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08 Civ. 10806 (SHS)

<u>ORDER</u>

SIDNEY H. STEIN, U.S. District Judge.

On November 4, 2009, the Court ordered plaintiff to show cause why the Order of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment in this action dated December 12, 2008 should not be vacated and any funds attached pursuant to that Order of Maritime Attachment released. In response, plaintiff contends that the Order of Maritime Attachment is valid and the funds should not be released despite the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit's holding in *Shipping* North China Shipping Limited v. KC Corporation

Corp. of India Ltd. v. Jaldhi Overseas Pte Ltd., 585 F.3d 58 (2d Cir. 2009) because these funds are clearly the property of defendant KC Corporation and are held in the court registry, rather than by a garnishee bank. These arguments are unavailing.

The Second Circuit held in *Jaldhi* that "[b]ecause EFTs in the temporary possession of an intermediary bank are not property of either the originator or the beneficiary under New York law, they cannot be subject to attachment under [Supplemental Maritime] Rule B." 585 F.3d at 71. This is the law in this Circuit. Thus, EFTs are no longer attachable property. Similarly, the restrained funds remained within the scope of the holding in *Jaldhi* even once the garnishee banks transferred the funds to the court registry. Mere re-labeling of the funds does not change their origin. The fact that on July 13, 2009, the Court directed the garnishee banks to transfer the

Doc. 35

attached funds to the court's registry also does not change the fact that the funds were attached as EFTs and, as we subsequently learned in *Jaldhi*, EFTs are not subject to attachment. Accordingly, North China Shipping's arguments are unavailing and the attached funds must be released.

For the reasons set forth above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Order of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment in this action dated December 12, 2008 is vacated and the complaint is dismissed without prejudice.

Dated: New York, New York December 16, 2009

SO ORDERED:

Sidney H. Stein, U.S.D.J.