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March 12, 2014

Via Overnight Federal Express

Florida Department of State Division of Corporations Clifton Building 2661 Executive Center Circle Tallahassee, FL 32301

RE: Marco Island Post 404

The American Legion, Inc. Our File No.: 14CC001

Dear Sir/Madam:

Accompanying for filing is an original and one (1) copy of the Constitution (Articles of Incorporation) for Marco Island Post 404 The American Legion, Inc., along with our check in the amount of \$70.00 to pay the filing fee.

Kindly record and return the stamped copy to us in the self addressed, stamped envelope provided for that purpose.

Should you have any questions or comments, please call.

Sincerely,

William G. Morris

WGM/mjb d:14

Enclosures

Cc: Marco Island Post 404 American Legion (w/ encl.)(Via Email Only)

CONSTITUTION (ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION)

MARCO ISLAND POST 404 THE AMERICAN LEGION, INC.

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order: to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americansin; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation of the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote made and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; and to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE 1 - Name

The name of this organization shall be Marco Island Post 404, The American Legion, Inc.

ARTICLE II - Objects

The object and purpose of this Post shall be to promote the principles as set forth in the foregoing preamble, and the National and Department Constitution of the American Legion.

ARTICLE III - Nature

- Section 1. This Post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service.
- **Section 2.** This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall neither be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.
- Section 3. Rank does not exist in the American Legion; no member shall be addresses by his military or naval title in any meeting of the Post.

ARTICLE IV - Membership

- Section 1. Eligibility for membership in this Post shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution for the American Legion.
- **Section 2.** Application for membership shall be made in writing under such regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by the Post Executive Committee.
- Section 3. All applications for membership, including transfers, shall be acted upon at the next Post meeting following the making of such supplications, and shall, at such meeting, be accepted, rejected or referred for further investigation. If a majority of the members present and voting cast their vote against the acceptance of said application, then the application shall be recorded as rejected.
- Section 4. Any member of the Post may be reprimanded, suspended, removed from office or expelled from this Post and/or The American Legion in accordance with Article X, Paragraph 14 of the Constitution, the American Legion, Department of Florida. All vacancies existing in the Executive Committee, or in any office of the Post from any cause other than the expiration of the term, shall be filled by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Committee, and a person so appointed shall hold office for the unexpired term of the member of the committee or officer who is succeeded.

Section 5. A member of this Post who has been expelled or suspended from the Post for any cause may be reinstated to membership by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a Post meeting and the payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs.

Section 6. No person who has been expelled by another post shall be admitted to membership in this Post without the consent of the expelling post, except that where such consent has been asked to and denied by such post, he/she may then appeal to the State Executive Committee of the Department of the expelling post for permission to apply for membership in this Post, and shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted.

ARTICLE V - Officers

- **Section 1.** The administrative affairs of the Post shall be under the supervision of the Executive Committee which shall consist of the officers of the Post and such ex-officio members as may be provided by the By-laws.
- **Section 2.** The elective officers of this Post shall be a Commander, a First Vice Commander, a Second Vice Commander, a Finance Officer, a Historian, a Chaplain, a Sergeant-at-Arms and three Trustees.
- Section 3. The appointive officers of this Post shall be an Adjutant, a Service Officer and a Judge Advocate. They shall be appointed by the Commander-elect, subject to the approval of the newly elected Executive Committee. Their terms of office shall be concurrent with the elected officers.
- **Section 4.** All elective officers and committeemen shall be elected annually except the Trustees, who are elected for a three year term, with staggered terms, one being elected each year. Officers shall hold office until their successors are duly installed, or as otherwise provided. All appointive officers will serve at the pleasure of the Commander.
- Section 5. Any member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this Post.

Section 6. The duties of the officers and executive committeemen shall be those usually pertaining to such officers are committeemen or as provided in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI - Finance

- Section 1. The revenue of the Post shall be derived from membership or initiation fees, from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Executive committee.
- Section 2. The amount of such membership or initiation fees and the amount of such annual Post dues shall be fixed and letermined by the Post.
- Section 3. The Post shall pay to Department headquarters the national and departmental annual membership dues for every member of this Post.

ARTICLE VII - Amendments

- Section 1. This constitution is adopted subject to the provisions of the National Constitution of the American Legion and the Department Constitution of the Department of Florida, the American Legion. Any amendments to said National or Department Constitutions which are in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.
- Section 2. This constitution may be amended at any regular Post meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members of this Post attending, such regular meeting and voting, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been submitted in writing and read at the next proceeding regular meeting of this Post, and providing further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least thirty days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members that at such meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted on.

ARTICLE VIII - Address

Section 1. Street address of the initial office of the Corporation shall be, 1881 Cascade Court, Marco Island, Florida 34145.

Section 2. Mailing address of the Corporation shall be P.O. Box 1190, Marco Island, Florida 34146.

ARTICLE IX - Initial Officers and/or Directors

Officers of the Corporation shall also serves as Directors of the Corporation. Initial Officers/Directors and their addresses are set forth below:

Commander: 1st Vice Commander: Lee Rubenstein, 1881 Cascade Court, Marco Island, FL 34145

Finance Officer:

Hugh Messner, 669 Cameo Court, Marco Island, Fl, 34145 Ray Rosenberg, 916 Sundrop Court, Marco Island, FL 34145

Chaplain:

Mike Stapleton, 201 Vintage Bay Drive, Marco Island, FL 34145

Adjutant/Sgt.-at-Arms:

Bill Horton, 1103 Edington Place, Marco Island, FL 34145

Trustee: Judge Advocate: Bruce Novark, 1220Ember Court, Marco Island, FL 34145

Al Bozzo, 520 Taylor Court, Marco Island, FL 34145

ARTICLE X - Registered Agent

The name and Florida street address of the Registered Agent is Lee Rubenstein, 1881 Cascade Court, Marco Island, Florida 34145.

ARTICLE XI - Incorporator

Name and address of the Incorporator is Lee Rubenstein, Commander, 1881 Cascade Court, Marco Island, Florida 34145.

Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for the above stated Corporation at the place designated in the certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in that capacity.

3-11-2014 Date

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 in Section 817.155, Florida Statutes.

Lee Rubenstein, Commander and Incorporator