STATE OF NEW YORK STATE TAX COMMISSION

Thellings 18T-1970

In the Matter of the Petition

of

WILLIAM GOLDBERG

For a Redetermination of a Deficiency or a Refund of Unincorporated Business: Taxes under Article(x) 23 of the Tax Law for the (Year(x) 1962 :

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING OF NOTICE OF DECISION BY (CERTIFIED) MAIL

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State of New York County of Albany

Margaret Ann Wood , being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 10th day of March , 1970, she served the within Notice of Decision (TAXDETERRIPMENTATION) by (certified) mail upon Morris Horowitz (representative of) the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows: Morris Horowitz 120 West 42nd Street New York, New York

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 Post Office Department within the State of New York.

That deponent further says that the said addressee is the (representative of) 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

10th day of March

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Margaret ann Wood

In the Matter of the Petition

of

WILLIAM GOLDBERG

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING OF NOTICE OF DECISION BY (CERTIFIED) MAIL

For a Redetermination of a Deficiency or a Refund of Unincorporated Business: Taxes under Article(x) 23 of the Tax Law for the (Year(x) 1962:

State of New York County of Albany

she is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 10th day of March , 1970, she served the within Notice of Decision (anxietameination) by (certified) mail upon William Goldberg (xepresentative xxxx) the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows: William Goldberg
Laurel Cove Road, Box 236
Oyster Bay, New York

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

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

Sworn to before me this

10th day of March , 1970.

Margaret ann Wood

STATE OF NEW YORK

STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

WILLIAM GOLDBERG

DECISION

:

For a Redetermination of a Deficiency or for Refund of Unincorporated Business Taxes under Article 23 of the Tax Law for the Year 1962

The taxpayer having filed a petition pursuant to Sections 722 and 689 of the Tax Law for a redetermination of deficiency determined under date of December 13, 1965, of Unincorporated Business Taxes imposed by Article 23 of the Tax Law for the Year 1962 and a hearing having been duly held and the record having been duly examined and considered,

The State Tax Commission hereby FINDS:

- (1) The sole issue raised at the hearing is whether the taxpayer is exempt from the Unincorporated Business tax because his
 activities as a sales representative were carried on as an employee
 and not as an independent contractor (Tax Law Sec 703(f); (See Reg.
 20 NYCRR 281.3(1)). The amount of such deficiency of \$398.82, with
 interest, is not in dispute.
- (2) The taxpayer appears to be a factory representative for furniture manufacturers.
- (3) The taxpayer received income from sales made for the following manufacturers: Woodland Furniture Co. of Lowell Inc., \$11485.34; Atlantic Furniture Products Co., Inc., \$9466.97; Deena Products Co., \$3165.86; York Plastic Products Mfg. Corp., \$671.13;

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Farber Bros. Furniture Mfg. Co., Inc., \$185.85.

- (4) The taxpayer's wife appeared on behalf of taxpayer but the taxpayer, himself, did not appear or testify and such absence is unexplained. The taxpayer's wife testified that Woodland Furniture Co. did not have a showroom in New York in direct contradiction to a letter submitted by Woodland Furniture Co. and no explanation, therefore, is apparent.
- (5) Petitioner presented letters from Woodland Furniture Co.,
 Atlantic Furniture Products Co., Inc., and York Plastic Products
 Mfg. Corp. These are dated about two months after the petition
 was filed and are completely identical in language. They state
 as follows: "His duties in addition to selling included the
 following: 1- Being at our showroom in New York every Friday for
 meetings and to show our line to all prospective buyers whether
 they were his accounts or not. 2- Help set up displays at our
 showrooms. 3- Take care of complaints in his territory. 4- Attend
 our company's furniture shows in New York and at our factory.
 5- Wait on all our customers at these shows."
- (6) Mr. Goldberg is not reimbursed for expenses of traveling or entertaining.
- (7) The taxpayer has control over which companies he represents and the territories he wishes to cover.

Upon the foregoing findings and all the evidence presented herein, the State Tax Commission hereby

DECIDES:

- A. The primary legal issue in this case is whether any of the manufacturers retaining the taxpayers services exercised such control over his activities as to constitute him an employee rather than an independent contractor.
 - B. While selling goods for more than one enterprise does not

Probabilities Carolination of the co., inc., inc.,

- (E) (The Designation of appreaded on the hills of a contract of the temperature of temperature of the temperature of temperature of the temperature of the temperature of the temperature of temperature of the temperature of the temperature of the temperature of the temperature of temperature of temperature of the temperature of temperature of temperature of temperature of
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alone subject the taxpayer to the Unincorporated Business tax
(Tax Law Sec 703(f)) it is evidence of carrying on a business when
there is no explanation of how each of the enterprises together
with the others can control the activities of the taxpayer.

- C. Evidence will be construed most strongly against the taxpayer when knowledge of the facts is uniquely within his capacity and he does not testify (Richardson on Evidence Sec. 92; Petition of Robert Gordon, October 20, 1969).
- D. While letters from employers are sometimes acceptable to the Commission they are entitled to very little weight when they are obviously dictated by the taxpayer himself. Furthermore, such letters are not from persons not connected with the matters in dispute and so are of little value in proving the custom or usage in a trade.
- E. The taxpayer has the burden of proof on all issues to show his status under the unincorporated business tax; taxpayer has not sustained the burden of showing his exclusion therefrom.
 - F. The taxpayer is engaged in an unincorporated business.
- G. The petition for redetermination of the deficiency is denied and the notice of deficiency in the amount of \$318.82 is affirmed together with such interest, if any, as may be lawfully due under Sec 684 of the Tax Law.

Dated: Albany, New York

March 9, 1970

STATE TAX COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONER

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