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**HEADLINE:** 'BARBIE' WEBSITE LEADS TO **LAWSUIT**

**BYLINE:** ROB GRANATSTEIN, TORONTO SUN

**BODY:**

Mattel wants to strip **Barbie**.

The American toy-maker wants to yank exotic dancer **Barbie** Doll Benson's steamy website -- www.barbiebenson.com -- because it claims it infringes on Mattel's domain.

The Toronto-born 1992 Miss Nude Canada received a letter from William Dunnegan, Mattel's New York-based lawyer, dated Nov. 6, demanding she transfer the name of her site to Mattel within 14 days, claiming trademark violations.

But Benson had two words for Mattel: Hands off! "This is everything to me, the website," she said. "It's been my goal hopefully to get me out of this business (stripping)."

She's spent more than \$ 10,000 on the year-old site, she said, and it started generating revenue by adding a membership portion.

"I try to make it much more interesting than 'Come to my site and see naked girls.'"

Benson, whose real name is Joanne Crockett, said she was mindful of potential legal problems with Mattel.

"I did not put the 'Doll' in because I didn't want the trouble," she said, noting the Barbie Twins, who posed in Playboy, also have websites in their name.

**GRAPHIC:** photo of JOANNE CROCKETT BARBIE DOLL BENSON Faces action

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