

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

N000000006174

Department of State  
 Division of Corporations  
 P. O. Box 6327  
 Tallahassee, FL 32314

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 -09/18/00--01064--024  
 \*\*\*\*\*78.75 \*\*\*\*\*78.75

SUBJECT: FLORIDIANS FOR ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION, INC  
 (Proposed corporate name - must include suffix)

Enclosed is an original and one(1) copy of the articles of incorporation and a check for:

☐ \$70.00  
 Filing Fee

☒ \$78.75  
 Filing Fee  
 & Certificate of Status

☐ \$78.75  
 Filing Fee  
 & Certified Copy

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

ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

FROM: DARRYL GORNAM  
 Name (Printed or typed)

P.O. BOX 12141  
 Address

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32317  
 City, State & Zip

850-545-1415  
 Daytime Telephone number

FILED  
 00 SEP 18 PM 1:47  
 SECRETARY OF STATE  
 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Please  
 file 1st

NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

RECEIVED  
 00 SEP 18 AM 11:04  
 DIVISION OF CORPORATION

46  
 9-18  
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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
FLORIDIANS FOR ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION, INC.**

**(A Corporation Not-For-Profit)**

**FILED**  
00 SEP 18 PM 1:47  
CLERK OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, being natural persons, hereby establish a corporation under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, as amended, of the Laws of the State of Florida applicable to corporations not-for-profit, and respectfully petition the Secretary of State for approval of such incorporation under the following proposed Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE ONE - NAME**

The name of the corporation, hereinafter called the Corporation, shall be: **Floridians for Electoral Participation, Inc.**

**ARTICLE TWO - PURPOSES**

Section 1: The purposes for which the Corporation is founded are:

- (a) To engage in non-partisan voter education, voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts to energize and motivate residents of Florida to participate in the electoral process;
- (b) To provide services, activities and programs that will cause low-income and economically depressed community residents to participate in local, state and national elections;
- (c) To develop projects and programs directed toward increasing the number of minority and low-income residents to register to vote and to assist in getting the vote out on election day;
- (d) To engage in activities that identify public and private resources which will facilitate voter registration and educational services in low-income and minority communities;
- (e) To conduct studies, engage in research, publish and promote articles, books, materials and products that advance the importance of participating in the electoral process in low-income and minority communities throughout Florida;
- (f) To conduct and/or operate workshops, seminars, conferences, classes, retreats and institutes to train the trainers in voter education, registration and participation motivation that will ensure the inclusion of low-income and minority residents in the electoral process;

- (g) To organize a non-profit corporation and to associate together persons, associates and affiliated groups and churches and to operate exclusively for all purposes described, permitted and limited in Section 501(c)(3) and Section 401(a) of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code, hereinafter referred to as the Code. For the purposes and powers as set forth in these Articles of Incorporation, references to the provisions of the Code shall be deemed to include Statutes which succeed such provisions and all appropriate regulations and rulings of the Internal Revenue Service pursuant thereto;
- (h) To engage in any and all lawful activities which are pursuant to religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes only within the meaning of those terms used in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code and the Laws of the State of Florida that are beneficial to the public including, but not limited to, the following enumerated activities:
  - (1) To engage in fund raising activities to include direct solicitation of financial support to carry out the purposes for which the organization is created;
  - (2) To take, accept, hold and acquire by bequest, device, gift, purchase, loan or lease, any property, real, personal or mixed, whether tangible or intangible, without limitation as to the kind, amount or value;
  - (3) To sell, convey, lease or make loans, grants or pledges of any property or any interest therein or proceeds therefrom, and to invest and reinvest the principal thereof and receipts therefrom, if any;
  - (4) To borrow money upon and pledge or mortgage any such property for the purpose for which it is organized, and to issue notes, bonds or other forms of indebtedness to secure any of its obligations;
  - (5) To guarantee undertakings, contracts or performances of others;
  - (6) To purchase or otherwise acquire, invest in, own, mortgage, pledge, sell, assign and transfer or otherwise dispose of, trade, deal in and deal with goods, wares and merchandise and personal property of every description;
  - (7) To acquire, and pay for in cash or promissory notes, the goodwill, rights, assets and property, and to undertake or assume the whole or any part of the obligation or liabilities of any person, firm, corporation or association;
  - (8) To acquire, hold, use, sell, assign, lease, in respect of, mortgages;
  - (9) To carry on any of the aforesaid activities or purposes either directly, or as an agent for or with other persons, associations or corporations;
  - (10) To carry on any activity and to deal with and expend any such property or income therefrom for any of the aforesaid purposes without limitation, except such limitations, if any, as may be contained in the instrument under which such

property is received, the Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws of the Corporation, or any other limitations as are prescribed by law, provided that no such activity shall be such as is not permitted by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or any corresponding future provision of said Code, and that the Corporation shall not attempt to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise, nor shall it intervene in or participate in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office, and provided further that no part of the net earnings of this Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member or private individual and no member, director or officer of the Corporation shall receive any pecuniary benefit from the Corporation, except such reasonable compensation as may be allowed for services actually rendered to the Corporation.

Section 2: This Corporation shall receive and maintain funds of real and/or personal property, and subject to the restrictions and limitations hereinafter set forth, to use and apply the whole or any part, and otherwise contribute to the purposes of the Corporation as defined in Article Two, Section 1, Paragraphs (a), (b) and (c), or to those organizations that qualify as tax exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

### **ARTICLE THREE - POWERS**

This Corporation is to have any and all powers to do any and all things necessary or expedient to carry out the purposes and objectives of this Corporation, subject to these Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and shall possess all rights, privileges and immunities and to enjoy all benefits granted corporations under the Laws of the State of Florida, but limited only to such powers that are in furtherance of tax exempt purposes.

### **ARTICLE FOUR - TERM OF EXISTENCE**

This Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

### **ARTICLE FIVE - PRINCIPAL OFFICE**

The principal office of the Corporation shall be located at 1207 East Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, County of Hillsborough, State of Florida, Zip Code 33603, provided that the Corporation shall have the power to conduct its business anywhere within the State of Florida or the United States of America.

### **ARTICLE SIX - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: This Corporation is to be organized upon a non-stock, certificate of membership basis.

Such memberships shall be non-redeemable, non-transferable, and non-dividend bearing.

Section 2: Any person who subscribes to the purposes of this Corporation is eligible for membership upon approval by a majority vote of the Corporation at any regular meeting of the Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE SEVEN - SUBSCRIBERS**

The names and addresses of the subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation are:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Reginald O. Jones	4323 Benchmark Trace, Tallahassee, FL 32311
Darryl T. Gorham	5354 Tewkesbury Trace, Tallahassee, FL 32308
Noble L. Sissle, Jr.	1207 East M.L. King, Jr. Blvd., Tampa, FL 33603

#### **ARTICLE EIGHT - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1: The affairs of the Corporation shall be directed by a Board of Directors numbering not less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) members.

Section 2: The names of the persons and their addresses constituting the first Board of Directors and who shall be subject to all the provisions of the aforesaid purposes relating to the directors, are as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Reginald O. Jones	Chairman	4323 Benchmark Trace, Tallahassee, FL 32311
Darryl T. Gorham	Member	5354 Tewkesbury Trace, Tallahassee, FL 32308
Noble L. Sissle, Jr.	Member	1207 East M.L. King, Jr. Blvd., Tampa, FL 33603

#### **ARTICLE NINE - OFFICERS**

The affairs of this Corporation are to be managed by a Chairman of the Board, President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected by the members of the Corporation as prescribed in the Bylaws. The day-to-day operation of the Corporation shall be conducted by the President/CEO of the Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE TEN - FIRST OFFICERS**

The first officers of the Corporation shall be elected at the first annual meeting and shall be subject to all the provisions of the aforesaid purposes of the Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE ELEVEN - BYLAWS**

The Board of Directors of this Corporation may provide such Bylaws not inconsistent with these Articles of Incorporation for the conduct of its business and the carrying out of its purposes as they may deem necessary from time to time. The Bylaws of this Corporation may be amended, altered or revised by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE TWELVE - AMENDMENTS**

The Articles of Incorporation of this Corporation may be amended, altered or revised by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE THIRTEEN - REGISTERED AGENT**

In accordance with Section 607.0501 or 617.0501 Florida Statutes, Noble L. Sissle, Jr. is hereby designated as the registered agent for services of process within the State of Florida at 1207 East Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603.

#### **ARTICLE FOURTEEN - DISSOLUTION**

Upon dissolution or other termination of the Corporation, no part of the property of the Corporation or any of the proceeds shall be distributed to or inure to the benefit of any of the members of the Corporation, but all such property and proceeds subject to the discharge of valid obligations of the Corporation and to the applicable provisions of the Non-Profit Corporation Law under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, shall be distributed as directed by members of the Corporation among one or more corporations, trusts, United Way, funds or community groups organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes; no part of the net earnings of which inure to the benefit of any individual or member, and no substantial part of whose activities consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation or which does not participate or intervene in any political campaign or the type which qualify for federal income tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Subscribers have hereunto set their hands and seals this 1st  
day of September, 2000.

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Reginald O. Jones

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Darryl T. Gorham

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*Noble L. Sissle, Jr.*  
Noble L. Sissle, Jr.

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


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In pursuance of Chapters 607.0501 and 617.0501, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted in compliance with said Act:

That FLORIDIANS FOR ELECTORAL PARTICIPATION, INC. with its principal office as indicated in the Articles of Incorporation at 1207 East Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Tampa, FL 33603, has named NOBLE L. SISSLE, JR. as its agent to accept service of process within this state.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Having been named to accept service of process for the above Florida corporation at the place designated in this Certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to comply with provisions of said Act.

  
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NOBLE L. SISSLE, JR.  
Registered Agent

**FILED**  
00 SEP 18 PM 1:47  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA