Case 11-10112 Doc 135 Filed 06/27/19 Entered 06/27/19 17:27:52 1 of 2 Desc Main Document Page For Publication

Formatted for Electronic Distribution

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF VERMONT

Filed & Entered On Docket June 27, 2019

In re:

Nicholas and Amanda Gravel, Debtors.

**Chapter 13 Case** # 11-10112

In re:

Allen and Laurie Beaulieu, Debtors.

**Chapter 13 Case** # 11-10281

In re:

Matthew and Emilie Knisley, Debtors.

**Chapter 13 Case** # 12-10512

Appearances: Mahesha Subbaraman, Esq.

Subbaraman PLLC Minneapolis, Minnesota For the Trustee

Alexandra Edelman, Esq. Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer, PC Burlington, Vermont For the Creditor

## **ORDER**

## ON REMAND FROM U.S. DISTRICT COURT, IMPOSING SANCTIONS ON PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION

For the reasons set forth in the memorandum of decision of even date, the Court finds, first, it has the authority pursuant to the Rule 3002.1, pertinent caselaw, and its inherent powers, to impose punitive sanctions on PHH for its violations of Rule 3002.1; second, it has the authority, pursuant to § 105(a) and its inherent powers, to sanction PHH for its breach of the Debtor Current Orders in the Gravel and Beaulieu cases; third, there are specific dollar amount caps which set the outer limits of "modest," or "less than serious," sanctions; fourth, those caps may be adjusted to correlate to the present value of those dollar amounts; fifth, this Court has the authority to impose punitive sanctions on PHH for its Rule 3002.1 and Court Order violations, provided the amount of the sanction imposed in each case does not exceed the caselaw-defined cap for a non-serious sanction; and sixth, based on the facts and circumstances of these cases, it serves the interests of justice for PHH to pay the sanctions for its Rule 3002.1 violations to the chapter 13 Trustee and to pay the sanctions attributable to its violations of Debtor Current Orders to Legal Services Vermont.

## Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- (1) The following sanctions are imposed on PHH:
  - (a) in the Gravel case, a sanction of one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000),
  - (b) in the Beaulieu case, a sanction of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), and
  - (c) in the Knisley case, a sanction of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).
- (2) (a) PHH shall pay to the chapter 13 Trustee the portion of each sanction imposed for PHH's violation of Bankruptcy Rule 3002.1:
  - (i) in the Gravel case, twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000),
  - (ii) in the Beaulieu case, twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), and
  - (iii) in the Knisley case, twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), within fourteen (14) days of entry of this Order.
  - (b) PHH shall pay to Legal Services Vermont the portion of each sanction imposed for PHH's violation of Debtor Current Orders:
    - (i) in the Gravel case, one-hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), and
    - (ii) in the Beaulieu case, seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) within fourteen (14) days of entry of this Order.

SO ORDERED.

Burlington, Vermont June 27, 2019

Colleen A. Brown

United States Bankruptcy Judge