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DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33483

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September 8, 1999

Florida Department of State  
Division of Corporations  
409 E. Gaines Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

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-09/09/99--01063--005

\*\*\*\*337.50 \*\*\*\*337.50

RE: THE MULLER GROUP, INC.

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed herewith please find an original and one photocopy of the Articles of Organization of THE MULLER GROUP, L.C. Also enclosed is our firm's check in the amount of \$337.50 which represents: \$250.00 filing fee, \$35.00 designation of agent and \$52.50 certified copy fee.

If everything is in order, please file the Articles and return a certified copy to us at the earliest opportunity in the enclosed return Federal Express envelope. Should you have any questions, or wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,

*Kathleen H. Farnham*

KATHLEEN H. FARNHAM  
Legal Assistant

Encs.

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99 SEP 20 PM 12:56  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

~~1199-21133~~

*9-20-99*



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Katherine Harris  
Secretary of State

September 14, 1999

KATHLEEN H. FARNHAM  
PERRY & SCHONE, P.A.  
50 S.E. FOURTH AVE.  
DELRAY BEACH, FL 33483

SUBJECT: THE MULLER GROUP, <sup>L.C.</sup> ~~INC.~~  
Ref. Number: W99000021133

We have received your document for THE MULLER GROUP, <sup>L.C.</sup> ~~INC.~~ and your check(s) totaling \$337.50. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

The document must contain the entity's complete mailing address.

Please return 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) 487-6025.

Trevor Brumbley  
Document Specialist

Letter Number: 199A00045254

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION**  
**OF**  
**THE MULLER GROUP, L. C.**

We, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of becoming a limited liability company under the laws of the State of Florida, by and under the provisions of the Statutes of the State of Florida, providing for the formation, liability, rights, privileges and immunities of a limited liability company for profit.

**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

The name of this limited liability company shall be:

THE MULLER GROUP, L.C

**ARTICLE II**  
**GENERAL NATURE OF BUSINESS**

The general nature of the business and the objects and purposes proposed to be transacted, promoted and carried on are to do any and all things hereinafter mentioned as fully and to the same extent as natural persons might or could do, namely:

(A) To engage in the business of investment management to include the hiring of investment management firms, the direct subscription for, purchase or otherwise acquiring, underwriting, obtaining an interest in, owning, holding, pledging, hypothecating, or signing, depositing, creating trusts with respect to, selling, exchanging or otherwise disposing of and generally dealing in and with securities, investments or investment management companies of every kind and description.

(B) For itself or as agent or correspondent for others, to deal in stocks, bonds, commercial paper, mortgages, and other securities, to manage estates and properties, including the buying, selling, leasing, improving and dealing in lands and tenements, and the construction and selling of restaurants and buildings. The limited liability company may

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take, acquire and hold stock in any other corporation or limited liability company, as well as to purchase, acquire, hold, improve, sell, convey, assign, release, mortgage, encumber, lease, hire and deal in and with real and personal property of every name and nature, including stocks and securities of other corporations or limited liability companies, and to loan money and take securities for the payment of all sums due the limited liability company, and to sell, assign and release such securities or membership interest.

(C) To build upon or in any other manner improve real estate in which this limited liability company has any interest whatsoever.

(D) To lend money secured by mortgage or other security or without security, for itself or on a commission basis for others; to borrow money for the purpose of investment or for any of the purposes of this limited liability company, and to issue bond, debentures, notes or other obligations therefor, and to secure the same by pledge or mortgage of the whole or any part of the real estate or personal property of this limited liability company, or to issue bond, debenture stocks, notes or other obligations without any such security; to accept and execute any and all agencies with respect to investment of money, the sale of real and/or personal property, and the collection and receipts of the proceeds thereof and/or the income therefrom; to buy and sell negotiable paper; to execute deeds, mortgages, lot contracts, bonds for title, releases and such other instruments as may be necessary for the carrying on of the business above designated.

(E) To buy, sell, trade or deal in any kind of goods, wares and merchandise.

(F) To organize or cause to be organized under the laws of the State of Florida or of any other state, district, territory, province or government, a limited liability company for the purpose of accomplishing any of or all of the objects for which this corporation is organized, and to dissolve, wind up, liquidate, merge or consolidate any such organization, or to cause the same to be dissolved, wound up, liquidated, merged or consolidated.

(G) No contract or other transaction entered into by the limited liability company shall be affected by the fact that any member of the limited liability company in any way is interested in or connected with any party to such contract or transaction, or himself is a party to such contract or transaction, provided said contract or transaction shall be approved by a majority of the members present at the meeting of the members.

(H) To carry on any other lawful business whatsoever which may seem to the limited liability company capable of being carried on in connection with the above, or calculated directly or indirectly to promote the interests of the limited liability company, or to enhance the value of its properties and buildings, and to have, enjoy and exercise all of the rights, powers and privileges which are now, or which may hereafter be conferred upon limited liability companies organized under the same statutes as this limited liability company.

(I) To engage in or conduct any lawful business permitted by the laws and statutes of the State of Florida.

The foregoing clauses shall be construed as objects and powers; and the foregoing enumeration of specific powers shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of the limited liability company, and it is the intention that the purposes, objects and powers specified in each of the paragraphs of this Article II of these Articles of Organization shall, except as otherwise expressly provided, in no wise be limited or restricted by reference to or inference under the terms of any other clauses or paragraphs of this Article, or of any other Articles of these Articles of Organization, but that each of the purposes, objects and powers specified in this Article, and each of the Articles or paragraphs of these Articles of Organization shall be regarded as independent purposes, objects and powers.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **DURATION**

The period of duration for THE MULLER GROUP, L.C. is fifty (50) years from the date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State of Florida, unless sooner dissolved by the members or as provided by Statute.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **INITIAL PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS**

The street address of the initial principal office and mailing address of the limited liability company is: 88 N.E. 5<sup>TH</sup> Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33483.

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**ARTICLE V**  
**INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT**

The name and address of the initial registered agent of the limited liability company are:

WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT  
88 N.E. 5th Avenue  
Delray Beach, FL 33483

**ARTICLE VI**  
**ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS**

Additional members may be admitted based on the terms and conditions contained in the Operating Agreement.

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**ARTICLE VII**  
**CONTINUITY**

The remaining members of THE MULLER GROUP, L.C. will have the right to continue the business on the death, retirement, resignation, expulsion, bankruptcy or dissolution of a member or occurrence of any other event which terminates the continued membership of a member in this limited liability company.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**MANAGEMENT**

The management of THE MULLER GROUP, L.C. is reserved to the members unless otherwise provided in the Operating Agreement, who will vote according to their proportionate interest in THE MULLER GROUP, L.C. and shall have the exclusive authority to act for the company in all matters. The managing members and their addresses are:

Ralph P. Muller, 88 N.E. th Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33483.

Kevin Muller, 88 N.E. th Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33483.

William C. Schmidt, 88 N.E. th Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33483.

**ARTICLE IX**

**DATE OF BEGINNING OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

THE MULLER GROUP, L.C. shall begin existence on the date the Articles of Organization are filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida.

IN WITNESS OF THE FOREGOING, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 8TH day of September, 1999.

  
RALPH P. MULLER, Managing Member

  
KEVIN MULLER, Managing Member

  
WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT, Managing Member

STATE OF FLORIDA     )  
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH     )

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

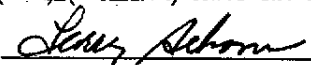
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this the 8TH day of September, 1999 by RALPH P. MULLER who is personally known to me or who has provided a \_\_\_\_\_ as identification and who ~~(did)~~ (did not) take an oath.

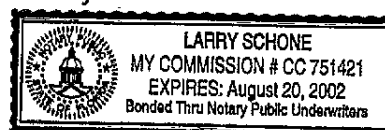
  
Notary Public

STATE OF FLORIDA     )  
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH     )



The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this the 8TH day of September, 1999 by KEVIN MULLER who is personally known to me or who has provided a \_\_\_\_\_ as identification and who ~~(did)~~ (did not) take an oath.

  
Notary Public



STATE OF FLORIDA     )  
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH    )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this the 8TH day of September, 1999 by WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT who is personally known to me or who has provided a \_\_\_\_\_ as identification and who ~~(did)~~ (did not) take an oath.



Larry Schone

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS OR DOMICILE FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE, NAMING AGENT UPON WHO PROCESS MAY BE SERVED.

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 608.407(1)(d), Florida Statutes, the following is submitted, in compliance with said Act:

First, that THE MULLER GROUP, L.C., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, with its principal office as indicated in the Articles of Organization in City of Delray Beach, County of Palm Beach, State of Florida, has named WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT, located at 88 N.E. Fifth Avenue, Delray Beach, Florida 33483, as its agent to accept service of process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the above stated limited liability company, at place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to comply with the provision of said Act relative to keeping open said office and said registered agent is familiar with, and accepts, the obligations of that position.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA



## AFFIDAVIT

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT, who, being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. Affiant has knowledge of the facts and circumstances contained herein.
2. The Limited Liability Company THE MULLER GROUP, L.C., has at least two (2) members.
3. The amount of cash, any description and agreed value of property other than cash contributed by the members and the amount anticipated to be contributed by the members are as follows:

William C. Schmidt and Brenda Hayes as	
Trustees of the Ralph Muller Irrev. Trust	cash contributed \$1,300,000.00
Ralph Muller	cash contributed \$100.00
William C. Schmidt	cash contributed \$100.00
Kevin Muller	cash contributed \$100.00

4. Affiant further states that he is familiar with the nature of an oath and with the penalties provided by the laws of the State aforesaid for falsely swearing to statements made in an instrument of this nature.

**FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.**

WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this the 27 day of September, 1999 by WILLIAM C. SCHMIDT who is personally known to me or who has provided a \_\_\_\_\_ as identification and who ~~(did)~~ (did not) take an oath.

  
Notary Public State Of Florida

