IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

F I L E D
APR - 8 1983

STANLEY CLARK d/b/a **CLARK ENTERPRISES,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

AMERICAN LIVESTOCK CORP.,

Defendant-Appellee.

Filed April 8, 1983

2-454
2-68260

Appeal from Pocahontas District Court, Newt Draheim, Judge.

In 1980 plaintiff obtained a judgment of over $21,000 against defendants American Livestock Corporation and Renco corporation. The 1980 judgment provided that defendant ALC was entitled to indemnity from defendant Renco. AFFIRMED.

Jerry L. Jones, Ames, for defendant-appellant Renco.

William J. Alexander, Laurens, for defendant-appellee American Livestock Corp.

J. Desmond Crotty, Pocahontas, for plaintiff.

Considered en banc.

PER CURIAM

In 1980 plaintiff Clark obtained a judgment of over $21,000 against defendants American Livestock Corporation and Renco Corporation. The 1980 judgment provided that defendant ALC was entitled to indemnity from defendant Renco.

ALC subsequently transferred to Clark 23 hog pregnancy testers, which had been the subject matter involved in the 1980 judgment and which had been valued in that judgment by the court at $150 each (in spite of higher wholesale and retail prices established by the defendants, who manufactured and distributed the devices). Clark signed a document reciting that he accepted the 23 devices in satisfaction of $15,000 toward the total judgment owed him. ALC then demanded $15,000 in indemnity from Renco. The trial court awarded ALC indemnity of only $3450 (23 devices multiplied by $150). Renco has appealed from the judgment of $3450 against it. Renco argues that no indemnity should have been awarded to ALC because the personal property transferred to judgment creditor Clark had not been appraised pursuant to Iowa Code section 626.93, which requires an appraisal of "personal property. . . levied upon and advertised for sale on execution."

According to the record, the issue of value was fully and fairly investigated in the original trial. The trial court specifically ruled as to the value of these devices as instruments in detecting pregnancy in swine. In its ruling in 1982, the court ruled that the value of the property had been fixed at trial, and that any procedure dictated by statute was superfluous since the value determined by the trial court is the law of the case for postjudgment proceedings. The court concluded that there was no need for further appraisals.

We agree. Once a fact has been fully and fairly investigated and the court has made its ruling, that ruling becomes res judicata. "In general, the doctrine of issue preclusion prevents parties to a prior action in which judgment has been entered from relitigating in a subsequent action issues raised and resolved in the previous action." Hunter v. City of Des Moines, 300 N.W.2d 121, 123 (Iowa 1981). The supreme court has enumerated four prerequisites which must be established before issue preclusion may be employed in any case:

> (1) the issue precluded must be identical; (2) the issue must have been raised and litigated in the prior action; (3) the issue must have been material and relevant to the disposition of the prior action; and (4) the determination made of the issue in the prior action must have been necessary and essential to the resulting judgment.

We find that the four-pronged test is met in the instant case. Therefore, the appellant is estopped from raising it again. It is, as the court determined, the law of the case.

AFFIRMED.