

STATE OF INDIANA
OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY
LAKE COUNTY
FILED FOR RECORD

97072000

OCT 23 11 30 01
LICENSE BOND

BOND NO. 1141316-15

MORRIS W. CARTER
RECORDER

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we,

CHERRY CREEK NURSERY, INC., 25310 S. STONEY ISLAND AVENUE, CRETE, IL 60417, as Principal,

and OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY, organized under the laws of the state of Wisconsin, as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA INCLUDING ALL TOWNS, CITIES & MUNICIPALITIES, 2293 MAIN STREET, CROWN POINT, IN 46307, as Obligees

in the sum of FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars, lawful money of the United States, for which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly, by these presents.

WHEREAS, the said Principal has applied to said Obligees for a license to or permit as a LANDSCAPING CONTRACTOR

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION IS SUCH, That if the said Principal shall indemnify said Obligees against all loss which the Obligees may be subject by reason of said Principal's non-compliance caused by said Principal's breach of any ordinance, rule or regulation relating thereto, then the above obligation shall be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and effect.

This obligation may be cancelled by said Surety by giving thirty (30) days notice in writing of its intention to do so to said Obligees; and provided further, that nothing herein shall affect any rights of liabilities which shall have accrued under this bond prior to the date of termination; and the said Surety shall be relieved of any further liability under this bond thirty (30) days after receipt of said notice by the said Obligees.

The term of this bond is for a period commencing 11/14/1997 and terminating (or continuous) 11/14/1998 provided, however, this bond may be continued from year to year by continuation certificate executed by said Surety.

Signed, sealed and dated the 14th day of November, 1997.

CHERRY CREEK NURSERY, INC.

By

John V. B... / President

OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY

By

Glenn A. Evans

GLENN A. EVANS, Attorney-in-Fact

13.00
22855

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY, a Wisconsin stock insurance corporation, does make, constitute and appoint:

GLENN A. EVANS, VELMA DILDINE, CARL R. SGARIOTO, OF SOUTH HOLLAND, IL

its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority for and on behalf of the company as surety, to execute and deliver and affix the seal of the company thereto (if a seal is required), bonds, undertakings, recognizances or other written obligations in the nature thereof, (other than bail bonds, bank depository bonds, mortgage deficiency bonds, mortgage guaranty bonds, guaranties of installment paper and note guaranty bonds, self-insurance workers compensation bonds guaranteeing payment of benefits, asbestos abatement contract bonds, waste management bonds, hazardous waste remediation bonds or black lung bonds), as follows:

ALL WRITTEN INSTRUMENTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED AN AGGREGATE OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) ----- FOR ANY SINGLE OBLIGATION, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF INSTRUMENTS ISSUED FOR THE OBLIGATION.

and to bind OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY thereby, and all of the acts of said Attorneys-in-Fact, pursuant to these presents, are ratified and confirmed. This document is not valid unless printed on colored background and is multi-colored. This appointment is made under and by authority of the board of directors at a special meeting held on February 18, 1982. This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following resolutions adopted by the board of directors of the OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY on February 18, 1982.

RESOLVED that the president, any vice president, or assistant vice president in conjunction with the secretary or any assistant secretary, may appoint attorneys-in-fact or agents with authority as defined or limited in the instrument evidencing the appointment in each case, for and on behalf of the company to execute and deliver and affix the seal of the company to bonds, undertakings, recognizances, and suretyship obligations of all kinds; and said officers may remove any such attorney-in-fact or agent and revoke any Power of Attorney previously granted to such person.

RESOLVED FURTHER that any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or suretyship obligation shall be valid and binding upon the Company (i) when signed by the president, any vice president or assistant vice president, and attested and sealed (if a seal be required) by any secretary or assistant secretary; or (ii) when signed by the president, any vice president or assistant vice president, secretary or assistant secretary, and countersigned and sealed (if a seal be required) by a duly authorized attorney-in-fact or agent; or (iii) when duly executed and sealed (if a seal be required) by one or more attorneys-in-fact or agents pursuant to and within the limits of the authority evidenced by the Power of Attorney issued by the company to such person or persons.

RESOLVED FURTHER that the signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the company may be affixed by facsimile to any Power of Attorney or certification thereof authorizing the execution and delivery of any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other suretyship obligations of the company; and such signature and seal when so used shall have the same force and effect as though manually affixed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY has caused these presents to be signed by its proper officer, and its corporate seal to be affixed this 14TH day of AUGUST 1997

OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY

Carl R. Sgaroto
Assistant Secretary



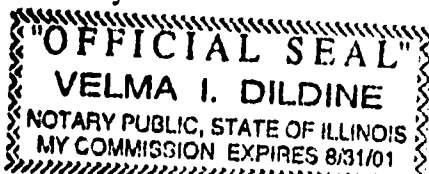
James E. Hill
President

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF WALKESHA -- SS

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF COOK

I, Velma Dildine, a Notary Public in and for the state and county aforesaid, do hereby certify that Glenn A. Evans of South Holland, Illinois, who is personally known to me, appeared before me this day and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered the foregoing instrument as his free and voluntary act as Attorney-in-Fact of the Old Republic Surety Company, and as the free and voluntary act of the Old Republic Surety Company for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 14th day of November, A.D. 19 97.



My commission expires August 31, 2001.
NOTARIAL JURAT

Velma I. Dildine
Notary Public

OLD REPUBLIC

Surety Company

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY, a Wisconsin stock insurance corporation, does make, constitute and appoint:

GLENN A. EVANS, VELMA DILDINE, CARL R. SGAROTO, OF SOUTH HOLLAND, IL

its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority for and on behalf of the company as surety, to execute and deliver and affix the seal of the company thereto (if a seal is required), bonds, undertakings, recognizances or other written obligations in the nature thereof, (other than bail bonds, bank depository bonds, mortgage deficiency bonds, mortgage guaranty bonds, guarantees of installment paper and note guaranty bonds, self-insurance workers compensation bonds guaranteeing payment of benefits, asbestos abatement contract bonds, waste management bonds, hazardous waste remediation bonds or black lung bonds), as follows:

ALL WRITTEN INSTRUMENTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED AN AGGREGATE OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) ----- FOR ANY SINGLE OBLIGATION, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF INSTRUMENTS ISSUED FOR THE OBLIGATION.

and to bind OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY thereby, and all of the acts of said Attorneys-in-Fact, pursuant to these presents, are ratified and confirmed. This document is not valid unless printed on colored background and is multi-colored. This appointment is made under and by authority of the board of directors at a special meeting held on February 18, 1982. This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following resolutions adopted by the board of directors of the OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY on February 18, 1982:

RESOLVED that the president, any vice president, or assistant vice president in conjunction with the secretary or any assistant secretary, may appoint attorneys-in-fact or agents with authority as defined or limited in the instrument evidencing the appointment in each case, for and on behalf of the company to execute and deliver and affix the seal of the company to bonds, undertakings, recognizances, and suretyship obligations of all kinds; and said officers may remove any such attorney-in-fact or agent and revoke any Power of Attorney previously granted to such person.

RESOLVED FURTHER that any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or suretyship obligation shall be valid and binding upon the Company

- (i) when signed by the president, any vice president or assistant vice president, and attested and sealed (if a seal be required) by any secretary or assistant secretary, or
- (ii) when signed by the president, any vice president or assistant vice president, secretary or assistant secretary, and countersigned and sealed (if a seal be required) by a duly authorized attorney-in-fact or agent; or
- (iii) when duly executed and sealed (if a seal be required) by one or more attorneys-in-fact or agents pursuant to and within the limits of the authority evidenced by the Power of Attorney issued by the company to such person or persons.

RESOLVED FURTHER that the signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the company may be affixed by facsimile to any Power of Attorney or certification thereof authorizing the execution and delivery of any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other suretyship obligations of the company; and such signature and seal when so used shall have the same force and effect as though manually affixed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY has caused these presents to be signed by its proper officer, and its corporate seal to be affixed this 14TH day of AUGUST 1997

OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY


Assistant Secretary




President

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF WAUKESHA — SS

On this 14TH day of AUGUST 1997, personally came before me, JAMES E. LEE and DAVID G. MENZEL, to me known to be the individuals and officers of the OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY who executed the above instrument, and they each acknowledged the execution of the same, and being by me duly sworn, did severally dispose and say; that they are the said officers of the corporation aforesaid, and that the seal affixed to the above instrument is the seal of the corporation, and that said corporate seal and their signatures as such officers were duly affixed and subscribed to the said instrument by the authority of the board of directors of said corporation.




Notary Public

My commission expires: 02/18/2001

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, assistant secretary of the OLD REPUBLIC SURETY COMPANY, a Wisconsin corporation, CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Power of Attorney remains in full force and has not been revoked; and furthermore, that the Resolutions of the board of directors set forth in the Power of Attorney, are now in force.

63-2469



Signed and sealed at the City of Brookfield, WI this 14th day of November, 1997

EVANS & CO., GLENN A.


Assistant Secretary

THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT VALID UNLESS PRINTED ON COLORED BACKGROUND AND IS MULTI-COLORED