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FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION
Eternal Refuge Christian Church, Inc.

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ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

ETERNAL REFUGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.

In compliance with Chapter 617, F.S., (Not for Profit)

**ARTICLE I
CORPORATE NAME**

The name of the corporation is:

ETERNAL REFUGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.

**ARTICLE II
CORPORATE ADDRESS**

The principal place of business and street address of the Corporation is:

66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

The mailing address of the corporation is:

P.O. Box 4875
Haines City, FL 33845

**ARTICLE III
DURATION**

The term of existence of the corporation is perpetual.

**ARTICLE IV
GENERAL AND SPECIFIC PURPOSES**

Section I – General Purpose

ETERNAL REFUGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC. is a Christian ministry, founded under biblical principles. We are committed to the proclamation of the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to people in Haines City, and surrounding

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towns, and beyond; and to serve all who need spiritual and material assistance while strategically utilizing church resources to demonstrate God's love and compassion for people. Additionally, we will also provide Chaplain-pastoral care programs, Christian counseling services, ordination of ministers and church leaders, grant credentials according to title or position, and provide teaching material for pastors, churches, missions, fellowships and other groups, and conduct seminars to help in this endeavor both here and around the world.

Besides being engaged in this ministry directly we will also provide teaching material for pastors, churches, missions, fellowship and other groups and conduct seminars to help in this endeavor both here and around the world.

Said corporation will govern itself and conduct its own affairs according to the New Testament Scriptures. This right shall include such matters as the hiring of employees, election or appointment of the Board of Directors and Officers, the conduct of its own services, performance of weddings and funerals, if it chooses to do so, usage of facilities, program(s), and all business and spiritual matters.

As such, this corporation may also seek relationships with the public, private, social welfare, and governmental organizations. We may conduct fundraising to accomplish our purpose which could include, person to person, mailings, conferences, community events, website, and internet social media. We may have a presence on various internet media outlets. We may desire to partner with other (public and private) organizations along with local, state, and federal agencies in this regard. This may include a network of business and community leaders to partner with us to fulfill our vision and develop programs giving assistance to those in our community. Donations received will be used to accomplish these goals.

Section II - Internal Revenue Service

Said corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article IV hereof.

No part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not

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participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on.

- (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, or
- (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code.

**ARTICLE V
AFFILIATION**

While maintaining its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its own affairs as herein set forth, the Corporation voluntarily commits to enter partnership with like-minded church and community organizations as it sees fit or is necessary to accomplish its mission.

**ARTICLE VI
PASTORAL CARE AND LEADERSHIP**

The Senior Pastor shall be the spiritual leader of the church. The qualifications, process and vote required to approve or remove a Senior Pastor shall be contained in the Bylaws.

**ARTICLE VII
MEMBERS**

Membership in the church shall be available to those persons who qualify per the Holy Scripture and the Bylaws.

**ARTICLE VIII
CORPORATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

The Board of Directors are the legal governing authority of the church. The directors and officers of the corporation shall be people of mature experience and knowledge. The way the directors and officers are elected or appointed shall be set forth in the Bylaws.

The Board of Directors and their designated agents are authorized to open business checking accounts, lease, purchase, mortgage, encumber, and sell part or all the Corporations real property and personal assets. The Board of Directors

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are also authorized to apply for all Federal, State, and local grants and financial assistance and aid to supplement our community outreaches.

The Directors named herein as the first Board of Directors shall hold office until their successors are elected or appointed and qualified. The names and addresses of the first members of the Board of Directors are as follows:

Dr. Hector A. Chiesa
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

Dr. Rosario Chiesa
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

Ruben Labiosa
2308 Burnway Road
Haines City, FL 33944

Manuel E. Garcia
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

The Board of Directors shall elect or appoint the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the Bylaws of the corporation may authorize the directors to elect or appoint from time to time. Said Officers are empowered to open and close bank accounts, request an EIN, hire a CPA and other associated matters with the IRS and legal counsel.

The names and addresses of the initial Officers are as follows:

President:

Dr. Hector A. Chiesa
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

Vice President:

Dr. Rosario Chiesa
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

Secretary:

Ruben Labiosa
2308 Burnway Road
Haines City, FL 33944

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Treasurer:
Manuel E. Garcia
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

**ARTICLE IX
DISSOLUTION**

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, none of its funds or assets shall be distributed to any member, director, officer, employee, trustee, or any other individual. The board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, distribute funds and assets for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Any such funds or assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such religious outreach purposes.

**ARTICLE X
REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE**

The corporation's registered agent and office is:

Ruben Labiosa
2308 Burnway Road
Haines City, FL 33944

**ARTICLE XI
INCORPORATOR**

The name and address of the incorporator of the corporation:

Dr. Hector A. Chiesa
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

ARTICLE XII: INDEMNIFICATION

This Corporation shall indemnify any Director or Officer, or former Director and Officer, against expenses and necessarily incurred by him/her (legal fees or otherwise) or any amount paid in satisfaction of judgments about any suit or



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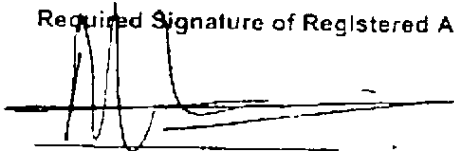
proceeding, whether civil or criminal in nature, in which he/she is made a party because of being or having been such Director or Officer. No Director, Officer, or former Director and Officer is eligible for indemnification if he/she pleads guilty or is convicted of a crime associated with the Corporation or its affiliates, or, enters into a transaction deriving an improper personal benefit, directly or indirectly; or, acts with recklessness or commits an act of omission that was committed in bad faith or with malicious purpose or in a manner exhibiting wanton and wilful disregard of human rights, safety, or property.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENT

This corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change, or repeal any provision contained in the Articles of Incorporation, or any amendments hereto, and to enact a Constitution and By-Laws, in manner now or hereafter prescribed by law and all rights conferred on Directors and Officers herein are granted subject to this reservation. These Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any time by a 2/3rds vote of the Directors of the corporation at any regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Required Signature of Registered Agent:



Ruben Labiosa
2308 Burnway Road
Haines City, FL 33944

REGISTERED AGENT

Date: September 27, 2023

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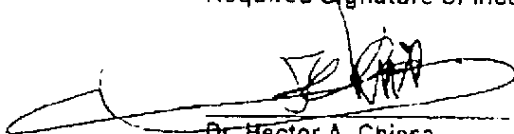
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I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third-degree felony as provided for in s.817.155, F.S.

Required Signature of Incorporator:



Dr. Hector A. Chiesa
66 Pine Forest Drive
Haines City, FL 33844

Incorporator

DATE: September 27, 2023.

Copyright © All Rights Reserved. These Articles of Incorporation and Designations were drafted and prepared by Rev. John P. Joseph, Esq. CCA of the Church Legal Center, PLLC whose office is located at 8950 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street North Suite 160 St. Petersburg, Florida 33702. Florida Bar Number #0607274 www.churchlegalcenter.com churchattorney@gmail.com

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