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12/27/99

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PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHTS
UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW
AND RELATED LITIGATION

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December 27, 1999

Asst. Commissioner of Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

02-01-2000



101254440

JC542 U.S. PTO
29/116219
12/27/99

Re: General Housewares Corp.
Case 272
Patent Application for:
Design for KNIFE BLOCK WITH
BALL BUTTRESSES

Sir:

Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Laura A. Ranieri

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

General Housewares Corp.
One Pyrex Place
Elmira, NY 14902-1555

3. Nature of Conveyance: Assignment

Date of execution: December 23, 1999

4. This Assignment is being filed together with a new application, the execution date(s) of which is: December 23, 1999.

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

29/116219

01/31/2000 DCDATES 00000127 29116219

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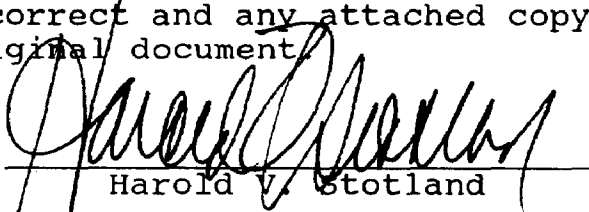
Asst. Commissioner of Patents
December 27, 1999

Harold V. Stotland
Emrich & Dithmar
Suite 3000
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

6. Total number of applications involved: 1.
7. Total fee enclosed (37 CFR 1.21(h)): \$ 40.00
8. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-1060.
9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Date: 12/27/99


Harold V. Stotland

Total Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet, Attachments and Document: 4

Title of the Invention:
Design for KNIFE BLOCK WITH BALL BUTTRESSES

Date of Execution
of Design Application: 12/23/99

Name of Inventor
and Assignor: Laura A. Ranieri

ASSIGNMENT

I, for good and valuable considerations to me in hand paid, the receipt and sufficiency whereof are hereby acknowledged, have sold, assigned, conveyed and set over, and do hereby sell, assign, convey and set over unto General Housewares Corp., a corporation of the State of Delaware, United States of America, having a place of business in Terre Haute, Indiana 47804, (hereinafter "ASSIGNEE"), its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to all subject matter invented or designed by me and disclosed in the above-identified application, and any divisions and continuations thereof and in and to all Letters Patent of the United States including any reissues and extensions thereof that may be obtained therefor, and the right, where such right can be legally exercised, in its own name to apply for and obtain Letters Patent, Inventor's Certificates, Utility Models and Designs, in countries foreign to the United States, including the full right to claim for any such application the benefits of the International Convention as fully and entirely as I could have done if the application had been in my name, and the entire interest in any Letters Patent, Inventor's Certificate, Utility Model or Design which may be granted on any such application in such foreign country; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States, and any official of any country or countries foreign to the United States whose duty it is to issue Letters Patent, Inventor's Certificates, Utility Models or Designs, on applications as aforesaid, to issue any and all Letters Patent, Inventor's Certificates, Utility Models and Designs that may be granted for said invention to ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns.

And for the above-named considerations, I hereby agree that I will, without additional compensation but without cost to me, promptly communicate to ASSIGNEE, its successors and assigns, any facts known to me respecting said invention whenever requested, and testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications for Letters Patent, Inventor's Certificates, Utility Models and Designs and assignments thereof, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid ASSIGNEE, its successors

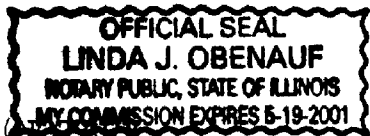
and assigns, as and when requested by them, in obtaining and enforcing proper patent, inventor's certificate, utility model and design protection for said invention or inventions and improvements, in the United States and in all other countries.

Dated: 12/23/99

Laura A. Ranieri
Laura A. Ranieri

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

On the date indicated above appeared Laura A. Ranieri, personally known to me and by me personally known to be the person who executed the above instrument, who, being duly sworn, acknowledged that he executed the above instrument as his free and voluntary act.



Linda J. Obenauf
Notary Public

SEAL)