IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA IN BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY

Citation: Coyle (Re), 2011 NSSC 238

Date: June 20, 2011 Docket: B 31647 Registry: Halifax

District of Nova Scotia Division No. 01 - Halifax Court No. 31647 Estate No. 51-1034823

In the Matter of the Bankruptcy of Leslie Coyle

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Registrar: Richard W. Cregan, Q.C.

Heard: March 15, 2011

Written Decision: June 20, 2011

Summary: The Applicant received Employment Insurance benefits based

on representations made by her which were found to be untrue.

She was ordered by the Canada Employment Insurance

Commission to pay back the benefits. This was confirmed by a

Board of Referees under the Employment Insurance Act.

Meanwhile she made an assignment in bankruptcy. The Commission took the position that this debt was one that survived bankruptcy under Paragraph 178(1)(e) of the

Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act.

Issue: She asks the court to rule that the debt does not survive

bankruptcy because there has not been a competent judicial

finding of the fraud to bring the debt under Paragraph 178(1)(e).

The issue is whether a Board of Referees has authority to make such findings of fraud.

Result:

It was held that it does and its findings show that the debt is covered by Paragraph 178(1)(e), subject to an issue yet to be argued, namely how the failure of the Commission to have obtained a lifting of the stay of proceedings under Section 69.4 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* before proceeding with the claim affects the validity of the proceedings before the Board.

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