of

Fortune Pope

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 1960 - 1962.

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 12th day of December, 1980, he served the within notice of Decision by certified mail upon Fortune Pope, the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows:

Fortune Pope 136 W. 52nd St. New York, NY

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 12th day of December, 1980.

Joen Schall

of

Fortune Pope

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 1960 - 1962.

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 12th day of December, 1980, he served the within notice of Decision by certified mail upon Herbert M. Haber the representative of the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows:

Mr. Herbert M. Haber 135 E. 42nd St. New York, NY

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 representative of the petitioner herein and that the address set forth on said wrapper is the last known address of the representative of the petitioner.

Sworn to before me this 12th day of December, 1980.

# STATE OF NEW YORK STATE TAX COMMISSION ALBANY, NEW YORK 12227

December 12, 1980

Fortune Pope 136 W. 52nd St. New York, NY

Dear Mr. Pope:

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:

NYS Dept. Taxation and Finance Deputy Commissioner and Counsel Albany, New York 12227 Phone # (518) 457-6240

Very truly yours,

STATE TAX COMMISSION

cc: Petitioner's Representative
 Herbert M. Haber
 135 E. 42nd St.
 New York, NY
 Taxing Bureau's Representative

#### STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

FORTUNE POPE

DECISION

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or for Refund of Personal Income Tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law for the Years 1960, 1961 and 1962.

Petitioner, Fortune Pope, 136 West 52nd Street, New York, New York, filed a petition for a refund of \$350.50 paid pursuant to an assessment for 1960 and for refund of an additional amount for such year approximating \$7,000.00 and (in the alternative) for a refund of \$4,301.70 for 1961 and a refund of \$4,522.29 for 1962 for personal income tax under Article 22 of the Tax Law (File No. 01879).

A formal hearing was held before Solomon Sies, Hearing Officer, at the offices of the State Tax Commission, 80 Centre Street, New York, New York, on April 1, 1966 and on November 9, 1967. Petitioner appeared by Herbert M. Haber, Esq.

### **ISSUES**

Whether a deduction is allowed for the return of amounts which had been received in previous years under a "claim of right" and in more particular, (a) whether such loss can be deducted in the year when repayment was made even though petitioner calculated his tax for Federal purposes without such deduction under the provisions of section 1341 of the Internal Revenue Code; (b) whether such a loss, if allowed, would be ordinary or capital in nature so as to be limited to the amount of capital gains plus \$1,000.00; and (c) whether the excess of such loss which is not deducted in the year when incurred can be carried forward and deducted in subsequent years even though the Federal

income tax return for such subsequent years shows only capital gains and no capital losses.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. In 1955, Anthony Pope and Fortune Pope, who are brothers, individually obtained from Bulk Carriers Corporation, a supplier of salt to the City of New York, contracts for the transportation of salt from points on the waterfront to the various points in the City where the salt would be used for snow removal.
- 2. The Pope brothers subcontracted the salt transportation contracts to four newly formed close corporations organized by themselves. These corporations were F.A.P. Contractors, Inc., Forn Contractors, Inc., Rona Contractors, Inc. and Anforth Contractors, Inc. These corporations received profits from the New York City contracts. However, these corporations had no equipment of their own. They rented equipment from another corporation wholly owned by the Popes, Empire Sand and Gravel Corp., which in turn rented equipment from a publicly owned corporation, Colonial Sand and Stone Co., Inc., of which the Popes were officers and directors.
- 3. In 1957, the Popes formed a new corporation, Basic Industries, Inc., which was based in Panama and did business outside of the United States. The business of this corporation was to purchase salt from producers and sell it to Bulk Carriers Corp., the supplier for New York City.
- 4. The corporations owned by the Popes, other than Empire Sand and Gravel Corp., were subsequently liquidated. Each of the Pope brothers received liquidating distributions in 1957, 1958 and 1959. On these distributions each one reported the following capital gains: In 1957, F.A.P. Contractors, Inc., \$18,372.57 and Forn Contractors, Inc., \$14,200.00; in 1958, Rona Contractors, Inc., \$16,781.00; in 1959, Anforth Contractors, Inc., \$14,208.08 and Basic Industries, Inc., \$87,195.46. These gains totaled \$150,757.11 to each brother.

- 5. In 1960, the Pope brothers and Empire Sand and Gravel Corp. were threatened with litigation commenced by the stockholders of Colonial Sand and Stone Co., Inc., claiming a loss of corporate opportunity to Colonial and diversion of profits from Colonial by the Popes, who were its officers, to interests controlled by the Popes. The Popes and Empire agreed to settle this litigation and did settle it in July 1960 by the payment to Colonial of \$405,817.04. This was composed of \$48,435.55 paid by Empire and represented its profits on the salt contracts. The remainder was paid one-half (\$178,690.75) by each of the Pope brothers. This represented the complete profit on the sale of the Basic Industries' shares and the computed net profits before taxes of the four remaining corporations. The profits of said remaining corporations were in each case more than the liquidating profit received by the Pope brothers.
- 6. Petitioner had filed timely New York tax returns for 1960, 1961 and 1962. In 1960, he had reported capital gains of \$1,105.56. In 1961, he had reported capital gains of \$42,016.98. In 1962, he had reported capital gains of \$53,531.67. (For each of the years, 1960, 1961 and 1962, petitioner later filed a notice of Federal change in income based on additional dividend income. These notices were received on March 14, 1963, July 10, 1964 and June 28, 1965, respectively and were based on Federal audits dated December 20, 1962, June 22, 1964 and May 27, 1965, respectively. These are not in issue.)
- 7. On Federal audit, dated December 20, 1962, petitioner was found to have deficiencies for 1958 and 1959, and a large overpayment for 1960. Said audit found additional income deriving primarily from dividends for two of the years in question. That audit also allowed a recomputation of tax for 1960 under section 1341 of the Internal Revenue Code for the amounts which had been repaid to Colonial. The result of said computation was determined by the limitation of IRC 1341(a)(5)(B) reflecting the elimination of the disputed

income in the years in which it was received, 1957, 1958 and 1959.

- 7(a). For 1957, the Federal audit eliminated capital gains amounting to \$32,572.57 (\$18,372.57 from F.A.P. Contractors, Inc. and \$14,200.00 from Forn Contractors, Inc.). This resulted in a \$1,000.00 deduction against ordinary income with \$1,188.89 being available for carryover.
- 7(b). For 1958, the Federal audit eliminated a capital gain of \$16,781.00 from Rona Contractors, Inc. This resulted in a \$1,000.00 deduction against ordinary income with a capital loss carryover (including the 1957 carryover) of \$2,376.39.
- 7(c). For 1959, the Federal audit eliminated capital gains of \$101,403.54 (\$87,195.46 from Basic Industries, Inc. and \$14,208.08 from Anforth Contractors, Inc.). This also applied the full amount of the capital loss carryover as computed from 1957 and 1958.
- 8. For 1960, the Income Tax Bureau allowed a deduction for amounts returned which had been received under "claim of right". (This was done by a reduction of a proposed assessment dated December 20, 1963, based upon increased dividend income of \$6,000.00 as found on Federal audit. Petitioner paid \$350.50 plus interest on this assessment.) The deduction was computed by allowing the repayments to the extent of the \$1,105.56 capital gains shown on the return and an additional \$1,000.00 of ordinary income.
- 8(a). The claims for refund for 1961 and 1962 are computed on the theory that the treatment for 1960 proposed by the Income Tax Bureau is correct for that year, but that the unused capital losses can be carried over to subsequent years. Accordingly, petitioner, having deducted \$1,105.56 against capital gains for 1960 and \$1,000.00 against ordinary income, now applies the remainder of the loss against \$42,016.98 capital gains in 1961 and \$1,000.00 of ordinary

income of that year and further applies the excess against reported capital gains for 1962.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- That a deduction for the repayment of amounts previously reported as income under a "claim of right" is allowable as a deduction only in the year of repayment (U.S. v. Lewis, 340 U.S. 590; Healey v. Commissioner, 345 U.S. Under the provisions of section 1341 of the Internal Revenue Code, petitioner's 1960 Federal income tax liability was required to be computed using one of two separate methods. The first method allows a deduction in the year of repayment [I.R.C. 1341(a)(4)]; while the second method computes the tax liability without such deduction and subtracts therefrom the decrease in tax from prior years which would result solely from the exclusion of said disputed income from gross income for such prior taxable years [I.R.C. 1341(a)(5)]. Under section 1341 of the Code, the Federal income tax liability is computed using the method resulting in the lowest tax. Petitioner's 1960 Federal liability was computed using the second method provided for in I.R.C. 1341(a)(5). This special computation of tax does not enter into the computation of Federal adjusted gross income or Federal itemized deductions for the year 1960. There is no question, of course, that the special computation of I.R.C. section 1341(a)(5) does not apply to New York since the New York Tax Law contains no comparable provision. This special computation of tax under the Federal Internal Revenue Code, however, does not alter the fact that a deduction would have been allowable under the other applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.
- B. That the deduction claimed by petitioner in this case is based upon amounts received in prior years and is necessarily related to such amounts. Since the income when received was capital in nature, the amounts paid out in

the current year must themselves be capital in nature (Arrowsmith v. Comm'r. 344 U.S. 6). The deduction here claimed by petitioner being capital in nature, such deduction is limited by section 1211(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code to the amount of capital gains for the year plus no more than \$1,000.00 to be offset against ordinary income.

- C. That under the Federal conformity provisions of section 612 of the Tax Law no capital loss carryover is allowed for the tax years 1961 and 1962, since no capital loss carryover could be or were considered in arriving at adjusted gross income for Federal purposes.
- D. That the petition of Fortune Pope for refunds for 1960, 1961 and 1962 is denied.

DATED: Albany, New York

DEC 1 2 1980

STATE TAX COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER

of

Fortune Pope

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 1960 - 1962.

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 16th day of January, 1981, he served the within notice of Decision by certified mail upon Fortune Pope, the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows:

Fortune Pope 605 W. Lyon Farm Dr.

Greenwich, CT

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 16th day of January, 1981.

Cramie a Hagelund

of

Fortune R. Pope

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or a Revision of a Determination or a Refund of Personal Income Tax under Article 16 of the Tax Law for the Years 1957 - 1959.

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 16th day of January, 1981, he served the within notice of Determination by mail upon Fortune R. Pope, the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows:

Fortune R. Pope 605 West Lyon Farm Dr.

Greenwich, CT 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 16th day of January, 1981.

Comis Q. Hazelund

Fortune R. Pope 136 W. 52nd St. New York, NY

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10018

Fortune R. 136 W. 52nd New York, N

TAX APPEALS BUREAU

State of New York
State Tax Commission

TA 26 (9-79)

ALBANY, N. Y. 12227

STATE CAMPUS

STATE OF NEW YORK TA 26 (9-79)

TAX APPEALS BUREAU State Tax Commission

ALBANY, N. Y. 12227 STATE CAMPUS

136 W. 52nd St. New York, NY Fortune Pope