STATE OF NEW YORK

STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

## SONDRA WILSON

**DECISION** 

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or for Refund of New York State Personal Income Tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law and New York City Personal Income Tax under Chapter 46, Title T of the Administrative Code of the City of New York for the Years 1977, 1978 and 1979.

Petitioner, Sondra Wilson. 69-10 108th Street, Forest Hills, New York 11375, filed a petition for redetermination of a deficiency or for refund of New York State personal income tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law and New York City personal income tax under Chapter 46, Title T of the Administrative Code of the City of New York for the years 1977, 1978 and 1979 (File No. 45439).

On July 18, 1985, petitioner advised the State Tax Commission, in writing, that she desired to waive a hearing and to submit the case to the State Tax Commission upon the entire record contained in the file with submission of additional evidence and documents by August 24, 1985. After due consideration of said record, the Commission renders the following decision.

## ISSUES

I. Whether petitioner, Sondra Wilson, *is* subject to penalties pursuant to section 685(g) of the Tax Law and section T46-185.0(g) of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, as a person who willfully failed to collect, truthfully account for and pay over the New York State and City withholding taxes due from Isramkar Ltd. for the years 1977, 1978 and 1979.

11. Whether the Notice of Deficiency was barred by the expiration of the period of limitations on assessment.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Isramkar Ltd., 350 5th Avenue, New York, New York 10001, failed to pay over the New York State and New York City personal income taxes withheld from the wages of its employees for the following periods:

| Withholding Tax Period  |   | Amount  |
|---|---|---|
| July 1, 1977 through December 31, 1977<br>January 1, 1978 through December 31, 1978<br>January 1, 1979 through December 31, 1979<br>TOTAL | _ | 4,965.05<br>7,058.22<br>7,368.34<br>19,391.61 |

- 2. On April 25, 1983, the Audit division issued a Statement of Deficiency in conjunction with a Notice of Deficiency against Sondra Wilson (hereinafter "petitioner") wherein penalties were asserted pursuant to section 685(g) of the Tax Law and section T46-185.0(g) of the Administrative Code of the City of New York for amounts equal to the total New York State and New York City withholding taxes due from Isramkar Ltd. for the aforestated periods. Said penalties were asserted on the grounds that petitioner was a person required to collect, truthfully account for and pay over the withholding taxes at issue, and that she willfully failed to do so.
- 3. Petitioner filed a petition on July 11, 1983 wherein her grounds claimed for relief were listed as follows:
  - "(1) The taxpayer is not a "person" required to collect and pay over withholding taxes for ISRAMKAR LTD. (the corporation) as defined in Section 685(N) (sic) of the Tax Law.
  - (2) The taxpayer was neither an officer, stockholder or director of the corporation and she was never an employee of the corporation.
    - (3) The taxpayer had no authorization to sien checks of the

- (4) The assessment for all periods is barred by the Statute of Limitations."
- 4. The Corporation Franchise Tax Report filed by Isramkar Ltd. for the fiscal year ended October 31, 1977 shows that petitioner held the title of President. Said report further shows that she received no salary or compensation from the corporation during said fiscal year.
- 5. Withholding Tax Section Accounts Receivable System computer printouts show that Isramkar Ltd. filed returns for the periods at issue on the following dates:

| Period                                    | Date Return Filed    |
|---|----------------------|
| July 1, 1977 through December 31, 1977    | June <b>12,</b> 1979 |
| January 1, 1978 through December 31, 1978 | May <b>28</b> , 1980 |
| January 1, 1979 through December 31, 1979 | April 6, 1981        |

6. No evidence was submitted on petitioner's behalf. Accordingly, the decision rendered herein has been made based on the entire record contained in the file on the date petitioner so advised the State Tax Commission of her desire to waive the hearing.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

That section 685(g) of the Tax Law provides **t**hat: Α.

"Any person required to collect, truthfully account for, and pay over the tax imposed by this article who willfully fails to collect such tax or truthfully account for and pay over such tax or willfully attempts in any manner to evade or defeat the tax or the payment thereof, shall, in addition to other penalties provided by law, be liable to a penalty equal to the total amount of the tax evaded, or not collected, or not accounted for and paid over."

For New York City purposes, section T46-185.0(g) of the Administrative Code of the City of New York contains a similar provision.

B. That sections 685(n) of the Tax Law and T46-185.0(n) of the Administrative Code of the City of New York provide that, for purposes of "[I]ncludes an individual, corporation or partnership or an officer or employee of any corporation (including a dissolved corporation), or a member or employee of any partnership, who as such officer, employee, or member is under a duty to perform the act in respect of which the violation occurs."

- C. That petitioner Sondra Wilson has failed to sustain her burden of proof, imposed pursuant to sections 689(e) of the Tax Law and T46-189.0(e) of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, to show that she was not a person responsible for the collection and payment of the New York State and City withholding taxes of Isramkar Ltd. for the periods at issue herein.

  Accordingly, petitioner is liable for the penalties imposed under section 685(g) of the Tax Law and section T46-185.0(g) of the Administrative Code of the City of New York.
- D. That the penalty for failure to pay withholding taxes under section 685(g) of the Tax Law is wholly distinct from any limitation on assessment under section 683. "It follows then that the penalty imposed against petitioner as a corporate officer is entirely distinct from an., assessment against the corporation. As a separate statutory liability, it need not be assessed within any particular period after the corporate assessment is made (citations omitted).'

  Wolfstitch v. New York State Tax Commission, 106 A.D.2d 745. Accordingly, the Notice of Deficiency issued April 25, 1983 was timely.
- E. That the petition of Sondra Wilson is denied and the Notice of Deficiency issued April 25, 1983 is sustained.

DATED: Albany, New York

STATE TAX COMMISSION

JAN 03 1986

PRESIDENT

Tares Commissioner

COMMISSIONER