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# FLORIDA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

Bedford Park at Tradition Homeowners Association, In

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#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Glenda E. Hood Secretary of State

June 13, 2003

RUDEN MCCLOSKY SMITH SCHUSTER & RUSSELL, P.A.

SUBJECT: BEDFORD PARK AT TRADITION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. REF: W0300017130

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# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

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BEDFORD PARK AT TRADITION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (A Florida Corporation Not-For-Profit)

In order to form a corporation not-for-profit, under and in accordance with Chapter  $61\overline{7}$  of the Florida Statutes, we, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves into a corporation not-for-profit, for the purpose, and with the powers, hereinafter set forth and to that end, we do, by these Articles of Incorporation, certify as follows:

#### ARTICLE I

#### NAME

- 1.1. Name. The name of this corporation shall be BEDFORD PARK AT TRADITION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. ("Association"). The initial address of the Association shall be 1850 Fountainview Boulevard, Suite 201, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986.
- 1.2. <u>Definitions</u>. The words used in these Articles shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for the Association, (said Declaration, as amended, renewed, or extended from time to time, is hereinafter referred to as the "Declaration").

#### ARTICLE II

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose for which the Association is organized is to engage as a non-profit organization in protecting the value of the property of the Members of the Association, to exercise all the powers and privileges, and to perform all of the duties and obligations of the Association as set forth in the Declaration which is to be recorded in the public records of St. Lucie County, Florida, including, without limitation, the establishment and enforcement of the payment of assessments and other charges contained therein, and to engage in such other lawful activities as may be to the mutual benefit of the Members and their property.

# ARTICLE III

#### POWERS

The Association shall have all of the powers set forth in Section 617.0302, *Florida Statutes* (1997), including, without limitation, the following powers:

3.1. Common Law and Statutory Powers. The Association shall have all of the common PSL:9893:1

law and statutory powers of a corporation not-for-profit, which are not in conflict with the terms of these Articles, the Declaration, or the By-Laws of the Association.

- 3.2. <u>Necessary Powers</u>. The Association shall have all of the powers and duties set forth in the Declaration, except as limited by these Articles, and all powers and duties reasonably necessary to operate and administer the Properties pursuant to the Declaration, including but not limited to the following:
- A. To make and collect assessments against Members to defray the costs and expenses of the Association property.
- B. To use the proceeds of assessments in the exercise of its powers and duties.
- C. To purchase, own, hold, lease, maintain, repair, replace, improve, operate and convey the property of the Association in accordance with the Declaration, and to maintain and operate the water management system as permitted by the South Florida Water Management District, including all lakes, retention areas, culverts and related appurtenances, if any.
- D. To purchase insurance upon the property of the Association and insurance for the protection of the Association and its Members, in the amounts required by the Declaration.
- E. To dedicate or to transfer all or any part of the Association's property to any public agency, authority, community development district or utility for such purposes and subject to such conditions as may be approved pursuant to the Declaration.
- F. To reconstruct the improvements to the Association's property after casualty, and to further improve the Association's properties, as provided in the Declaration.
- G. To make and amend reasonable Rules and Regulations regarding the use of the property of the Association in accordance with the requirements set forth in the By-Laws.
- H. To contract for the management of the Association property and to delegate to such contractors all powers and duties of the Association except such as are specifically required by the Declaration to have the approval of the Board or the Membership.
- I. To employ personnel for reasonable compensation to perform the services required for proper operation and administration of the Association property.
- J. To enforce by legal means the provisions of the Declaration, these Articles, the By-Laws, and the Rules and Regulations for the use of the Association's property as same may be promulgated, modified, or amended from time to time by the Association.
- K. To pay taxes and assessments, which are liens against any part of the P5L:9893:1

Association's property.

- L. To pay the cost of all power, water, sewer, waste collection, and other utility services rendered to the property of the Association, and not billed to Unit Owners.
- M. To enter any lot at a reasonable time and upon reasonable notice to make emergency repairs, to avoid waste, or to do such other work reasonably necessary for the proper protection, preservation, or maintenance of Association Property.
- N. To grant such permits, licenses, and easements over the Common Areas for utilities, roads, and other purposes reasonably necessary or useful to the Association.
- O. To designate portions of the Common Areas for commercial uses to the extent permitted by the Declaration.
- P. To do such other things as may be necessary in order to perform the duties and to exercise the powers provided for the Association in the Declaration.
- 3.3. <u>Funds and Title to Properties</u>. All funds and the titles of all properties acquired by the Association and their proceeds shall be held in trust for the Members in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, these Articles, and the By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE IV

#### **MEMBERS**

- 4.1. <u>Members</u>. The Members of the Association shall consist of all of the record owners of Units in Bedford Park at Tradition.
- 4.2. Change of Membership. Change of Membership in the Association shall be established by recording in the public records of the County, a deed or other instrument establishing record title to a Unit at Bedford Park at Tradition, and the delivery to the Association of a copy of such instrument. The owner designated by such instrument thus becomes a Member of the Association, and the Membership of the prior owner is terminated as of the date of recording of such instrument.
- 4,3. <u>Transfer of Membership</u>. The share of a Member in the funds and assets of the Association cannot be assigned, hypothecated, or transferred in any manner except upon the transfer of title of his Unit.
- 4.4. <u>Voting</u>. The owner of each Unit shall be entitled to one vote as a Member of the Association. The exact number of votes to be east by Members and the manner of exercising voting rights, shall be determined by the By-Laws; subject, however, to the terms and conditions of the Declaration.

#### ARTICLE V

# TERM

The term for which this corporation is to exist shall be perpetual.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### INCORPORATOR

The names and address of the Incorporator of this Association is Tradition Development Company, LLC, and such incorporator's address is 1850 Fountainview Boulevard, Suite 201, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986.

# ARTICLE VII OFFICERS

- 7.1. Officers. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a President, one (1) or several Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, which officers shall be subject to the directions of the Board.
- 7.2. Election of Officers. The Board shall elect the President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, and as many Vice Presidents as the Board shall from time to time determine appropriate. Such officers shall be elected annually by the Board at the first meeting of the Board following the "Annual Members' Meeting" (as described in the By-Laws); provided, however, such officers may be removed by such Board and other persons may be elected by the Board as such officers in the manner provided in the By-Laws. The President shall be a Director of the Association, but no other officer need be a Director. The same person may hold two (2) offices, the duties of which are not incompatible; provided, however, the offices of President and Vice President shall not be held by the same person, nor shall the same person hold the office of President who holds the office of Secretary.

Officers shall be elected by the Board at the first meeting of the Board following each annual meeting of the Members, provided, however, until the Transfer Date the Developer shall have the right to approve all of the officers elected. The following persons shall serve as the initial officers.

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer James Anderson James Zbori I John Gallagher John Gallagher

#### ARTICLE VIII

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 8.1. <u>Directors</u>, Except as stated herein, the affairs of the Association will be managed by a Board consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than nine (9) directors. The composition of the Board, the manner of election to the Board, the term of office and other provisions regarding the Board shall be established by the Declaration and the By-Laws of the Association. The number of Directors on the Board until the Transfer Date shall be three (3). After the Developer elects to divest itself of control of the Association, Directors must be Members of the Association.
- 8.2. Term of Directors. After the Transfer Date, members of the Board shall serve for a term of two (2) years; provided, however, that not less than three (3) members of the Board initial terms the Transfer Date shall serve for elected on (I) year and the balance of the Board elected on the Transfer Date shall serve for initial terms of two (2) years. After the Transfer Date, at each annual meeting, Directors shall be elected to take the Board positions of the members of the Board who terms have expired. The incumbent shall remain in position on the Board until a replacement is elected.
- 8.3. <u>Election of Directors</u>, After the Transfer Date, Directors of the Association shall be elected at the Annual Members' Meeting in the manner determined by the By-Laws. Directors may be removed and vacancies on the Board shall be filled in the manner provided by the By-Laws.
- 8.4. Transfer Date. The Members shall be entitled to elect a majority of the Board not later than three months after 90 percent of the Units in Bedford Park at Tradition, that will ultimately be governed by the Association, have been conveyed to Members. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Developer, in its sole discretion, may elect to terminate its control of the Association at an earlier date. The Directors appointed by the Developer as the first Board, including any replacement members, shall serve until the first election of Directors by the Members, and any vacancies in their number occurring before such first election shall be filled in accordance with the By-Laws.
- 8.5. <u>First Board</u>. The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as the first Board are as follows:

NAME	ADDRESS
James Anderson	1850 Fountainview Blud Suite 201 Fort St. Lucie Fz 34986
James Zboril	1850 Fountainview Blid, Ste. 201
John Gallagher	1850 Fountainview Blud. Stc. 201 Fort St. Lucie Fz 34986
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#### ARTICLE IX

# **INDEMNIFICATION**

Every Director, committee member, and officer of the Association (and the Directors, committee members, and officers as a group) shall be indemnified by the Association against all expenses and liabilities, including counsel fees (at all trial and appellate levels and whether or not suit be instituted) reasonably incurred by or imposed upon him or them in connection with any proceeding, litigation or settlement in which he may become involved by reason of his being or having been a Director, committee member, or officer of the Association. The foregoing provisions for indemnification shall apply whether or not he is a Director, committee member, or officer at the time such expenses and/or liabilities are incurred. Notwithstanding the above, in the event of a settlement, the indemnification provisions herein shall not be automatic and shall apply only when the Board approves such settlement and authorizes reimbursement for the costs and expenses of the settlement as in the best interest of the Association. In instances where a Director, committee member, or officer admits or is adjudged guilty of willful misfeasance or malfeasance in the performance of his duties, the indemnification provisions of these Articles shall not apply. Otherwise, the foregoing rights to indemnification shall be in addition to and not exclusive of any and all rights of indemnification to which a Director, committee member, or officer may be entitled whether by statute or common law.

#### ARTICLE X

#### BY-LAWS

The By-Laws of the Association may be adopted, amended, altered, or rescinded as provided therein; provided, however, that at no time shall the By-Laws conflict with these Articles or the Declaration, and provided further, that uo amendment, alteration, or rescission may be made which adversely affects the rights and privileges of any Institutional Mortgagee, without the prior written consent of the Institutional Mortgagee so affected, and provided further that until the Transfer Date no amendments, alterations or rescissions of the By-Laws shall be effective unless the Developer shall have joined in and consented thereto in writing. Any attempt to amend, alter, or rescind contrary to these prohibitions shall be of no force or effect.

#### ARTICLE XI

# <u>AMENDMENTS</u>

11.1. Amendments Prior to Recording. Prior to the recording of the Declaration amongst the public records of the County, these Articles may be amended only by an instrument in writing signed by the Incorporator to these Articles and filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Florida. The instrument amending these Articles shall identify the particular Article or Articles being amended, give the exact language of such amendments, and a certified copy of each such amendment shall always be attached to any certified copy of these Articles.

P\$L:9893:1

- 11.2. <u>Amendments After Recording</u>. After the recording of the Declaration amongst the public records of the County, these Articles may be amended in the following manner:
- A. Notice of the subject matter of the proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of any meeting (whether of the Board or of the Membership) at which such proposed amendment is to be considered, except that no notice is required if written consent to the amendment is obtained as provided in paragraph B below; and
- B. A resolution approving the proposed amendment may be first passed by either the Board or the Membership. After such approval of a proposed amendment by one of said bodies, such proposed amendment must be submitted to and approved by the other of said bodies. Approval by the Membership must be by a vote of a majority of the Members present at a meeting of the Members at which a quorum is present or by written consent of a majority of the Members, and approval by the Board must be by a majority of the Directors present at any meeting of the Directors at which a quorum is present or by written consent of a majority of the Directors.
- 11.3. Amendment by Reference to Title. No Article shall be revised or amended by reference to its title or number only. Proposals to amend existing Articles shall contain the full text of the Articles to be amended; new words shall be inserted in the text underlined, and words to be deleted shall be lined through with hyphens. However, if the proposed change is so extensive that this procedure would hinder, rather than assist, the understanding of the proposed amendment, it is not necessary to use underlining and hyphens as indicators of words added or deleted, but instead a notation must be inserted immediately preceding the proposed amendment in substantially the following language: "Substantial re-wording of Article. See Article \_\_\_\_\_\_ for present text." Non-material errors or omissions in the Article amendment process shall not invalidate an otherwise properly promulgated amendment.
- 11.4. <u>Institutional Mortgagees</u>. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Article, there shall be no amendment to these Articles which shall abridge, amend or alter the priority of any Institutional Mortgagee, or the validity of any mortgage held by such Institutional Mortgagee without the prior written consent therefor by such Mortgagee.
- 11.5. <u>Developer</u>. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Article, there shall be no amendment to these Articles which shall abridge, amend or alter the rights of Developer, including the right to designate, to select, or to approve the selection of the Directors as provided in the Declaration and By-Laws, without the prior written consent of the Developer, or the rights of the Founder, without the consent of the Founder.

# ARTICLE XII

# INTERESTED DIRECTORS

No contract or transaction between the Association and one or more of its directors or officers, or between the Association and any other corporation, partnership, or Association, or

other organization in which one or more of its directors or officers are directors or officers have a financial interest, shall be invalid, void, or voidable solely for such reason, or solely because the director or officer is present or participates in the meeting of the Board at which such contract or transaction was authorized, or solely because his, her, or their votes are counted for such purpose. No director or officer of the Association shall incur liability by reason of the fact that he or she is or may be interested in any such contract or transaction. Interested directors may be counted om determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which a contract or transaction with an interest director is to be considered.

#### ARTICLE XIII

#### REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

The initial registered office of the Association is 1850 Fountainview Boulevard, Suite 201, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, and the initial registered agent at such address is Tradition Development Company, LLC.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Incorporator has hereunto executed these Articles of Incorporation this 12th day of June 2003.

> TRADITION DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, a Florida limited liability

company

Paul J/Hegener, President

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 12th day of 2003, by PAUL J. HEGENER, President of Tradition Development Company, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, on behalf of the company. He is personally known to me.

Commission #:

Expiration date:

GFFICIAL NOTARY SEAL SHIRLEY ESHITH COMMISSION NUMBER DD015824

# CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING A REGISTERED OFFICE AND A REGISTERED AGENT FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Pursuant to Chapter 48.091, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted in compliance with said Act:

BEDFORD PARK AT TRADITION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, with its principal office, as indicated in the Articles of Incorporation, at the City of Port St. Lucie, County of St. Lucie, State of Florida, has named Tradition Development Company, LLC, located at 1850 Fountainview Boulevard, Suite 201, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986, as its agent to accept service of process within the State of Florida.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the above stated corporation, at the place designated in this certificate, Tradition Development Company, LLC, hereby agrees to act in this capacity, and agrees to comply with the provision of the Act relative to keeping open said office.

TRADITION DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

By: Paul V. Hegener, President

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 12th day of 2003, by PAUL J. HEGENER, President of Tradition Development Company, a Florida limited liability company, on behalf of the company. He is personally known to me.

otary Public ame: Shirles E. Sc

Commission #:

Expiration date:

