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Florida Department of State
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FLORIDA PROFIT CORPORATION OR P.A.

Merchant Associates, Inc.

Certificate of Status	1
Certified Copy	0
Page Count	05
Estimated Charge	\$78.75

F. CHESSEB
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Audit # H98000024368
**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
MERCHANT ASSOCIATES, INC.**

The undersigned incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation hereby forms a corporation under the laws of the State of Florida as follows:

1-1-99

**ARTICLE I
Name and Address**

The name of this Corporation is:

Merchant Associates, Inc.

The mailing address and street address of the Corporation are:

**1195 Fairway Dr.
Dunedin, FL 34698**

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**ARTICLE II
Term of Existence**

This Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

**ARTICLE III
Purpose**

This Corporation is organized for the purpose of transacting any and all lawful business.

**ARTICLE IV
Powers**

The corporation shall have the power:

- (a) To have perpetual succession by its corporate name;
- (b) To sue and be sued, complain, and defend in its corporate name;

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Audit # H98000024368

- (c) To have a corporate seal, which may be altered at will, and to use it , or a facsimile of it, by impressing, or affixing it or in any other manner reproducing it;
- (d) To purchase, receive, lease, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use, and otherwise deal with real or personal property or any legal or equitable interest in property wherever located;
- (e) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, create a security interest in, lease, exchange, and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property;
- (f) To lend money to, and use its credit to assist, its officers and employees to the full extent permitted by law;
- (g) To make contracts and guarantees, incur liabilities, borrow money, issue its notes, bonds, and other obligations (which may be convertible into or include the option to purchase other securities of the corporation), and secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of any of its property, franchises, and income and make contracts of guaranty and suretyship which are necessary or convenient to the conduct, promotion, or attainment of the business of a corporation the majority of the outstanding stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by the contracting corporation; a corporation which owns, directly or indirectly, a majority of the outstanding stock of the contracting corporation; or a corporation the majority of the outstanding stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by a corporation which owns, directly or indirectly, the majority of the outstanding stock of the contracting corporation, which contracts of guaranty and suretyship shall be deemed to be necessary or convenient to the conduct, promotion, or attainment of the business of the contracting corporation, and make other contracts of guaranty and suretyship which are necessary or convenient to the conduct, promotion, or attainment of the business of the contracting corporation;
- (h) To purchase, receive, subscribe for, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, sell, mortgage, lend, pledge, or otherwise dispose of, and deal in and with, shares or other interests in, or obligations of, any other entity;
- (i) To lend money, invest and reinvest its funds, and receive and hold real and personal property as security for repayment;
- (j) To conduct its business, locate offices and exercise the powers granted by this act within or without this state;

Audit # H98000024368

- (k) To elect directors and appoint officers, employees, and agents of the Corporation and define their duties, fix their compensation, and lend them money and credit;
- (l) To make and amend bylaws, not inconsistent with its Articles of Incorporation or with the laws of this state, for managing the business and regulating the affairs of the Corporation;
- (m) To make donations for the public welfare or for charitable, scientific, or educational purposes;
- (n) To transact any lawful business that will aid governmental policy;
- (o) To pay pensions and establish pension plans, pension trusts, profit sharing plans, share bonus plans, share option plans, and benefit or incentive plans for any or all of its current or former directors, officers, employees and agents and for any or all of the current or former directors, officers, employees and agents of its subsidiaries;
- (p) To provide insurance for its benefit on the life of any of its directors, officers, or employees, or on the life of any shareholder for the purpose of acquiring at his death shares of its stock owned by the shareholder or by the spouse or children of the shareholder; and
- (q) To be a promoter, incorporator, partner, member, associate, or manager of any corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other entity;
- (r) To make payments or donations or do any other act not inconsistent with law that furthers the business and affairs of the corporation;

ARTICLE V
Capital Stock

This Corporation is authorized to issue One Thousand (1,000) shares of One Dollar (\$1.00) par value stock, which shall be designated Common Shares.

ARTICLE VI
Initial Registered Office and Agent

The street address of the initial registered office of this Corporation is:

1195 Fairway Dr.
Dunedin, FL 34698

and the name of its registered agent at such address is:

Ray Sieger

Audit # H98000024368

ARTICLE VII
Initial Board of Directors

This Corporation shall have Two director(s) initially. The number of directors may be either increased or diminished from time to time by the Bylaws, but shall never be less than one (1). The name and address of the initial directors of this Corporation is:

Name and Address

Ray Sieger
1195 Fairway Dr.
Dunedin, FL 34698

Denise Sieger
1195 Fairway Dr.
Dunedin, FL 34698

ARTICLE VIII
Incorporator

The name and address of the person signing these Articles are:

Name and Address

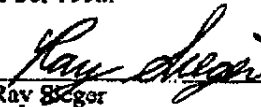
Ray Sieger
1195 Fairway Dr.
Dunedin, FL 34698

ARTICLE IX
Effective Date

The effective date of this corporation will be January 1, 1999.

ARTICLE X
Amendment

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended in the manner provided by law.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned subscriber has executed these Articles of Incorporation, this day, Wednesday, December 30, 1998.



Ray Sieger

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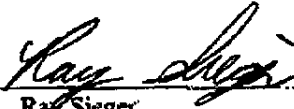
P.06
P.02
Page 6 of 6

Audit # H98000024368

ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named as Registered Agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

Date: December 30, 1998


Ray Sieger

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