In the Matter of the Petition

of

Tosca Zagni

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or a Revision of a Determination or a Refund of
Unincorporated Business Tax
under Article 23 of the Tax Law
for the Year 1973.

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 28th day of November, 1980, he served the within notice of Decision by certified mail upon Tosca Zagni, the petitioner in the within proceeding, by enclosing a true copy thereof in a securely sealed postpaid wrapper addressed as follows:

Tosca Zagni

139-32 Pershing Crescent

Jamaica, NY 11455

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 28th day of November, 1980.

In the Matter of the Petition

of

Tosca Zagni

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or a Revision of a Determination or a Refund of Unincorporated Business Tax under Article 23 of the Tax Law for the Year 1973.

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 28th day of November, 1980, he served the within notice of Decision by certified mail upon Stanley L. Hahn 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. Stanley L. Hahn 210 Fifth Ave. New York, NY 10010

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 28th day of November, 1980.

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

November 28, 1980

Tosca Zagni 139-32 Pershing Crescent Jamaica, NY 11455

Dear Mr. Zagni:

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) 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 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
Stanley L. Hahn
210 Fifth Ave.
New York, NY 10010
Taxing Bureau's Representative

STATE TAX COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition

of

TOSCA ZAGNI :

DECISION

for Redetermination of a Deficiency or for Refund of Unincorporated Business Tax under Article 23 of the Tax Law for the Year 1973.

Petitioner, Tosca Zagni, 139-32 Pershing Crescent, Jamaica, New York
11455, filed a petition for redetermination of a deficiency or for refund of
unincorporated business tax under Article 23 of the Tax Law for the year 1973
(File No. 19386).

A small claims hearing was held before William Valcarcel, Hearing Officer, at the offices of the State Tax Commission, Two World Trade Center, New York, New York, on November 27, 1979 at 9:15 A.M. Petitioner appeared by Stanley L. Hahn, CPA. The Audit Division appeared by Ralph J. Vecchio, Esq. (Paul Lefebvre, Esq., of counsel).

ISSUE

Whether petitioner's activities as an art conservator constitute the practice of a profession, of which the income derived therefrom is exempt from the unincorporated business tax.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner, Tosca Zagni, timely filed a New York State Income Tax
Resident Return for the year 1973, on which she reported net business income
from her activities as a "conservator". Petitioner did not file an unincorporated
business tax return for the year 1973.

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- 2. On March 28, 1977, the Audit Division issued a Notice of Deficiency, along with an explanatory Statement of Audit Changes, on which the income derived from petitioner's activities as a conservator was held subject to the unincorporated business tax.
- 3. Petitioner, Tosca Zagni, is a conservator and restorer of artistic works and historic objects, and was employed in that capacity by the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. In addition, petitioner was self-employed in this field and the income derived therefrom is the sole income at issue.
- 4. Petitioner, Tosca Zagni, is a graduate of Wadleigh High School and attended two years at the City College of New York. During a period of seven years (1933-1940), petitioner took various courses in painting and sculpture at the Art Students League of New York. After working for a period of time in the field of sculpture, petitioner participated in an apprenticeship in the field of art conservation. At that time, no known educational institution offered courses in the field of art conservation; therefore, a lengthy apprenticeship was the only means of acquiring the skills and knowledge needed to become an art conservator. However, currently, various institutions offer courses and internship degree programs in art conservation.
- 5. Petitioner's activities as a conservator require a thorough knowledge of art, art history, art materials, chemicals, adhesives, solvents, varnishes and the use of the microscope and ultraviolet light. Petitioner maintained that the appropriate application of this knowledge required creativity and imagination.
- 6. Petitioner is a member of two organizations for art conservators, one of which provided a code of ethics, lectures and information. However, no government agency governs or regulates the activities of an art conservator.

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7. Petitioner's self-employed activities during 1973 usually were conducted with another art conservator. They worked collectively on a particular project and would split the fee charged on a "50-50" basis. Periodically, petitioner would hire another conservator to perform the basic aspects of a particular job, so that she could concentrate on the more difficult and skillful aspects involved.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- A. That the services rendered by petitioner, Tosca Zagni, constituted an occupation in which a professed knowledge of some department of science or learning, gained by a prolonged course of specialized instruction and study, was used by its practical application for the conservation of masterpieces of art. Accordingly, petitioner's attainments in professional knowledge, along with the nature and character of the services performed, constituted the practice of a profession within the meaning and intent of section 703(c) of the Tax Law.
- B. That the petition of Tosca Zagni is granted and the Notice of Deficiency issued March 28, 1977 for the year 1973 is cancelled.

DATED: Albany, New York

NOV 28 1980

STATE TAX COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER

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