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PUCO

**Public Utilities Commission of Ohio** Attn: Docketing 180 E. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43215

### Formal Complaint Form

Customer Address  Euclid  City	OH 44117 State Zip
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11002409937 Account Number	73
Customer Service Address	(If different from above)
City	State Zip
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(See Attached)

<u> 216) 261-8839</u>

/Signature

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file Customer Telephone Number document delivered in the regular course of Technician

Date Processed

### **COMPLAINT**

During the 1990's Millennium Entertainment (the "Millennium"), a nightclub, was opened by owners Kevin and Dwight Chillious. The tax identification number for the Millennium was 31-1515056. (See Exibit A.) Sometime in 2002, Dwight Chillious sold his interest in the business to Damien Barile. And in or around October of 2003, Millennium Entertainment, as a business, dissolved.

The Ohio Laff House ("Laff House") is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Ohio. (See Exibit B.) The corporation was formed on August 1, 2002 All formalities for incorporation were followed. The corporation's tax identification number is 22-3878830, (see Exibit C), and its incorporator and sole shareholder is Alecia Chillious. The corporation is in no way related to the Millennium. The only connecting factor is that the incorporators of both entities have the same last name.

In October of 2002, the Laff House started electric services with the Illuminating Company. In October of 2003, a full year after the Laff House account was opened with the Illuminating Company, the Millennium stopped its electricity service. In October of 2006, the Illuminating Company added the final bill from the Millennium to the Laff House's bill. (See Exibit D.) The amount added was \$4,341.47. The Laff House is not responsible for the Millennium's electric bill.

Although, the businesses are two separate legal entities and have separate tax ID numbers, the Illuminating Company has added Millennium's bill on to the Laff House's account because of Dwight Chillious. The Illuminating Company has determined, that since Dwight Chillious was at one time an owner of the Millennium and he has been an *interested* party on Laff's House's electricity account, as he has inquired about the bill on several occasions, the Millenium and the Laff House are "business partners" and the two companies have engaged in "name switching."

Further, the Illuminating Company finds that "Chillious" is not a common name and as such, the businesses must be the same.

The two entities are not the same. Each company has separate owners, shareholders and tax id numbers. However, because of the Millennium's final bill, the Illuminating Company has notified the Laff House that it will discontinue the Laff House's service until the final bill for the Millennium is paid.

A corporation is a separate legal entity, capable of suing and being sued. See e.g., Green v. Metropolitan Narcotics Squad, No. CA-6121, 1983 Ohio App. Lexis 13067 \*1 (Stark County, June 28, 1983). As such it is liable for its own debts and shareholders bear no personal liability for the debts of the corporation. See e.g., New Vision Investment v. Clauss, No. CA-8576, 1991 Ohio App. LEXIS 5486, \*1 (Stark County, Nov. 4, 1991). However, the corporate form may be disregarded and individual shareholders held liable for wrongs committed by the corporation. Id. Such an action is called "piercing the corporate veil." Id.

To impose personal liability on a shareholder, the burden is on the party seeking to pierce the corporate veil to prove, by a preponderance of the evidence that: (1) control over the corporation by those to be held liable was so complete that the corporation has no separate mind, will, or existence of its own, (2) control over the corporation by those to be held liable was exercised in such a manner as to commit fraud or an illegal act against the person seeking to disregard the corporate entity, and (3) injury or unjust loss resulted to the plaintiff from such control and wrong." Belvedere Condominium Assn. v. R. E. Roark Cos., Inc. (1993), 67 Ohio St.3d 274, 1993 Ohio 119, 617 N.E.2d 1075, paragraph three of the syllabus.

The Illuminating Company bases its determination that the Laff House should be responsible for the Millennium's bill on that the fact that Dwight Chillious has been involved with

both corporations. However, the Illuminating Company can only hold an individual liable for the debts of a corporation under certain circumstances. *See Belvedere Condominium Assn.*, 67 Ohio St.3d at 274, 617 N.E.2d at 1075, paragraph three of the syllabus

Certainly, if it determined that the Laff House was a closely held corporation, then the corporate veil can be pierced and the shareholders may be found liable. In this instance, however, even if the corporate veil could be pierced, Dwight Chillious would not be held liable because he is neither a shareholder of the Millennium, a now defunct corporation, or of the Laff House. By operation of law he has no liability for either company. Piercing the corporate veil of the Laff House would make Alecia Chillious liable for the Millennium's bill even though she had no association with the Millennium.

Further, a corporation cannot be held liable for the other unless the companies are virtually the same. The companies are not the same. The companies have different incorporators, owners, shareholders and tax id numbers.

Because, the Illuminating Company's determination that one corporation is liable for the debts of another corporation is based on the premise the Dwight Chillious has individual liability for the corporation, its success in this matter would fail because Dwight Chillious is not a shareholder in either company and cannot be held responsible for their debts. Furthermore, the Laff House cannot be held liable for the debts of the Millennium.

The Laff house is a for profit corporation. It books comedians, contracts with vendors for supplies, and books the facilities for use for individual parties. Without fulfilling its obligations under these various contracts, the corporation will not only lose money, but is liable for breach for the various contracts it enters each week. In order to perform under the contracts, the Laff House must be open and able to conduct business. It cannot conduct business if the electric power is off.

Thus, by holding Dwight Chillious as a responsible party for the Millennium bill and attaching that bill on to the bill for the Laff House would harm Alecia Chillious because her business will have to close if the electricity is disconnected.

In this matter Dwight Chillious does not own the Laff House and did not have any ownership interest in the Millennium when the charges on the final bill were incurred.

Further, if the Illuminating Company could pierce the corporate veil to collect on the debt owed, it would not mean that Dwight Chillious would be liable for the bill. It would make Alecia Chillious liable for the bill, since she is the only shareholder, and Alecia Chillious could not be liable for any bill the Millennium owned as she was never an owner or shareholder of the Millennium.

As such, the Laff House is requesting that the Illuminating Company remove the Millennium's final bill from its bill as it is not responsible for payment of that bill and to forever hold it blameless for the Millennium's electric bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Cook (0021240)

27801 Euclid Ave., Ste. 640

Euclid, Ohio 44132

(216) 261-8839

(216) 261-8840 (fax)

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Under penalties of pergry, I declare that I have assumed this return and accompanying documents, and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true, correct, and complete.

SIGNALLY > REFERENCE COPY PREPARED BY PAYCHEX. THE > DO NOT FILE

Date 🏲

---- W-3 Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements

2001

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

## DO NOT FILE

YOUR FEDERAL W-2 & W-3 DATA
IS FILED ON MAGNETIC MEDIA

**EXHIBIT A** 

DATE: 07/25/2002

DOCUMENT ID 200220502420

DESCRIPTION

DOMESTIC ARTICLES FOR PROFIT (ARF)

PENALTY .00

CERT

COPY

Receipt This is not a bill. Please do not remit payment.

QUINN LEGAL ASSOCIATES, INC. 21801 LAKE SHORE BLVD. **EUCLID, OH 44123** 

## STATE OF OHIO

Ohio Secretary of State, J. Kenneth Blackwell

1330880

It is hereby certified that the Secretary of State of Ohio has custody of the business records for

OHIO LAFF HOUSE, INC.

and, that said business records show the filing and recording of:

Document(s)

DOMESTIC ARTICLES/FOR PROFIT

Document No(s):

200220602420



United States of America State of Ohio Office of the Secretary of State

Witness my hand and the seal of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio this 25th day of July, A.D. 2002.

Ohio Secretary of State



# Prescribed by J. Kenneth Blackwell Ohio Secretary of State

Expedit	e this Form: (Select One)
● Yes	PO Box 1390
<b>*</b> ''	Columbus, OH 43216
*** Requ	ires an edditional fee of \$100
O No	PO Box 670
U NO	Columbus, OR 3216

Sign of the same o	Central Ohio: (614) 466-3910 Toll Prec: 1-877-SOS-FILE (1-877-767-3453)			Ye	Columbus, OH 43216	
www.state.oh.us/so e-mail: busserv@so		MS.			ONo	PO Box 670 Columbus, OR 33216
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Complete the general	informatio	n in this section	for the box checks	od above.		
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Page 1 of 3

Last Revised: May 2002

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(Name) 5613 Chick	adee Lane		
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(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)	-
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(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)	
REQUIRED e authenticated d) by an authorized entative See Instructions)	Authorized Representative  PATRICK D. QUINN, 1  Print Name 21801 Lakesho: Euclid, OH 44	re Blvd.	14/8/L
: .	Althopiced Representative		07-18-0 Dake
1	LYNN BIBBEE		
:	Print Name 21801 Lakeshor Euclid, OH 44	re Blvd. 123	<u> </u>
	Authorized Representative		Dale

532

Complete the information	n in this session # box (1) (1) or (1) is checked.	
	RIGINAL APPOINTMENT OF STATUTOR	
	g at least a majority of the incorporators of OHIO LAFF H pulse to be statutory agent upon whom any process, notice or dem	
	on the comparation may be served. The complete address of the a	
PATRICI	K D. QUINN, ESQ.	_
(Neno)	W. D. Wozzai, 2001	•
21801	Lakeshore Blvd.	•
(Steet)	NOTE: P.O. Box Addresses are NOT acceptable.	
Euclid	, sinc 44123	
(CXy)	(Zip Code)	
Must be auther/icated authorized representati		2-18-82 Date
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	Yanda se webiesen restre	
	Authorized Representative	Date
	ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT	
The Undersigned,	PATRICK D. QUINN	, named natein as the
Statutory agent for, hereby acknowledges	OHIO LAFF HORSE, INC.	
!	7// 2	$\rightleftharpoons$
	Signature: (Statutory Agent)	
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No. 9253 P. 5/5

181:52: 5002 11:08PM

By selecting FirstEnergy Solutions Corp as your alternate electric supplier, your current Illuminating Company charges have been reduced by \$573.17. Your total charges from your alternate electric supplier must be less than this amount in order for you to save money.

107.26 Illuminating Company Transmission Related Component 465,91 Generation Shopping Credit 573.17 Total Reduced Illuminating Company Charges

#### \*\*\*\*\*\* REMINDER NOTICE \*\*

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When this bill was prepared, your account had an unpaid balance. If you have already made this payment, thank you. If not, please promptly pay the overdue amount. Call us if you have questions or for information on payment arrangements.

Don't miss the enclosed brochure on Co-Op. Return the application form to sign-up for the program and help your neighbors

### nyes (29) û milentiyê keçînî danya hûşê hilin

When contacting an Alternate Electric Supplier, please provide the customer numbers below. Call The Illuminating Company at 1-800-589-3101 with questions on these charges.

### **Basic Charges**

Customer Number: 0801109551 1080001271 - Small General Service - CE-GS125D

Customer Charge 33.34 Delivery Charge 301.48 Transition Charge 233.26 Generation Related Component 703.75 Transmission Related Component 0.00 Generation Shopping Credit -465.91

**Total Charges** \$ 805.92

## THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF

Call FirstEnergy Solutions Corp at 1-888-254-6359 with questions on these charges. Account Number: 21296419 Rate: FES-R950

Basic Charges

Basic Charge 8.720 KWH x 0.050758 per KWH 442.61 Transmission Related Component 8,720 KWH x 0.012300 per KWH 107.26

**Total Charges** \$ 549.87

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The Illuminating Company	2,669.49	3,045.33	805.92	6,540.74
FirstEnergy Solutions Corp	886.50	0.00	549.87	1,436.37
Total :	3,575.99	3,045.33	1,355.79	7,977.11

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CINCINNATI OH 45999-0038

In reply refer to: 0236500000 Nov. 29, 2006 LTR 544C 0 22-3878830 200612 14 000 Input Op: 0410456173 14962 BODC: SB

OHIO LAFF HOUSE INC 24900 EUCLID AVE EUCLID OH 44117-2602003



113599

Taxpayer Identification Number: 22-3878830
Tax Period(s): Dec. 31, 2006

Form: 944

Dear Taxpayer:

We sent you Letter  $1.12-B^{-1}(CG)$  dated 11/03/2006 in error. It stated we have not received a return for the tax period ending December 31, 2006 and listed "UNKNOWN" as the tax form. Please disregard that letter.

We have corrected our programming error. You do not need to take any action as a result of the erroroneous letter.

If you have any questions, please call us toll free at 1-800-829-0115.

If you prefer, you may write to us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter.

Whenever you write, please include this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Keep a copy of this letter for your records.

•				
Telephone	Number	( .	) ,	Hours