

Section 1. Subdivision (a) of section 1409 of the tax law, as amended by chapter 309 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

§ 1409. Returns. (a) A joint return shall be filed by both the grantor and the grantee for each conveyance whether or not a tax is due thereon other than a conveyance of an easement or license to a public utility as defined in subdivision two of section one hundred eighty-six-e of this chapter or to a public utility which is a provider of telecommunication services as defined in subdivision one of section one hundred eighty-six-e of this chapter, where the consideration is two dollars or less and is clearly stated as actual consideration in the instrument of conveyance. When the grantor or grantee of a deed for residential real property containing one- to four-family dwelling units is a limited liability company, the joint return shall not be accepted for filing unless it is accompanied by a document which identifies the names and business addresses of all members, managers, and any other authorized persons, if any, of such limited liability company and the names and business addresses or, if none, the business addresses of all shareholders, directors, officers, members, managers and partners of any limited liability company or other business entity that are to be the members, managers or authorized persons, if any, of such limited liability company. The identification of such names and addresses shall not be deemed an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy pursuant to article six of the public officers law. If any such member, manager or authorized person of the limited liability company is itself a limited liability company or other business entity, the names and addresses of the shareholders, directors, officers, members, managers and partners of the limited liability company or other business entity shall also be disclosed until full disclosure of ultimate ownership by natural persons is achieved. For purposes of this subdivision, the terms "members", "managers", "authorized person", "limited liability company" and "other business entity" shall have the same meaning as those terms are defined in section one hundred two of the limited liability company law. The return shall be filed with the recording officer before the instrument effecting the conveyance may be recorded. However, if the tax is paid to the commissioner pursuant to section fourteen hundred ten of this article, the return shall be filed with such commissioner at the time the tax is paid. In that instance, a receipt evidencing the filing of the return and the payment of tax shall be filed with the recording officer before the instrument effecting the conveyance may be recorded. The recording officer shall handle such receipt in the same manner as a return filed with the recording officer.

(b) The return shall be signed by both the grantor and the grantee.

Where a conveyance has more than one grantor or more than one grantee, the return shall be signed by all of such grantors and grantees. Where any or all of the grantors or any or all of the grantees have failed to sign a return, it shall be accepted as a return if signed by any one of the grantors or by any one of the grantees. Provided, however, those not signing the return shall not be relieved of any liability for the tax imposed by this article and the period of limitations for assessment of tax or of additional tax shall not apply to any such party.

(c) Returns shall be preserved for three years and thereafter until the commissioner of taxation and finance permits them to be destroyed.

(d) The commissioner shall prescribe the form of the return, the information which it shall contain and the documentation that shall accompany the return. The commissioner shall prescribe that, for recorded conveyances, such return shall be included on the form required to be filed with a conveyance of real property by section two hundred fifty-three-b of this chapter and the regulations promulgated thereunder, except that such commissioner may prescribe a supplemental form for purposes of the tax imposed by this article when the conveyance is pursuant to or in lieu of foreclosure or the conveyance consists in part of a mere change of identity or form of ownership or organization or the conveyance is one for which a credit for tax previously paid will be claimed. In addition, the commissioner, in the commissioner's discretion, may enter into an agreement with the chief fiscal officer of the cities of New York, Yonkers or Mount Vernon to provide that a single return may be filed with a recording officer for purposes of the tax imposed under this article and the tax imposed by such city.

(e) Certifications. The making or filing of any return or other document or copy thereof, required to be made or filed pursuant to this article, shall constitute a certification by the person making or filing such return or other document or copy thereof that the statements contained therein are true and that any copy filed is a true copy.