STATE OF NEW YORK STATE TAX COMMISSION

## In the Matter of the Petition

#### of

AUGUSTINE A. & JOSEPHINE A. MENNELLA

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

For a Redetermination of a Deficiency or : a Revision of a Determination or a Refund of Unincorporated Business & Personal Income Taxes under Article(s) 22 & 23 of the Tax Law for the Year(s) XXXREXLEX(S) : 1968, 1969 and 1970

State of New York County of Albany

Bruce Batchelor , being duly sworn, deposes and says that Xate is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 27 day of April , 19 77, She served the within Notice of Decision by (certified) mail upon Augustine A. & Josephine A. Mennella (CERRESEARCE) the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows: Mr. & Mrs. Augustine A. Mennella 16 Cedar Street Floral Park, New York 11001

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

Sworn to before me this

April . 1977. 27 day of anet mack

Bruce Botchelon

TA-3 (2/76)



# STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE

STATE TAX COMMISSION

TAX APPEALS BUREAU STATE CAMPUS ALBANY, N.Y. 12227

April 27, 1977

ADDRESS YOUR REPLY TO

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TELEPHONE: (518)\_457-1723\_

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Mr. 6 Mrs. Augustine A. Mennella 16 Codar Street Floral Park, New York 11001

### Dear Mr. & Mrs. Mennella:

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

Please take further notice that pursuant to Section(s) **690 £ 722** of the Tax Law, any proceeding in court to review an adverse decision must be commenced within **4 months** from the date of this notice.

Inquiries concerning the computation of tax due or refund allowed in accordance with this decision or concerning any other matter relative hereto may be addressed to the undersigned. They will be referred to the proper party for reply.

Very/truly yours, brank A.

FRANK J. PUCCIA

Enc.

Supervisor of Small Claims Hearings

cc: Reddatunenceranonations

Taxing Bureau's Representative:

TA-1.12 (1/76)

#### STATE OF NEW YORK

STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

 $\mathbf{of}$ 

AUGUSTINE A. & JOSEPHINE A. MENNELLA

DECISION

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for Redetermination of a Deficiency or for Refund of Unincorporated Business and Personal Income Taxes under Articles 22 and 23 of the Tax Law for the Years 1968, 1969 and 1970.

Petitioners, Augustine A. and Josephine A. Mennella, residing at 16 Cedar Street, Floral Park, New York 11001, have filed a petition for redetermination of a deficiency or for refund of personal income and unincorporated business taxes under Articles 22 and 23 of the Tax Law for the years 1968, 1969 and 1970. (File No. 0-58883483).

A small claims hearing was held before Philip Mercurio, Small Claims Hearing Officer, on August 18, 1976 at 9:15 A.M. at the offices of the State Tax Commission, Two World Trade Center, New York, New York. The petitioner appeared <u>pro se</u> and for his wife, petitioner, Josephine A. Mennella. The Income Tax Bureau appeared by Peter Crotty, Esq., (Frank Levitt, Esq. of counsel).

#### ISSUE

Whether the income received by the petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, from his insurance brokerage and accounting activities was subject to unincorporated business tax for the years 1968, 1969 and 1970.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioners, Augustine A. and Josephine A. Mennella, filed a New York State resident income tax return for the year 1968, and amended New York State resident income tax returns for the years 1969 and 1970. Petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, did not timely file New York State unincorporated business tax returns for the years 1968, 1969 and 1970.

2. On March 26, 1973, the Income Tax Bureau issued a Statement of Audit Changes against the petitioners, Augustine A. and Josephine A. Mennella, imposing unincorporated business tax on the grounds that the activities of the petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, constituted the carrying on of an unincorporated business. The Income Tax Bureau also made adjustments on their New York State personal income tax returns for the years 1969 and 1970. The Income Tax Bureau also assessed a section 685(a) penalty for failure to file an unincorporated business tax return for the year 1968 and penalties under sections 685(a)(1) and (2) for failure to file and pay unincorporated business tax for 1969 and 1970. In accordance with the aforesaid Statement of Audit Changes it issued a Notice of Deficiency in the sum of \$2,003.08.

3. Petitioners, Augustine A. and Josephine A. Mennella, submitted amended 1969 and 1970 New York State personal income tax returns together with the payment of tax and interest thereon. Petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, also submitted copies of New York State unincorporated business tax returns for 1968, 1969 and 1970, all of which were dated September 23, 1973. He included on such unincorporated

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business tax returns the income he received from his insurance brokerage activities but he omitted the income he received from his accounting activities.

4. Petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, operated an insurance and accounting business during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970. On the unincorporated business tax returns submitted by petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, he reported total gross income for the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 of \$20,904.00, \$25,142.00 and \$27,463.00, respectively. Of the total gross income reported for the years in question, \$11,960.00, \$14,770.00 and \$15,305.00 represented the respective amounts of gross income attributable to his accounting activities.

5. The petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, is enrolled as a public accountant with the State of New York Education Department and is duly enrolled to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. His accountancy business consisted of single entry bookkeeping services and income tax preparation. The petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, does not have a degree in accountancy. He is also a licensed insurance broker.

6. During the years 1968, 1969 and 1970, petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, asserted that he keep separate records pertaining to the income received from his insurance brokerage and accounting activities. He further stated that he maintained four bank accounts, brokerage, agent New York Central Mutual, special account (which he used to transfer commissions from

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the Brokerage and New York Central accounts), and a tax account. The petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, was given an opportunity to submit additional documentary evidence to verify his assertions that he did maintain separate records pertaining to each activity. However, in lieu of this documentary evidence, petitioner submitted a letter dated August 23, 1976 indicating that he could not locate such documentary evidence.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

A. That the accountancy activities of the petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 constituted the practice of an exempt profession within the meaning and intent of section 703(c) of the Tax Law.

B. That the insurance brokerage activities of the petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 constituted the carrying on of an unincorporated business within the meaning and intent of section 703 of the Tax Law.

C. That petitioner, Augustine A. Mennella, has not shown the portion of his total gross business income for the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 attributable to the practice of accountancy and, therefore, all of petitioner's business income for the years in question is subject to unincorporated business tax.

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D. That the petition of Augustine A. and Josephine A. Mennella is granted to the extent of cancelling the deficiency of personal income tax asserted against them for the years 1969 and 1970 as amended New York State returns were filed for such years together with the payment of tax and interest due of \$113.07. The Income Tax Bureau is hereby directed to accordingly modify the Notice of Deficiency dated March 26, 1973 and except as so granted the petition is in all other respects denied.

DATED: Albany, New York April 27, 1977 STATE TAX COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONER

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