

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
HAMMOND DIVISION

IN RE:)
)
LADAWN THOMAS,) CASE NO. 10-23464 JPK
) Chapter 7
Debtor.)

ORDER CONCERNING AMENDED MOTION
TO RE-OPEN CASE ("AMENDED MOTION")

The Amended Motion was filed on February 13, 2012 by Ladell Johnson. The Amended Motion requests that the debtor's Chapter 7 case be re-opened "in order to request relief from the automatic stay to pursue [Ladell Johnson's] action to quiet title to Property in the Circuit Court of Cook County" [paragraph 13 of the Amended Motion].

The Amended Motion appears to present a matter to the court which is quite common: misunderstandings by state courts as to the effect of particular matters in bankruptcy cases, including the closing of bankruptcy cases in relation to the continued effect of the automatic stay of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a). This Chapter 7 case was closed by the court's record #12 order entered on November 10, 2010. As a result of the entry of that order, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 554(c), any property which may have been involved in this bankruptcy case was abandoned from the Chapter 7 estate. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(c), the automatic stay of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) ceased to apply to any property of the bankruptcy estate upon the closing of the case, at the very latest. There was therefore no reason for Ladell Johnson to re-open this case to seek relief from the automatic stay of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a).¹

IT IS ORDERED that the record entry #24 Amended Motion to Re-open Case is denied.

Dated at Hammond, Indiana on March 22, 2012.

/s/ J. Philip Klingeberger
J. Philip Klingeberger, Judge
United States Bankruptcy Court

Distribution:
Debtor, Attorney for Debtor, Trustee, US Trustee
Ladell Johnson, 4556 South Ellis, Chicago, IL 60653

¹ The court expresses no opinion or position whatsoever as to the effect of the post-discharge injunction of 11 U.S.C. § 524(a) on any action contemplated by Ladell Johnson. This issue has not been presented to the court by Ladell Johnson.