

In re Spence, Case No. 02-12093-BKC-AJC

Sanctions as distinguished from a DSO award in a domestic case are dischargeable

Debtor/Husband was naughty during state court dissolution proceedings and the state court sanctioned him. Debtor sought to avoid judicial lien stemming from the state court judgment for sanctions, but the wife argued the lien was unavoidable because domestic support obligations are nondischargeable under §523. The Court found the judgment lien was not a result of domestic support obligations, which are narrowly defined as alimony, maintenance and support, but rather sanctions and was therefore dischargeable.