



STEVEN L. BESHEAR
Governor

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CABINET
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
501 HIGH STREET
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40620
Phone (502) 564-3226
Fax (502) 564-3875
www.kentucky.gov

JONATHAN MILLER
Secretary

THOMAS B. MILLER
Commissioner

In the matter of:

[REDACTED] & [REDACTED]

Contact: [REDACTED] & [REDACTED]

FINAL RULING NO. 2009-55
January 15, 2010

Motor Vehicle Property Tax Assessment
2007 Tax Year (Assessment Date of January 1, 2007)

FINAL RULING

The Kentucky Department of Revenue currently has an outstanding Motor Vehicle Property ("MOTAX") Tax assessment against [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] ("the Taxpayers") in the amount of \$ [REDACTED], plus applicable interest and penalty, for the 2007 tax year. A breakdown of the assessment is shown in the chart below:

Tax Year	Tax Due	Interest As of Jan. 15, 2010	Penalty As of Jan. 15, 2010	Total Due As of Jan. 15, 2010
2007	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Totals	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]

In response to their assessment, the Taxpayers submitted only a copy of a Certificate of Registration indicating that the motor vehicle that is the subject of the 2007 MOTAX assessment in question, a 2005 Ford FX5, was registered in [REDACTED] County, Kentucky and that the 2008 Motor Vehicle Usage Tax on the vehicle was paid. No information addressing the 2007 MOTAX assessment was or has been provided.

At issue is whether the Taxpayers have complied with the requirements of KRS 131.110(1), which states in pertinent part:

The protest shall be accompanied by a supporting statement setting forth the grounds upon which the protest is made. Upon written request, the department may extend the time for filing the supporting statement if it appears the delay is necessary and unavoidable.

The Kentucky courts have held that this statutory provision imposes upon a taxpayer protesting an assessment or a refund denial a legal duty to provide the Department with "something more substantial than mere denials of tax liability." Eagle Machine Co., Inc. v. Commonwealth ex rel. Gillis, 698 S.W.2d 528, 530 (Ky.App., 1985). In order to make a valid protest, a taxpayer must "provide financial statements, records or some other documentation that would allow the Revenue Department some basis for reconsideration." Id. at 529.

The courts have further held that KRS 131.110(1) is "mandatory in nature" and that failure to submit documentation as it requires will result in the taxpayer's loss of the right to further review of the assessment or refund denial in question. Scotty's Construction Co. v. Revenue Cabinet, 779 S.W.2d 234 (Ky.App., 1989). In both Scotty's Construction and Eagle Machine, the taxpayers failed to provide any substantial information in support of their denials of tax liability, despite being given ample opportunity to do. The same is true in this matter.

The taxpayers have been granted extensions in letters dated [REDACTED], 2008, [REDACTED], 2008, and [REDACTED], 2009 in order to submit information or documentation that would satisfy the supporting statement requirement of KRS 131.110. However, the Taxpayers have failed to submit any documentation that would allow the Department a basis for reconsideration of the MOTAX assessment in question.

Therefore, the outstanding MOTAX assessment totaling \$ [REDACTED] (plus applicable interest and penalty) is deemed a legitimate liability of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] due to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

This letter is the final ruling of the Kentucky Department of Revenue.

APPEAL

You may appeal this final ruling to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals pursuant to the provisions of KRS 131.110, KRS 131.340-131.365, 103 KAR 1:010 and 802 KAR 1:010. If you decide to appeal this final ruling, your petition of appeal must be filed at the principal office of the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals, 128 Brighton Park Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-2120,

within thirty (30) days from the date of this final ruling. The rules of the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals, which are set forth in 802 KAR 1:010, require that the petition of appeal must:

1. Be filed in quintuplicate;
2. Contain a brief statement of the law and facts in issue;
3. Contain the petitioner's or appellant's position as to the law and facts; and
4. Include a copy of this final ruling with each copy of the petition of appeal.

The petition of appeal must be in writing and signed by the petitioner or appellant. Filings by facsimile or other electronic means shall not be accepted.

Proceedings before the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals are conducted in accordance with 103 KAR 1:010, 802 KAR 1:010 and KRS 131.340-131.365 and KRS Chapter 13B. Formal hearings are held by the Board concerning the tax appeals before it, with all testimony and proceedings officially reported. Legal representation of parties to appeals before the Board is governed by the following rules set forth in Section 2 (3) of 802 KAR 1:010:

1. An individual may represent himself in hearings before the Board;
2. An individual who is not an attorney may not represent any other individual, corporation, trust, estate, or partnership before the Board; and
3. An attorney who is not licensed to practice in Kentucky may practice before the Board if he complies with Rule 3.030(2) of the Rules of the Kentucky Supreme Court.

You will be notified by the Clerk of the Board of the date and time set for any hearing.

Sincerely,
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CABINET



E. Jeffrey Mosley
Interim Executive Director
Office of Legal Services for Revenue



























