

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
(To be filed in Duplicate)

To the Secretary of State
of the State of Rhode Island

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7-1.1-7.1 for corporations or 7-16-9 for limited liability companies of the General Laws, 1956, as amended, the undersigned hereby submits the following statement for authority to transact business in the State of Rhode Island under a fictitious name:

FIRST: Fictitious business name to be used: THE DESIGN CENTER, INC.

SECOND: Legal name of applicant corporation or limited liability company: Cardi's Department Store, Inc.

THIRD: Organized under the laws of: Rhode Island

FOURTH: Date of organization: May 6, 1947

FIFTH: If a corporation, business in which corporation is engaged: Sale of furniture

SIXTH: If a corporation, address of registered office of the corporation within Rhode Island:
4365 Post Road, East Greenwich, RI 02818

SEVENTH: Applicant is otherwise authorized to do business in the State of Rhode Island.

Dated December 1, 1997

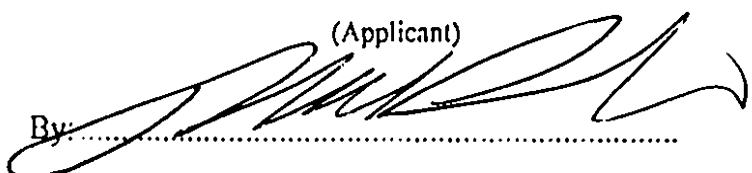
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CARDI'S DEPARTMENT STORE, INC.

(Applicant)

By: 

Its: SECRETARY

Armando O. Monaco, II
Attorney at Law

4365 Post Road
Warwick, Rhode Island

Please Reply To:
P. O. Box 311
East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818
(401) 886-1160
Fax: (401) 886-1185

December 1, 1997

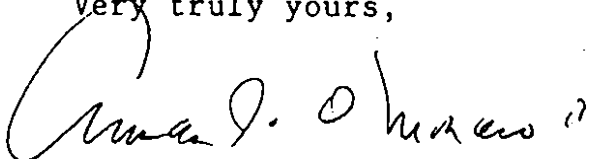
Corporation Division -
Secretary of State's Office
100 North Main Street
Providence, RI 02903-1335

Re: The Design Center, Inc.

To Whom It May Concern:

I hereby consent to CARDI'S DEPARTMENT STORE, INC. the use of the fictitious business name of THE DESIGN CENTER, INC. which I reserved with your office on October 31, 1997 as evidenced by the attached Certificate of Reservation of Entity Name.

Very truly yours,


Armando O. Monaco, II

AOM:dmc
Enclosure