File Number 1648-748-1

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DEPT-01 RECORDING \$37,00 107777 TRAN 8737 04/04/95 11:19:00 39747 DC #-95-224484 COOK COUNTY RECORDER

# State of Allinois Office of Ose Secretary of State

Whereas,

ARTICLES OF MIRGER OF UNITED STATIONERS SUPPLY CO.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS HAVE BEEN FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AS PROVIDED BY THE BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT OF ILLINOIS. IN FORCE JULY 1, A.D. 1984.

Now Therefore, I, George H. Ryan, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby issue this certificate and attach hereto a copy of the Application of the aforesaid corporation.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereto set my hand and cause to be

affixed the Great Seal of the State of Illinois, at the City of Springfield, this 30TH day of MARCH A.D. 19 95 and of the Independence of the United States the two

Jeory 4 Ryan

Secretary of State



Form BCA-11.25 OF MERGER P #110 11 (1 48 - 148 -- 1 CONSOLIDATION OR EXCHANGE (Hav Jan 1995) George H. Ryan SOBBIT IN DUPLICATE Secretary of State Department of Business Services Springheld IL 82758 This space for use by FILED Telephone (217) 782-8961 Date DO NOT SEND CASH' Remit payment in check or money MAR 30 1995 order payable to 'Secretary of State. Filing I Filing Fee is \$100, but if merger or consolidation of more than 2 corpo-GEORGE H. RYAN rations, \$50 for each additional cor-SECRETARY OF STATE poration. (merge) consolidate , and the state or country of their incorporation: Names of the corporations proposing to 1. exchange shares State or Country Corporation File No. Name of Corporation Of Incorporation UNITED STATIONERS SUPPLY CO. Illinois ASSOCIATED STATIONERS, INC. Delaware The laws of the state or country under which each corporation in incorporated permit such merger, consolidation or exchange. Surviving UNITED STATIONERS SUPPLY CO. Name of the new corporation: acquiring Illinois it shall be governed by the laws of:

(merger)
4. Plan of consolidation is as follows:
exchange

See Exhibit A, attached hereto.

If not sufficient space to cover this point, add one or more sheets of this size.

#### **EXPEDITED**

MAR 3 0 1995

SECRETARY OF STATE

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Plan of consolidation, was approved, as to each corporation not organized in Illinois in compliance with the 5 laws of the state under which it is organized, and (b) as to each illinois corporation exchange as follows

(The following items are not applicable to mergers under §11.30 -90% owned subsidiary provisions. See Article 7.)

(Only "X" one box for each corporation)

By the shareholders, a resolution of the board of directors having been duly adopted and submitted to a vote at a meeting of shareholders. Not less than the minimum number of votes required by statute and by the articles of incorporation voted in favor of the action taken.

By written consent of the shareholders having not less. than the minimum number of votes required by statute and by the articles of incorporation. Shareholders who have not consented in writing have been given notice in accordance with § 7.10 (§ 11.220)

DOOP OF THE OF	vote at a meeting of share- holders. Not less than the minimum number of votes required by statute and by the articles of incorporation voted in favor of the action taken.  (§ 11 20)	shareholders having not less than the minimum number of votes required by statute and by the articles of incorporation. Shareholders who have not consented in writing have been given notice in accordance with § 7.10 (§ 11.220)	By written consent of ALL the share-holders entitled to vote on the action in accordance with § 7-10 & § 11-20
Name of Corporation			
	_ T (P)		
	_ 0,		
	_ 0//		

(Not applicable if surviving, new or acquiring corporation is an illinois corporation) 6.

It is agreed that, upon and after the issuance of a certificate of merger, consolidation or exchange by the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois:

- The surviving, new or acquiring corporation may be served with process in the State of Illinois in any proceeding for the enforcement of any obligation of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois which is a party to the merger, consolidation or exchange and in any proceeding for the enforcement of the rights of a dissenting shareholder of any such corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois abainst the surviving. new or acquiring corporation.
- The Secretary of State of the State of Illinois shall be and hereby is irrevocably appointed as the agent of the b. surviving, new or acquiring corporation to accept service of process in any such proceedings, and
- The surviving, new, or acquiring corporation will promptly pay to the dissenting shareholders of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois which is a party to the merger, consolidation or exchange the amount. if any, to which they shall be entitled under the provisions of "The Business Corporation Act of 1963" of the State of Illinois with respect to the rights of dissenting shareholders.

3522448.1

The number of outstanding shares of each class of each merging subsidiary corporation and the number of such shares of each class owned immediately prior to the adoption of the plan of merger by the parent corporation, are

Total Number of Shares

Number of Shares of Each Class

Name of Corporation		anding h Class	Owned Immediately R Merger by the Parent Co	
Associated Stationars, In	1,000		1,000	
United Stationers Supply	Co. 880,000		880,000	والواد والمناسبة
b. (Not applicable to 109%) The date of mailing a copy		notice of the naht to di	seent to the shareholders of eac	ch meraina
Subsidiary corporation was written consent for the of all subsidiary corporations.	e roerger or written walver ons received?	of the 30-day period t	ry the holders of all the outstand	ling shares
until after 30 days following the shareholders of each	ng the mailing cl a copy o	I the plan of merger .	not be delivered to the Secreta and of the notice of the right to	ry or state dissent to
The undersigned corporations is attirms, under penalties of perjury, the content of perjury.	hat the facts stated herein	era true. (All signatu	ires must be in <u>BLACK (NK.)</u>	h of whom
Dated 33	C 19 95	Ala	Exact Name of Corporation)	
(Signature of Secretary Daniel B. Bushe	Veeteraur	• •	is o' President or Vice Presid. Sturgess, Chairma	•
(Type or Print N 3/3の		•	ype or Principle me and Tille)  1 Stationers. Inc.	
attested by Arrif Ha	Lell	oy Alw	ract Name of Computation)	
(Signature of Secretary	Assistant	(Signati	ire of President or Vice Presid	
Oaniel H. Bushe			. Sturgess, Chairma ype or Print Name and Title)	22.2
Dated		(0	Exact Name of Corporation)	
Signature of Secretary	or Assistant Secretary)	(Signatu	ire of President or Vice Preside	enn.
0-195.4 (Type or Print N	ame and Title)	77	ype or Print Name and Title)	<del></del>

#### AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

This Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of March 30, 1995, is made and entered into between Associated Stationers, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("ASI"), and United Stationers Supply Co., an Illinois corporation ("USSC").

- 1. Parties to the Merger: Effective Date. Pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and Plan of Merger, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL") and the Business Corporation Act of the State of Illinois (the "IBCA"), ASI shall be merged with and into USSC (the "Merger"). USSC, which shall be the surviving corporation, is hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Surviving Corporation." The Merger shall become effective upon the filing of properly executed articles of merger (the "Articles of Merger") in the office of the Secretary of State. As used in this Agreement and Plan of Merger, the term "Effective Date" shall mean the date and time at which a certificate of merger has been issued by the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois.
- 2. Capitalization of Constituent Corporations. (a) The authorized capital stock of ASI is 3,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value ("ASI Common Stock"), of which 1,000 shares are validly issued and outstanding, fully paid, non-assessable and owned by United Stationer, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("USI").
- (b) The authorized capital strick of USSC is 890,000 shares of common stock, \$1.00 par value ("USSC Common Stock"), of which 880,000 shares are validly issued and outstanding, fully paid, non-assessable, and owned by USI.
- 3. Effect of the Merger. (a) From and after he Effective Date (i) the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of USSC in effect immediately prior to the Effective Date shall continue to be its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws until amended or repealed in a manner provided by law; (ii) each of the officers and directors of USSC in office immediately prior to the Effective Date shall remain its officers and directors until their respective successors are duly elected of appointed; and (iii) USI, as the former holder of the shares of USSC Common Stock and ASI Common Stock, shall only be entitled to the rights provided in this Agreement and Plan of Merger or to its dissenters' rights provided by the IBCA or the DGCL.
- 4. <u>Conversion of Securities</u>. (a) Each authorized or issued and outstanding share of USSC Common Stock shall not in any way be affected by the Merger.

- (b) All shares of ASI Common Stock outstanding on the Effective Date shall be cancelled and cease to be outstanding, without any payment being made in respect thereof.
- 5. Transfer of Certificates. After the Effective Date there shall be no transfers on the stock transfer books of ASI of the shares of ASI Common Stock which were issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Date.
- ASI may amend this Agreement and Plan of Merger at any time prior to the Effective Date. At amendment made subsequent to the submission of the plan to the shareholder of either party to the Merger shall not (i) alter or change the amount or kind of securities or cash which the shareholders of ASI will have the right to receive in the Merger or (ii) alter or change any of the terms or conditions of the plan if such alteration or effect would adversely affect the shares of any class or series of either USSC or ASI.

The Boards of Directors of USSC and ASI may terminate and abandon this Agreement and Plan of Merget 2, any time prior to the Effective Date, subject to any contractual rights, without further shareholder action, in such manner as shall be agreed upon by USSC and ASI.

7. Counterparts. This Agreement and Plan of Merger may be executed in or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but which together shall constitute a single agreement.

[THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement and Plan of Merger to be executed and attested by the duly authorized officers as of the date first written above

ASSOCIATED STATIONERS, INC.

ATTEST: OF COUNTY CONTROL OF COUNTY COUNTY

UNITED STATIONERS SUPPLY CO.

Thomas W. Sturgess Chairman of the Board

The Cook County Clark's Office Gary G. Miller

Secretary