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KATZ, TELLER, BRANT & HILD

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March 27, 2000

Top Hat Plan Exemption
Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration
Room N-5644
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

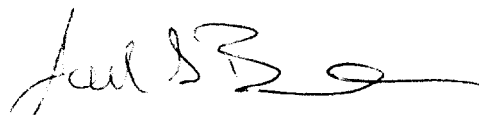
Re: Tri-State Wholesale Building Supplies, Inc.

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the above employer, we enclose herewith the statement required by DOL Reg. Sec. 2520.104-23(b).

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,


Joel S. Brant

Enclosure

KTBH: 430769.1

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY DOL REG. SECTION 2520.104-23(b)

1. Employer's Name: Tri-State Wholesale Building Supplies, Inc.

Address: 1550 Central Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

EIN: 31-0821964

2. The Employer maintains a deferred compensation arrangement for the purpose of providing deferred compensation to the recently retired President of the Employer. The Employer does not maintain any other nonqualified plan of deferred compensation.

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