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Kirk's Becomes Certified By the Women's Business Enterprise National Council

Women-Owned Company Crafts Natural Soaps and Body Care Products

ERLANGER, KY., April 29, 2019 - Kirk's, a business specializing in natural soap and bath products, is proud to announce national certification as a Women's Business Enterprise by the Ohio River Valley Women's Business Council (ORV-WBC), a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). When retailers, suppliers, corporations and government agencies include women-owned businesses as part of their supply chains, they demonstrate their commitment to fostering diversity.

"As a sister and mom-owned and operated company, all products from Kirk's Family of Natural Brands are created with women and families in mind. WBENC certification aligns with our values by advocating for diversity and empowering women to achieve success in life," says Molly Vollmer, co-owner and co-CEO.

WBENC's national standard of certification implemented by the ORV-WBC is a meticulous process including an in-depth review of the business and site inspection. The certification process is designed to confirm the business is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by a woman or women. "We are proud that our ownership goes well beyond the 51% requirement," says Vollmer.

For Vollmer and her sister, co-owner and co-CEO Katherine Jarnigo, the journey began in 2011, when their father, Rich Oliver, put them to work in the family business. Jarnigo recalls, "Before we were able to purchase the company from our father, we had to earn our roles. In order to understand all aspects of the operation it was important that we worked in every department, starting in the warehouse. We learned firsthand the dedication required to run a business, and fostered a deep respect for our employees."

To learn more about Kirk's, please visit <u>www.kirkssoap.com</u>.

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About WBENC

Founded in 1997, WBENC is the nation's leader in women's business development and the leading third-party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women, with more than 13,000 certified Women's Business Enterprises, 14 national Regional Partner Organizations, and over 300 Corporate Members. More than 1,000 corporations representing America's most prestigious brands as well as many states, cities, and other entities accept WBENC Certification. For more information, visit <u>www.wbenc.org</u>.

About Kirk's

Kirk's is dedicated to crafting the highest quality, natural and hypoallergenic soaps and cleansers. For 180 years, families have trusted their Castile products, made from 100% premium coconut oil instead of animal fats and chemical detergents, using them in the bath, kitchen and beyond. All products have been certified under the control of a dermatologist by an independent clinical testing lab as hypoallergenic, non-irritating and safe for sensitive skin. American made and family owned and operated, Kirk's is available at a wide range of retailers nationwide, including Walmart, Target, Kroger, Whole Foods and online at Amazon.com.

KIRK'S NATURAL LLC, Erlanger KY 41018 www.kirkssoap.com 1-859-647-0777



About Kirk's Family of Natural Brands

Founded 180 years ago, Kirk's Family of Natural Brands is one of America's oldest, continuously-operated soap makers. Today, we proudly carry on our family's soap-making traditions with a growing portfolio of innovative body care products. Our family of brands has grown over the past 23 years and brings Kirk's, The Grandpa Soap Company and South of France Natural Body Care all under one roof. And with approximately 70 products ranging from bar soap, liquid soap, foaming hand wash, shampoo, conditioner, body wash and sugar polishes, we're just getting started. We are Molly & Katherine Oliver, two sisters turned CEO-moms - with a vision driven by our desire to create high-quality natural products for both our own growing families as well as yours.

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