



**State of North Carolina**  
**Department of the Secretary of State**

ELAINE F. MARSHALL  
SECRETARY OF STATE

May 3, 2013

Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers  
12025 Waterfront Drive  
Suite 300  
Los Angeles, California 90094-2536

Subject: Letter of support for the Restricted Use of the Top Level Domains, ".INC",  
".LLC", ".CORP", and ".LLP"

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter confirms that The North Carolina Secretary of States Office is charged with registering businesses in the State of North Carolina. In addition my office monitors the position of good standing each of these businesses maintains and their overall right to conduct business transactions or commerce within the United States. The companies registered with this office are members of the larger community of registered US Businesses which can be further divided into the following designations: The Community of Registered Corporations, The Community of Registered Limited Liability Companies, and the Community of Limited Liability Partnerships.

We understand that the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN") is in the process of reviewing applications that refer to the business entity designations of INC, LLC, LLP and CORP. This office has been informed that DOT Registry, LLC has submitted community applications for these strings, with restrictions that are intended to protect U.S. companies that are registered with the Secretary of State. With the growing national concern related to fraudulent business registration, business identity theft, and online consumer protection this office believes that these strings should only be issued under a community designation in order to protect both the members of this community and consumers at large.

Our office believes that specific restrictions and policies must be in place to protect the community of US Registered Businesses and to ensure that these extensions are only representative of members of their respective communities as verified through their Secretary of State's Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elaine F. Marshall".  
Elaine F. Marshall