

TOP

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April 8, 1997

Office of Employee Benefits Security
Labor-Management Services Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, DC 20216

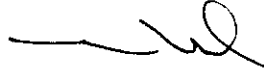
Re: Exemption for Annual Filing by a Top Hat Plan

Gentlemen:

Please see the attached letter request for the Tribble's Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan, a Top Hat plan, as defined under §104 of Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

If you have any further questions, please call me at (410) 433-0141.

Sincerely yours,



Richard M. Weintraub

RW:kd
cc: Tribble's, Inc.

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**SHORT-FORM COMPLIANCE REQUIRED UNDER
ERISA TITLE I, PART 1
LETTER TO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

Office of Employee Benefits Security
Labor-Management Services Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, DC 20216

Re: Adoption of Top Hat Plan by Tribble's, Inc.


Gentlemen:

Pursuant to DOL Reg. §2520.104-23, Tribble's, Inc., a Maryland corporation, located at 901 Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745, Employer ID No. (EIN) S3-0179527, hereby declares that as the Employer it maintains the following unfunded employee benefit plan primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation only for a select group of management or highly compensated employees as defined by the Plan and by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 ("**Code**"):

The "**Tribble's, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan**" ("**Plan**") is effective as of November 1, 1996, and has two (2) current participants of which two (2) are key employee/directors of this Corporation as its President and Vice President.

The above Plan is being maintained pursuant to a written plan document, an unfunded employee benefit plan, which will be provided to the Secretary of Labor or his delegate upon request as required by §104(a)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("**ERISA**").

Sincerely yours,

By: 
President, John R. Tribble II
On Behalf of Employer