United States v. Ochescu et al

Doc. 29

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BACKGROUND

This is a civil action concerning federal income taxes. The Complaint (ECF No. 1) alleges that defendant Constantin Ochescu failed to file his federal income tax returns for the 2002-2009 and 2011 tax years. The United States seeks a judgment against Mr. Ochescu for the taxes the IRS assessed for those years, based on an examination the IRS conducted using W2 forms, reports from financial institutions, and similar sources. (See id. at 4). The Complaint also seeks to satisfy a portion of the judgment by foreclosing on real property that Mr. Ochescu transferred to his wife, defendant Liliana Cosma. The United States had previously filed tax liens on the property. Defendants Republic and Ditech were named because they may also have liens on the property.

Mr. Ochescu and Ms. Cosma were difficult to serve. Because the Complaint centers on Mr. Ochescu's conduct—his failure to pay his income taxes and his decision to transfer the property at issue to his wife—the United States moved to stay scheduling matters and discovery for all parties until Mr. Ochescu and his wife were served and had time to respond. (ECF No. 14). The undersigned counsel then learned that Mr. Ochescu had attempted to submit tax returns for at least some of the years at issue. (See ECF No. 26 at 3). The United States requested an additional stay to provide time to review the returns, in the hopes that Mr. Ochescu had recognized the importance of his tax obligations and would respond to the suit or otherwise cooperate. Meanwhile, the United States hoped to reach a stipulation with Ditech and Republic that would resolve any claims between them without discovery.

However, the additional stay the United States requested is expiring, and neither Mr. Ochescu or Ms. Cosma have contacted the United States or appeared in the suit. The United States intends to move for a default judgment against them. Counsel for the United States has been in touch with counsel for Ditech and Republic, but the parties have been unable to reach an agreement as to the claims between them.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

The United States respectfully submits that the parties that have appeared—the United States, Ditech Financial LLC, and Republic Services, Inc.—should conduct a Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) conference, and discuss the stipulated discovery plan and scheduling order called for under LR 26-1. The United States requests that the parties be given two weeks from the date of the Court's order on this motion to conduct the conference and submit the discovery plan or take other appropriate action.

Dated: August 11, 2016 Respectfully submitted,

CAROLINE D. CIRAOLO Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

/s/ E. Carmen Ramirez
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UNITED SYATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

IT IS SO ORDERED:

DATED: August 12, 2016

DANIEL BOGDEN
United States Attorney
District of Nevada

Attorneys for the United States of America

IT IS SO ORDERED

SEE ABOVE

United States District Judge

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	
3	IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that service of the foregoing is made this 11 th day of August, 2016
4	on the following parties, by the following means:
5	
6	By U.S. Mail:
7	Constantin Ochescu 8064 Cetus Circle
8	Las Vegas, NV 89128
9	
	Liliana Cosma 8064 Cetus Circle Las Vegas, NV 89128
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11 12	
13	By ECF:
	Republic Silver State Disposal, Inc. d/b/a Republic Services, Inc.
14	c/o Donald H. Williams Williams & Associates
15	612 South Tenth St.
16	Las Vegas, NV 89101
17	Ditech Financial LLC c/o Rebecca Kern
18	Aldrige Pite LLP
19	520 South 4 th St., Suite 360 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
20	/s/ E. Carmen Ramirez
21	E. CARMEN RAMIREZ
22	Trial Attorney, Tax Division U.S. Department of Justice
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