In the Matter of the Petition

of

Alvin & Deborah Connor

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or a Revision of a Determination or a Refund of Personal Income Tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law for the Years 1969, 1970 & 1971.

State of New York County of Albany

Jay Vredenburg, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 7th day of September, 1979, he served the within notice of Decision by certified mail upon Alvin & Deborah Connor, the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows:

Alvin & Deborah Connor

8 Lake St.

Tupper Lake, NY 12986

and by depositing same enclosed in a postpaid properly addressed wrapper in a (post office or official depository) under the exclusive care and custody of the United States Postal Service within the State of New York.

That deponent further says that the said addressee is the petitioner herein and that the address set forth on said wrapper is the last known address of the petitioner.

Sworn to before me this 7th day of September, 1979. JAMES H. TULLY JR., PRESIDENT MILTON KOERNER THOMAS H. LYNCH

JOHN J. SOLLECITO DIRECTOR

Telephone: (518) 457-1723

September 7, 1979

Alvin & Deborah Connor 8 Lake St. Tupper Lake, NY 12986

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Connor:

Please take notice of the Decision of the State Tax Commission enclosed herewith.

You have now exhausted your right of review at the administrative level. Pursuant to section(s) 690 of the Tax Law, any proceeding in court to review an adverse decision by the State Tax Commission can only be instituted under Article 78 of the Civil Practice Laws and Rules, and must be commenced in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Albany County, within 4 months from the date of this notice.

Inquiries concerning the computation of tax due or refund allowed in accordance with this decision may be addressed to the Deputy Commissioner and Counsel to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Albany, New York 12227. Said inquiries will be referred to the proper authority for reply.

Sincerely,

cc: Petitioner's Representative

Taxing Bureau's Representative

STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

ALVIN CONNOR and DEBORAH CONNOR :

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or : for Refund of Personal Income Tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law for the Years: 1969, 1970, and 1971.

Petitioners, Alvin Connor and Deborah Connor, 8 Lake Street, Tupper Lake, New York 12986, filed a petition for redetermination of a deficiency or for refund of personal income tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law for the years 1969, 1970 and 1971 (File No. 00410).

DECISION

A small claims hearing was held before Harry Huebsch, Hearing Officer, at the offices of the State Tax Commission, Building #9, State Campus, Albany, New York, on August 15, 1978 at 10:45 A.M. Petitioner Alvin Connor appeared <u>pro se</u> and for his wife, petitioner Deborah Connor. The Income Tax Bureau appeared by Peter Crotty, Esq. (Paul Lefebvre, Esq., of counsel).

ISSUE

Whether a "cash available - cash disbursed" method of auditing used by the Income Tax Bureau properly reflected petitioners' tax liability for 1969, 1970 and 1971.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Petitioners, Alvin Connor and Deborah Connor, timely filed New York State income tax resident returns for 1969, 1970 and 1971.
- 2. In conjunction with an audit of Doc Connor & Son, a partnership of which petitioner Alvin Connor had been a member, the Income Tax Bureau conducted a "cash available cash disbursed" audit of petitioners, in

which petitioners' income was reconstructed by a comparison of total funds available with total funds disbursed. The Bureau found a discrepancy between reported income and expenditures for each of the years at issue. On April 13, 1973, a Notice of Deficiency was issued against petitioners for 1969, 1970 and 1971 in the amount of \$905.27 in personal income tax, plus \$45.26 in penalty (imposed under section 685(b) of the Tax Law) and \$91.83 in interest, for a sum of \$1,042.36.

- 3. Petitioners contended that the Income Tax Bureau's estimate for food and clothing expenses was high; however, petitioners did not submit documentary or any satisfactory evidence to support their contentions.
- 4. Petitioner Alvin Connor contended that the Income Tax Bureau assumed that he was a partner in the firm of Doc Connor & Sons and that he received income therefrom for the years at issue when, in fact, he terminated his interest in said partnership in August of 1970. The Income Tax Bureau determined the amount of income that he received for 1969 and 1970 from the books and records of the partnership. Petitioner contended that no partnership income was credited to him for 1971.
- 5. Subsequent to the issuance of the Notice of Deficiency, petitioners were offered a reduction in the amount of the deficiency by the Income Tax Bureau. Said offer was, in effect, a settlement offer and was not based on audit findings. Petitioners have requested that said offer, made to them in October of 1974, be taken into account.
- 6. The Income Tax Bureau did not estimate petitioner's income during its audit; however, it did estimate certain personal expenses such as food and clothing, and said estimates were based on audit guidelines. At all times, the Bureau followed accepted accounting principles in the conduct of its audit.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- A. That petitioners did not sustain the burden of proof imposed by section 689(e) of the Tax Law, to show that the method of auditing used by the Income Tax Bureau did not properly reflect their tax liability for 1969, 1970 and 1971.
- B. That the petition of Alvin Connor and Deborah Connor is denied and the Notice of Deficiency issued April 13, 1973 is sustained, together with such additional interest as may be lawfully owing.

DATED: Albany, New York

SEP 7 1979

STATE TAX COMMISSION

PRESIDENT

12000

COMMISSIONER