

FI 0000004973

(Requestor's Name)

(Address)

(Address)

(City/State/Zip/Phone #)

☐

PICK-UP

☐

WAIT

☐

MAIL

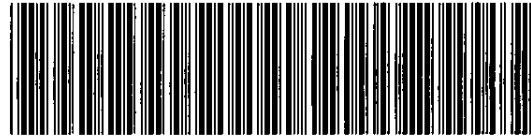
(Business Entity Name)

(Document Number)

Certified Copies _____ Certificates of Status _____

Special Instructions to Filing Officer:

Office Use Only



100187225451

11/01/10--01031--010 **78.75

APPROVED
AND
FILED
10 NOV 15 PM 4:50
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

VH

COVER LETTER

TO: New Filing Section
Division of Corporations

SUBJECT: Ameris Bancorp

Name of corporation - must include suffix

Dear Sir or Madam:

The enclosed "Application by Foreign Corporation for Authorization to Transact Business in Florida," "Certificate of Existence," or "Certificate of Good Standing" and check are submitted to register the above referenced foreign corporation to transact business in Florida.

Please return all correspondence concerning this matter to the following:

Patricia Benjamin

Name of Person

Rogers & Hardin LLP

Firm/Company

229 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 2700

Address

Atlanta, GA 30303-1601

City/State and Zip code

pbenjamin@rh-law.com

E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

For further information concerning this matter, please call:

Jody L. Spencer

Name of Person

at (404) 420-4611

Area Code & Daytime Telephone Number

STREET/COURIER ADDRESS:

New Filing Section
Division of Corporations
Clifton Building
2661 Executive Center Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32301

MAILING ADDRESS:

New Filing Section
Division of Corporations
P.O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

Enclosed is a check for the following amount:

☐

\$70.00 Filing Fee

☒

\$78.75 Filing Fee &
Certificate of Status

☐

\$78.75 Filing Fee &
Certified Copy

☐

\$87.50 Filing Fee,
Certificate of Status &
Certified Copy



J. THOMAS CARDWELL
COMMISSIONER

APPROVED
AND
FILED

10 NOV 15 PM 4:50

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

STREET ADDRESS: 101 E. Gaines Street, Suite 636 PHONE (850) 410-9800 • FAX (850) 410-9548
MAILING ADDRESS: Division of Financial Institutions, 200 E. Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0371
Visit us on the web: WWW.FLOFR.COM • Toll Free: (800) 848-3792

October 28, 2010

Jody L. Spencer
Attorney at Law
Rogers & Hardin LLP
229 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Suite 2700
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Spencer:

Re: Ameris Bancorp

Reference is made to your recent e-mail requesting approval of the above-referenced name which will be a proposed bank holding company of Ameris Bank.

Section 655.922, Florida Statutes, exempts a financial institution, holding company or its subsidiaries from the prohibition of using the word "bank," "banc," "banque," "banker," "banking," "trust company," "savings and loan association," "savings bank," or "credit union" in its corporate name.

Therefore, this Office will not object to the use of the above referenced name being registered to transact business in the state of Florida. However, if the proposed bank holding company is not organized, we will require that the corporation be dissolved.

Sincerely,

Linda B. Charity
Director

LBC:bk

cc: Karon Beyer, Chief, Bureau of Commercial Recordings, Division of Corporations,
Department of State

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

BILL MCCOLLUM
ATTORNEY
GENERAL

ALEX SINK
CHIEF FINANCIAL
OFFICER

CHARLES BRONSON
COMMISSIONER OF
AGRICULTURE



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Corporations

November 5, 2010

PATRICIA BENJAMIN
229 PEACHTREE ST., N.E., SUITE 2700
ATLANTA, GA 30303-1601

SUBJECT: AMERIS BANCORP
Ref. Number: W10000051992

We have received your document for AMERIS BANCORP and your check(s) totaling \$78.75. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

The name of your corporation is not available in Florida. An out-of-state corporation whose name is not available must adopt an alternate corporate name for use in Florida. The alternate corporate name must contain "Incorporated," "Company," "Corporation," "Inc.," "Co.," "Corp.," "Inc.," "Co.," or "Corp." Please enter the alternate corporate name in the space provided in number one of the application.

Simply adding "of Florida" or "Florida" to the end of a name is not acceptable.

Please return the corrected original and one copy of your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 245-6962.

Valerie Herring
Regulatory Specialist II
New Filing Section

Letter Number: 010A00026155

**APPLICATION BY FOREIGN CORPORATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSACT
BUSINESS IN FLORIDA**

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 607.1503, FLORIDA STATUTES, THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED TO
REGISTER A FOREIGN CORPORATION TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

1. Ameris Bancorp

(Enter name of corporation; must include "INCORPORATED," "COMPANY," "CORPORATION,"
"Inc.," "Co.," "Corp.," "Inc.," "Co.," or "Corp.")

Ameris Bancorp Inc.

(If name unavailable in Florida, enter alternate corporate name adopted for the purpose of transacting business in Florida)

2. Georgia

(State or country under the law of which it is incorporated)

3. 58-1456434

(FEI number, if applicable)

4. December 18, 1980

(Date of incorporation)

5. Perpetual

(Duration: Year corp. will cease to exist or "perpetual")

6. Upon qualification

(Date first transacted business in Florida, if prior to registration)
(SEE SECTIONS 607.1501 & 607.1502, F.S., to determine penalty liability)

7. 310 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, GA 31768

(Principal office address)

310 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, GA 31768

(Current mailing address)

8. Any lawful business

(Purpose(s) of corporation authorized in home state or country to be carried out in state of Florida)

9. Name and street address of Florida registered agent: (P.O. Box NOT acceptable)

Name: Andrew B. Cheney

Office Address: 4899 Belfort Road, Suite 100

Jacksonville

(City)

, Florida 32256

(Zip code)

10. Registered agent's acceptance:

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this application, 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 relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

Andrew B. Cheney

(Registered agent's signature)

11. Attached is a certificate of existence duly authenticated, not more than 90 days prior to delivery of this application to the Department of State, by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporate records in the jurisdiction under the law of which it is incorporated.

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

10 NOV 15 PM 4:50

APPROVED
AND
FILED

APPROVED
AND
FILED

10 NOV 15 PM 4:50

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

12. Names and business addresses of officers and/or directors:

A. DIRECTORS

Chairman: See attached

Address: _____

Vice Chairman: _____

Address: _____

Director: _____

Address: _____

Director: _____

Address: _____

B. OFFICERS

President: See attached

Address: _____

Vice President: _____

Address: _____

Secretary: _____

Address: _____

Treasurer: _____

Address: _____

NOTE: If necessary, you may attach an addendum to the application listing additional officers and/or directors.

13. Edwin W. Hortman, Jr.
Signature of Director or Officer

The officer or director signing this document (and who is listed in number 12 above) affirms that the facts stated herein are true and that he or she is aware that 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.

14. Edwin W. Hortman, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer

(Typed or printed name and capacity of person signing application)

12. A. Listing of Directors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Edwin W. Hortman, Jr.	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
R. Dale Ezzell	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
J. Raymond Fulp	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Daniel B. Jeter	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Robert P. Lynch	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Brooks Sheldon	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Jimmy D. Veal	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
V. Wayne Williford	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768

12. B. Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Address</u>
Edwin W. Hortman, Jr.	President and Chief Executive Officer	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Dennis J. Zember Jr.	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Andrew B. Cheney	Executive Vice President and Banking Group President	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Marc J. Bogan	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768

APPROVED
AND
FILED

10 NOV 15 PM 4:50

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Address</u>
Jon S. Edwards	Executive Vice President And Director of Credit Administration	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768
Cindi H. Lewis	Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Corporate Secretary	310 First Street, S.E. Moultrie, GA 31768

STATE OF GEORGIA

Secretary of State

Corporations Division
315 West Tower
#2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1530

CERTIFICATE OF EXISTENCE

I, Brian P. Kemp, Secretary of State and the Corporations Commissioner of the state of Georgia, hereby certify under the seal of my office that

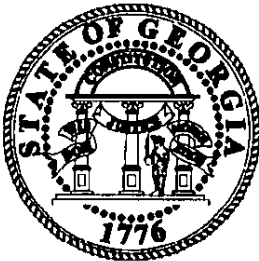
AMERIS BANCORP

Domestic Profit Corporation

was formed or was authorized to transact business on 12/18/1980 in Georgia. Said entity is in compliance with the applicable filing and annual registration provisions of Title 14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated and has not filed articles of dissolution, certificate of cancellation or any other similar document with the office of the Secretary of State.

This certificate relates only to the legal existence of the above-named entity as of the date issued. It does not certify whether or not a notice of intent to dissolve, an application for withdrawal, a statement of commencement of winding up or any other similar document has been filed or is pending with the Secretary of State.

This certificate is issued pursuant to Title 14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated and is prima-facie evidence that said entity is in existence or is authorized to transact business in this state.



WITNESS my hand and official seal of the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia on 26th day of October, 2010

B. P. Kemp

Brian P. Kemp
Secretary of State

FILED
10 NOV 15 PM 4:50
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA