

**Orange County Master Gardeners, Inc. (OCIMG)**

1931 Winney Circle  
Placentia, CA 92870

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December 6, 2013

Contra Costa Master Gardeners  
75 Santa Barbara Road  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Re: Orange County Master Gardeners, Inc. (C2782187)/ Consent for use of name.

Hello,

I have been involved in re-establishing our non-profit status with the State of California after our previous officers allowed our state status to lapse. I thought that the process was completed until I received a call from the Franchise Tax Board to tell us that we needed to get the consent of your group to use the name "master gardeners" in California because your use of "master gardeners" pre-dates ours .

Since we originally incorporated, there appears to have been a change in requirements for the use of names that are similar to others that are already listed. Although our name has been reserved, use of the name in a filing with the Secretary of State requires consent from the Contra Costa Master Gardeners because the above-referenced name (Orange County Master Gardeners, Inc.) is substantially the same as your existing business entity and your use of "master gardeners" pre-dates ours.

Please send your consent, on your organization's letterhead, showing the name and address of your organization as the consenting business entity. The consent does not need to be in a particular form but must:

1. Be unequivocal;
2. Be without conditions;
3. Include express consent to the use of the proposed name;
4. Include the name of the business entity to whom consent is given; and
5. Be signed by an authorized officer, partner or manager of the consenting business entity.

The consent letter should be submitted to the Secretary of State. For further information, you may wish to refer to Title 2, California Code of Regulations, sections 21003 and 21006. I would appreciate your sending us a copy of the letter to the above address.

Here is the address for the Secretary of State that I have:

Secretary of State  
Business Programs Division/Business Entities  
1500 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Thank you very much. This has been a long and frustrating process; but I hope this is the final step. If you have any questions, you can email me at [mahporter@gmail.com](mailto:mahporter@gmail.com) or call me at 714-993-9011.

Anne Porter  
President