In the Matter of the Petition

of

LEROY BARNES, JR. AND PAULINE BARNES:

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

State of New York County of Albany

John Huhn

, being duly sworn, deposes and says that

The is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 14th day of February , 1978, The served the within Notice of Decision by (certified) mail upon Leroy, Jr. & Pauline

Barnes (xepresextive of) the petitioner in the within proceeding,

by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed

as follows:

Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Barnes, Jr.

749 East 218th Street Bronx, New York 10467

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.

Sworn to before me this

14th day of February , 1978.

enet Mack

John Huhn

TA-3 (2/76)

In the Matter of the Petition

of

LEROY BARNES, JR. AND PAULINE BARNES

State of New York County of Albany

John Huhn

, being duly sworn, deposes and says that

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

whe is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 14th day of February , 19 78, whe served the within

Notice of Decision by (certified) mail upon Benjamin F. Blake

(representative of) the petitioner in the within proceeding,
by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed
as follows:

Benjamin F. Blake, Esq.

2615 Cadillac Tower Detroit, Michigan 48226

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

14th day of February . 1978

and mad

John Huhn

TA-3 (2/76)

In the Matter of the Petition

of

LEROY BARNES, JR. AND PAULINE BARNES:

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

State of New York County of Albany

John Huhn

, being duly sworn, deposes and says that

whe is an employee of the Department of Taxation and Finance, over 18 years of age, and that on the 14th day of February , 1978, whe served the within Notice of Decision by (certified) mail upon Marshall J. Gluck

(representative of) the petitioner in the within proceeding,

by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed

as follows:

Marshall J. Gluck, Esq.

Koch & Gluck

437 Madison Avenue

New York, New York 10022

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

14th day of February

and mack

, 1978,

TA-3 (2/76)



JAMES H. TULLY JR., PRESIDENT
MILTON KOERNER
THOMAS H. LYNCH

STATE OF NEW YORK STATE TAX COMMISSION TAX APPEALS BUREAU ALBANY, NEW YORK 12227

Pebruary 14, 1978

Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Barnes, Jr. 749 East 218th Street Bronx, New York 10467

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Barnes:

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(2) 722 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 manufactors 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,

Aloysius J. Mondaa Assistant Director

cc: Petitioner's Representative

Taxing Bureau's Representative

STATE OF NEW YORK

STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

LEROY BARNES, JR. AND PAULINE BARNES : DECISION

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or for Refund of Unincorporated Business Tax under Article 23 of the Tax Law for the Years 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973.

Petitioners, Leroy Barnes, Jr. and Pauline Barnes, residing at 749 East 218th Street, Bronx, New York 10467, filed a petition for redetermination of a deficiency or for refund of unincorporated business tax under Article 23 of the Tax Law for the years 1970, 1971, 1972, and 1973. (File No. 10939).

A formal hearing was held before Edward Goodell, Hearing Officer, at the offices of the State Tax Commission, Two World Trade Center, New York, New York, on December 13, 1976 at 10:45 A.M. Petitioners appeared by Benjamin F. Blake, Esq. and Marshall J. Gluck, Esq. The Income Tax Bureau appeared by Peter Crotty, Esq. (Louis Senft, Esq., of counsel).

#### **ISSUES**

I. Whether petitioners have shown that their failure to file unincorporated business tax returns and to pay unincorporated business tax was due to reasonable cause and not due to wilful neglect, and that the penalties imposed on account of such failure should, therefore, be cancelled.

- II. Whether the penalties for failure to file declarations of extimated tax or to make payments of estimated tax were properly imposed against petitioners.
- III. Whether interest based on the deficiency in tax may be waived.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Petitioners, Leroy Barnes, Jr. and Pauline Barnes, failed to file New York State unincorporated business tax returns for the years 1970 through 1973, on or before the prescribed date for filing such returns.
- 2. On August 25, 1975, the Income Tax Bureau issued a Statement of Audit Changes and a Notice of Deficiency against the petitioners, imposing unincororated business tax upon the income received by petitioners during the years 1970 through 1973. It also imposed penalties pursuant to section 685(c) of the Tax Law for the underestimation of tax, as well as penalties pursuant to section 685(a)(1) and (2) of the Tax Law for failure to file New York State unincorporated business tax returns and pay said tax for said years. The deficiency, with penalty and interest, totaled \$61,643.54 as follows:

<u>Year</u>	Deficiency	<u>Penalty</u>	Interest	<u>Total</u>
1970 1971 1972 1973	\$ 2,184.00 14,434.85 13,265.95 8,799.73 \$38,684.53	\$ 1,098.55 6,611.15 5,439.04 3,079.91 \$16,228.65	\$ 571.42 2,910.64 2,349.67 898.63 \$6,730.36	\$ 3,853.97 23,956.64 21,054.66 12,778.27 \$61,643.54

- 3. The portion of the total penalty imposed against petitioners pursuant to section 685(c) was the sum of \$1,347.95, and the portion of the total penalty imposed against petitioners pursuant to section 685(a)(1) and (2) was the sum of \$14,880.70.
- 4. At the hearing held on December 13, 1976, counsel for petitioners stated: "We have been authorized to concede on their behalf that the taxpayers be subject to the unincorporated business tax for the years in question and, in view of this concession, a request is formally being made for a waiver of interest and penalties for the years in question so that the taxpayers' only liability will be of the deficiency as determined."
- 5. Counsel for petitioners further stated at the hearing that the request for waiver of penalty and interest was being made "because the taxpayers had reasonable cause to believe that they were not subject to the unincorporated business tax upon the advice of the tax counsel who assisted them in preparing the various items submitted to the State."
- 6. Petitioners' New York State income tax returns for the years 1970 and 1972 and their amended New York State income tax returns for the year 1971, all of which were dated April 16, 1973, were prepared by Richard R. Harris, Attorney at Law, 8800 W. McNichols, Detroit, Michigan, 48221. Petitioners' New York State income tax return for the year 1973 was prepared by the law firm of Bolden and Blake, 2615 Cadillac Tower, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

7. Petitioners claim that their failure to file unincorporated business tax returns and pay unincorporated business tax was due to their reliance upon the advice of the Michigan attorneys who prepared their New York State income tax returns for the years in question.

# CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- A. That in the absence of a showing of additional mitigating factors, it was not reasonable for the petitioners to rely on Michigan attorneys as to matters involving the New York State Tax Law. Accordingly, petitioners have not sustained the burden of proof to show that their failure to file unincorporated business tax returns and pay unincorporated business tax was due to reasonable cause and not due to wilful neglect. The penalties imposed against petitioners in the sum of \$14,880.70, pursuant to section 685(a)(1) and (2) of the Tax Law for the years 1970 through 1973, are justified.
- B. That the penalties in the sum of \$1,347.95 pursuant to section 685(c) of the Tax Law, for failure to file a declaration of estimated tax or to make payment of estimated tax for the years 1970 through 1973, were properly imposed against petitioners.
- C. That interest was properly asserted against petitioners on the underpayment of tax for the years 1970 through 1973 in accordance with the provisions of sections 684 and 722 of the Tax Law. The Tax Law does not authorize waiver of interest by the Tax Commission.

D. That the petition of Leroy Barnes Jr. and Pauline Barnes is denied and the Notice of Deficiency issued on August 25, 1975 is sustained, together with such additional interest as may be legally owing.

DATED: Albany, New York

February 14, 1978

STATE TAX COMMISSION

PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER



TO Ms. Davis

Please associate with original decision.

3/20/78

M-75 (8/76)

From Aloysius Nendza



JAMES H. TULLY JR., PRESIDENT THOMAS H. LYNCH

### STATE OF NEW YORK STATE TAX COMMISSION **TAX APPEALS BUREAU** ALBANY, NEW YORK 12227

February 14, 1978

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Sincerely,

Aloysius J. Nendza Assistant Director

Marquis & Meneza

cc: Petitioner's Representative

Taxing Bureau's Representative

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Department of Taxation and Finance

STATE OF NEW YORK

TAX APPEALS BUREAU

STATE CAMPUS

ALBANY, N. Y. 12227

TA-26 (4-76) 25M

FORMAL HEARING

Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Barnes, Jr.

No. 404584

No such that this enveloped

Brenx, New York 10467

749 East 218th Street



STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

LEROY BARNES, JR. AND PAULINE BARNES

DECISION

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- B. That the penalties in the sum of \$1,347.95 pursuant to section 685(c) of the Tax Law, for failure to file a declaration of estimated tax or to make payment of estimated tax for the years 1970 through 1973, were properly imposed against petitioners.
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DATED: Albany, New York

February 14, 1978

STATE TAX COMMISSION

PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER