

BANKRUPTCY HEARING DE LOREAN WANTS HIS COMPANY BACK

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John Z. De Lorean wants his company back and he wants to resume making the distinctive gullwing-door sports cars that bear his name.

Anthony Castanares, a Los Angeles attorney for De Lorean, told federal **Bankruptcy** Judge George Woods Monday that De Lorean and Henri Foussard, a millionaire businessman, are "actively seeking other investors" and \$7.5 million in funds already have been committed to the effort.

De Lorean wants the court to grant him the exclusive right to propose a reorganization plan under which his bankrupt firm would settle with creditors and go back in business.

Castanares said it will take six to eight months to complete the plan. However, he told the court the De Lorean group would advise the court on its progress at least every 30 days.

WOODS CONTINUED the **hearing** to June 29 and is expected to rule on the request. However, he gave some indication he might approve De Lorean's request.

"This is the only game in town at this point," Woods said, referring to the De Lorean plan. "We've been dancing around this one for months.

"I'll tell you this, tongue in cheek," Woods added. "We'd probably do business with the devil himself" to get creditors some of the money they're owed.

The De Lorean firm, which filed for **bankruptcy** last October, owes some 600 creditors more than \$60 million.

CASTANARES' announcement was a surprise. The **hearing** was originally scheduled to hear a request from creditors that another group of would-be investors, represented by Newport Beach, Calif., lawyer James Gorman, be forced to forfeit a \$100,000 deposit they made on their own proposal to revive **DeLorean** Motor Co.

Lawyers representing the unsecured creditors have contended that the Gorman group was a front for De Lorean.

Testimony during Monday's **hearing** indicated that De Lorean was involved in the proceedings and that the \$100,000 deposit came from Logan Manufacturing, a Utah company owned by De Lorean.

However, De Lorean's actual role in the Gorman plan remains unclear.

LARRY SNIDER, a Detroit attorney representing the bankrupt company, said **DeLorean** will continue to try to regain control of his company no matter what happens to the Gorman plan.

Detroit attorney Robert Weiss said after the **hearing** that the unsecured creditors he represents will oppose the De Lorean plan just as they object to the Gorman plan.

Weiss called the Gorman proposal "a fraud" and "a sham." The proposal primarily would repay creditors from a \$500 royalty on each new De Lorean car sold, but provided no guarantee that car production would be resumed.

IN A SEPARATE ruling Monday, Woods denied a request by attorneys for De Lorean to seal documents which the lawyers said might hurt their client's chances for a fair trial on drug charges.

"A protective order is an extraordinary device; we perceive nothing in this case to warrant such a procedure," Woods said.

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