*, 289 B.R. 692, 697 (Bankr. C.D. Ill. 2003) (“[E]xtension of the stay to
25 nonbankrupt parties is not automatic and must be requested affirmatively by the debtor.”); *see also All Seasons*
26 *Resorts, Inc. v. Milner (In re All Seasons Resorts, Inc.)*, 79 B.R. 901, 904 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 1987) (“[A]utomatic
stay does not *automatically* encompass all co-defendants. A court must make that determination upon the
request of the debtor.”). Since Defendant Hang D.D.S. did not file a notice of pending bankruptcy, the court
shall not extend the automatic stay to the proceedings against Hang D.D.S. As such, the court shall not vacate
its order granting default judgment as to Defendant Hang D.D.S. (#16).