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SPARTAN STORES, INC.
THE FOOD PEOPLE

October 28, 2002

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549-0609
Attn: Mr. Jonathan G. Katz
Secretary

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

OCT 29 2002

Re: **File No. 4-460**
Sworn Statement Pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Dear Mr. Katz:

On behalf of James B. Meyer and David M. Staples, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, respectively, of Spartan Stores, Inc., and pursuant to the instructions set forth in the above-caption order, enclosed is an executed original of each of Mr. Meyer's and Mr. Staples' respective Statement Under Oath Regarding Facts and Circumstances Relating to Exchange Act Filings (together, the "Statements").

Please acknowledge receipt of Mr. Meyer's and Mr. Staples' Statements filing by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (616) 752-2140 or adeyonker@wnj.com.

Very truly yours,

Alex J. DeYonker
Secretary and General Counsel

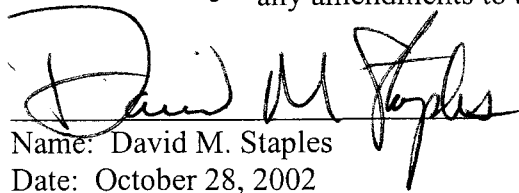
Enclosures

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**STATEMENT UNDER OATH OF
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER
REGARDING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO
EXCHANGE ACT FILINGS**

I, David M. Staples, state and attest that:

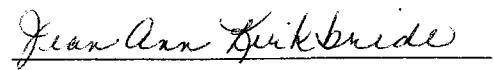
- (1) To the best of my knowledge, based upon a review of the covered reports of Spartan Stores, Inc., and, except as corrected or supplemented in a subsequent covered report:
- no covered report contained an untrue statement of a material fact as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed); and
 - no covered report omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements in the covered report, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed).
- (2) I have reviewed the contents of this statement with the Company's Audit Committee.
- (3) In this statement under oath, each of the following, if filed on or before the date of this statement, is a "covered report":
- Annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 30, 2002, of Spartan Stores, Inc.;
 - all reports on Form 10-Q, all reports on Form 8-K and all definitive proxy materials of Spartan Stores, Inc. filed with the Commission subsequent to the filing of the Form 10-K identified above; and
 - any amendments to any of the foregoing.


Name: David M. Staples
Date: October 28, 2002

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 28th day of October 2002.

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OCT 29 2002


Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 2-6-05

JEAN ANN KIRKBRIDE
Notary Public, Kent County, MI
My Commission Expires Feb 6, 2005