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Examiner's Initials

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

FILED SECRETARY OF STATE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS

OF

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THE SHORES AT WATERLEFE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The undersigned incorporator, for the purpose of forming a not for profit corporation pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida, hereby adopts the following Articles of Incorporation:

ARTICLE 1 NAME

The name of the corporation is **The Shores at Waterlefe Homeowners Association, Inc.** (the "Association"). These Articles of Incorporation shall be referred to as the "Articles", and the By-Laws of the Association as the "By-Laws".

ARTICLE 2 PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal office and mailing address of the Association shall be at 98 Sarasota Center Boulevard, Suite D, Sarasota, Florida 34240, or at such other place as may be subsequently designated by the Board of Directors. All books and records of the Association shall be kept at its principal office or at such other place as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 3 DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise provided herein to the contrary, all terms and words utilized in these Articles shall be as defined in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements of The Shores at Waterlefe (said declaration as may be amended from time to time is hereinafter referred to as the "Declaration"), recorded or to be recorded in the Public Records of Manatee County, Florida.

ARTICLE 4 PURPOSE AND POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1 This Association does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the Members thereof, and the specific purposes for which it is formed are to provide for maintenance, preservation and architectural control of the Lots, Units, Common Property within that certain tract of land more particularly described in the Declaration and to promote the health, safety and welfare of the residents within the

Properties and any additions thereto as may hereafter be brought within the jurisdiction of the Association.

- 4.2 The powers of the Association shall be subject to and shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of these Articles and of the Declaration and the By-Laws. The Association shall have all of the powers and duties permitted by law, except as limited by these Articles, the By-Laws and the Declaration, and all of the powers and duties reasonably necessary to operate the Association, including, but not limited to the power to:
 - (a) exercise all of the powers and privileges and to perform all of the duties and obligations of the Association as set forth in the Declaration;
 - (b) fix, levy, collect and enforce payment by any lawful means, all charges or assessments pursuant to the terms of the Declaration; to pay all expenses in connection therewith and all office and other expenses incident to the conduct of the business of the Association, including all licenses, taxes or governmental charges levied or imposed against the property of the Association;
 - (c) enforce applicable provisions of the Declaration, By-Laws and rules and regulations of the Association; contract for and pay all expenses in connection with the ownership, maintenance, repair, insuring any improvement of the Common Property; to employ personnel reasonably necessary for the administration and control of the Common Property and for architectural control of the Community, including lawyers and accountants where appropriate, provided that Declarant shall not be liable for any Assessments which relate in any way to professional or other fees and expenses incurred in connection with any claims or the investigation thereof against Declarant;
 - (d) acquire (by gift, purchase or otherwise), own, hold, improve, build upon, operate, maintain, convey, sell, lease, transfer, dedicate for public use or otherwise dispose of real or personal property in connection with the affairs of the Association;
 - borrow money, mortgage, pledge, grant a deed in trust, or hypothecate any or all of its real or personal property as security for money borrowed or debts incurred, subject to any limitations in the Declaration or By-Laws;
 - (f) participate in mergers and consolidations with other not for profit corporations organized for the same purposes or annex additional residential property and Common Property, provided that any such merger,

consolidation or annexation shall have the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of each class of Members represented at a meeting in person or by proxy at which a quorum has been attained;

- (h) have and exercise any and all powers, rights and privileges which a not for profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida may by law now or hereafter have or exercise:
- (i) execute all documents or consents on behalf of all Members (and their mortgagees), required by all governmental and/or quasi-governmental agencies in connection with land use and development matters (including, without limitation, plats, waivers of plat, unities of title, covenants in lieu thereof, etc.), and in that regard, each Member, by acceptance of the deed to such Member's Unit, appoints and designates the Board of Directors of the Association as such Member's agent and attorney-in-fact to execute any and all such documents or consents: and
- (j) operate any irrigation, security system or guard house serving the Properties and to operate and maintain Common Property.
- 4.2 All funds and the title to all properties acquired by the Association and their proceeds shall be held for the benefit and use of the Members in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, these Articles and the By-Laws.

ARTICLE 5 MEMBERSHIP

Every Owner of a Lot and/or Unit which is subject to assessment by the Association, including contract sellers, shall be a Member of the Association. The foregoing is not intended to include persons or entities who hold an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of any Lot and/or Unit which is subject to assessment by the Association.

ARTICLE 6 VOTING RIGHTS

The Association shall have two (2) classes of voting members:

<u>Class A.</u> Class A Members shall be all Owners, with the exception of the Declarant and Declarant's Permittees. A Class A Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned. When more than one person holds an interest in any Lot, all such persons shall be Members. The vote for such Lot shall be exercised as they determine,

but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast with respect to any Lot. All votes shall be exercised or cast in the manner provided by the Declaration and By-Laws. Any person or entity owning more than one Unit shall be entitled to cast the aggregate number of votes attributable to all Units owned.

- Class B. The Class B Member(s) shall be Declarant and Declarant's Permittees. So long as there shall be a Class B Member, the Class B Member shall be entitled to appoint the entire Board of Directors of the Association and shall have all other preferences for voting provided in these Articles or in the By-Laws. In all matters on which Members of the Association shall be entitled to vote, the Class B Member shall have that number of votes which equals three times the total number of votes to which the Class A Members are entitled, plus one (1). The Class B membership shall cease and be converted to Class A membership on the first to occur of the following events:
- (a) three months after 90 percent of the parcels in all phases of the Community that will ultimately be operated by the homeowners' Association have been conveyed to Class A Members;
- (b) such other percentage of the parcels has been conveyed to members, or such other date or event has occurred, as is set forth in the "governing documents" (as such term is defined in Section 617.301 of the Florida Statutes (1998) in order to comply with the requirements of any governmentally chartered entity with regard to the mortgage financing of parcels;
- (c) upon stipulation of Declarant and Declarant's Permittees upon recording a notice of same in the Public Records of Manatee County; or
 - (d) December 31, 2015.

From and after the happening of these events, whichever occurs first, the Class B Members shall be deemed Class A Members entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot in which they hold the interest required for membership. Declarant and Declarant's Permittees shall be entitled to elect at least one Director as long as Declarant and Declarant's Permittees holds for sale in the ordinary course of business at least 5 percent of the Lots in all phases of the Community.

ARTICLE 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

7.1 <u>Number and Qualification</u>. The property, business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by a board consisting of the number of Directors determined in the manner provided by the By-Laws, but which shall consist of not less than three (3) Directors.

- 7.2 <u>Duties and Powers</u>. All of the duties and powers of the Association existing under the Declaration, these Articles and the By-Laws shall be exercised exclusively by the Board of Directors, its agents, contractors or employees, subject only to approval by Members when such approval is specifically required.
- 7.3 Election; Removal. Directors of the Association shall be elected at the annual meeting of the members in the manner, for the term and subject to the qualifications set forth in the By-Laws. Directors may be removed and vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled in the manner provided by the By-Laws. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 7.3, Directors to be appointed by Declarant or Declarant's Permittees may be appointed by written designation of Declarant or Declarant's Permittees, as may be the case. Such director(s) may only be removed by Declarant or the Declarant's Permittees entitled to appoint the respective Director.
- 7.4 <u>First Directors</u>. The names and addresses of the members of the first Board of Directors who shall hold office until their successors are elected and have taken office, as provided in the By-Laws, are as follows:

NAME

ADDRESS

Walt Eppard Rene Eppard David S. McNabb 98 Sarasota Center Boulevard Suite D Sarasota, Florida 34240 (for all three)

7.5 Standards. Unless a Director has knowledge concerning a matter in question that makes reliance unwarranted, a Director, in discharging his duties, may rely on information, opinions, reports or statements, including financial statements and other data, if prepared or presented by: one or more officers or employees of the Association whom the Director reasonably believes to be reasonable and competent in the manners presented; legal counsel, public accountants or other persons as to matters the Director reasonably believes are within the persons' professional or expert competence; or a Committee if the Director reasonably believes the Committee merits confidence. A Director is not liable for any action taken as a Director, or any failure to take action, if he performed the duties of his office in compliance with the foregoing standards.

ARTICLE 8 OFFICERS

The affairs of the Association shall be administered by the officers holding the offices designated in the By-Laws. The officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors of the Association at its first meeting following the annual meeting of the members of the Association and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The By-Laws may provide for the removal from office of officers, for filling vacancies and for the duties and qualifications of the officers.

ARTICLE 9 DISSOLUTION

The Association may be dissolved with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of each class of Members represented at a meeting in person or by proxy at which a quorum has been attained. Upon dissolution of the Association, other than incident to a merger or consolidation, the assets of the Association (including, without limitation, the surface water management system) shall be dedicated or conveyed to an appropriate public agency to be used for purposes similar to those for which this Association was created. In the event that such dedication or conveyance is refused, such assets shall be granted, conveyed and assigned to any not for profit corporation, Association, trust or other organization devoted to such similar purposes.

ARTICLE 10 DURATION

The Association shall exist perpetually.

ARTICLE 11 INCORPORATOR

The incorporator is Bruce P. Chapnick, Esq., whose address is 2033 Main Street, Suite 600, Sarasota, Florida 34237.

ARTICLE 12 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Articles shall be proposed and adopted in the following manner:

12.1 Notice. Notice of a proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of any meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered and shall be otherwise given in the time and manner provided in Chapter 617, Florida

- Statutes. Such notice shall contain the proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be affected thereby.
- Adoption. Amendment of these Articles shall require the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of each class of Members represented at a meeting in person or by proxy at which a quorum has been attained. Amendment of these Articles may be proposed by the Board of Directors and shall be voted on at a Special Meeting of the Members duly called for that purpose, or at an annual meeting of the Members; provided, however, the foregoing requirement as to a meeting of the Members shall not be construed to prevent the Members from waiving notice of a meeting; provided further, if Members (and/or persons holding valid proxies) with not less than two-thirds (2/3) of each class of Members sign a written consent manifesting their intent that an Amendment to these Articles be adopted, then such Amendment shall thereby be adopted as though proposed by the Board of Directors and voted on at a meeting of the membership as hereinabove provided.
- 12.3 <u>Limitation</u>. No amendment shall make any changes in the qualifications for membership, nor in the voting rights or property rights of members, without the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of each class of Members represented at a meeting in person or by proxy at which a quorum has been attained. All amendments to these Articles other than the foregoing shall require the approval of a majority of the voting interests of each class of Members represented at a meeting in person or by proxy at which a quorum has been attained.
- 12.4 <u>Declarant Amendments</u>. To the extent lawful, the Declarant may amend these Articles consistent with the provisions of the Declaration allowing certain amendments to be effected by the Declarant alone.
- 12.5 Recording. A copy of each amendment shall be filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to the provisions of applicable Florida law, and a copy certified by the Secretary of State shall be recorded in the public records of Manatee County, Florida with a specific reference to the book and page of the Public Records where the Declaration was recorded which contained, as an exhibit, the initial recording of these Articles.

ARTICLE 13 BYLAWS

The first By-Laws of the Association shall be adopted by the Board of Directors and may be altered, amended or rescinded in the manner provided in the By-Laws and the Declaration.

ARTICLE 14 INDEMNIFICATION

- 14.1 <u>Indemnitees</u>. The Association shall indemnify any person who was or is a party to any proceeding (other than an action by the Association) by reason of the fact that he is or was a Director, officer, committee member, employer or agent (each, an "Indemnitee") of the Association against liability incurred in connection with such proceeding, including any appeal thereof, if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Association and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The termination of any proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, or conviction or upon a plea of <u>nolo contendere</u> or its equivalent shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Association.
- Indemnification. The Association shall indemnify any person who was or is a party to any proceeding by the Association to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that he is or was a Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent of the Association against expenses and amounts paid in settlement not exceeding, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, the estimated expense of litigating the proceeding to conclusion, actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such proceeding, including any appeal thereof. indemnification shall be authorized if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Association, except that no indemnification shall be made under this Section in respect of any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable unless, and only to the extent that, the court in which such proceeding was brought, or any other court of competent jurisdiction shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification for such expenses which such court shall deem proper.
- 14.3 <u>Indemnification for Expenses</u>. To the extent that a Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent of the Association has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any proceeding referred to in Section 14.1 or 14.2, or in defense of any claim, issue, or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expenses actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith.

- 14.4 <u>Determination of Applicability</u>. Any indemnification under Section 14.1 or Section 14.2, unless pursuant to a determination by a court, shall be made by the Association only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent is proper under the circumstances because he has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 14.1 or Section 14.2. Such determination shall be made:
 - (a) by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of Directors who were not parties to such proceeding;
 - (b) if such a quorum is not obtainable, by majority vote of a Committee duly designated by the Board of Directors (in which Directors who are parties may vote on the members of the Committee) consisting solely of two or more Directors who are not at the time parties to the proceeding;
 - (c) by independent legal counsel selected:
 - 1. by the Board of Directors prescribed in paragraph (a) or the Committee prescribed in paragraph (b); or
 - if a quorum of the Directors cannot be obtained for paragraph

 (a) and the Committee cannot be designated under paragraph
 (b), then by a majority of the voting interests of the Voting Members of the Association who were not parties to such proceeding.
- 14.4 Advancing Expenses. Expenses incurred by an officer or Director in defending a civil or criminal proceeding may be paid by the Association in advance of the final disposition of such proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such Director or officer to repay such amount if he is ultimately found not to be entitled to indemnification by the Association pursuant to this section. Expenses incurred by other employees and agents may be paid in advance upon such terms or conditions that the Board of Directors deems appropriate.
- 14.5 Exclusivity: Exclusions. The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided pursuant to this Article 14 are not exclusive, and the Association may make any other or further indemnification or advancement of expenses of any of its Directors, officers, employees, or agents, under any bylaw, agreement, vote of Members or disinterested Directors, or otherwise. However, indemnification or advancement of expenses shall not be made to

or on behalf of any Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent if a judgment or other final adjudication establishes that his actions, or omissions to act, were material to the cause of action so adjudicated and constitute:

- (a) A violation of the criminal law, unless the Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent had reasonable cause to believe his conduct was lawful or had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful:
- (b) A transaction from which the Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent derived an improper personal benefit; or
- (c) Willful misconduct or a conscious disregard for the best interests of the Association in a proceeding by or in the right of the Association to procure a judgment in its favor or in a proceeding by or in the right of the members of the Association.
- 14.6 <u>Continuing Effect</u>. Indemnification and advancement of expenses as provided in this Article 14 shall continue to a person who has ceased to be a Director, officer, committee member, employee, or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified.
- 14.7 <u>Definitions</u>. For purposes of this Article 14, the term "expenses" shall be deemed to include attorneys' fees, including those for any appeals; the term "liability" shall be deemed to include obligations to pay a judgment, settlement, penalty, fine, and expenses actually and reasonably incurred with respect to a proceeding; the term "proceeding" shall be deemed to include any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or other type of proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, and whether formal or informal; and the term "agent" shall be deemed to include a volunteer.
- 14.8 Amendment. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, no amendment to the provision of this Article 14 shall be applicable as to any party eligible for indemnification hereunder who has not given his prior written consent to such amendment.

ARTICLE 15 INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT

Walt Eppard, whose address is 98 Sarasota Center Boulevard, Suite D, Sarasota, Florida 34240, is hereby appointed the initial registered agent of this Association.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, for the purpose of the State of Florida, the undersigned, constitute has executed these Articles of Incorporation this	e of forming this corporation under the laws tuting the incorporator of this Association, s
	Bruce P. Chapnick, Incorporator
STATE OF FLORIDA)) SS.	
COUNTY OF SARASOTA)	
The foregoing instrument was acknowledge by Bruce P. Chapnick, who is personally known to midentification.	d before me this 5th day of Tanuary, 2001, ne or has producedas
	Jaliak Kohne (Notary Signature)
(NOTARY SEAL) Talia R. Kohne MY COMMISSION # CC732158 EXPIRES April 8, 2002 80NDED THRU TROY FAIN INSURANCE, INC.	Talia R Kohne (Notary Name Printed) Notary Public Commission No:

REGISTERED AGENT CERTIFICATE

In pursuance of the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, the following is submitted, in compliance with said statute:

That The Shores at Waterlefe Homeowners Association, Inc., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, with its registered office, as indicated in the Articles of Incorporation at Sarasota County, Florida, has named Walt Eppard, whose address 98 Sarasota Center Boulevard, Suite D, Sarasota, Florida 34240, as its registered agent to accept service of process and perform such other duties as are required in the State.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Having been named to accept service of pr	rocess and s	serve as re	gistered agent for
the above-stated Corporation, at the place design	nated in this	Certificate	, the undersigned
hereby accepts to act in this capacity, and agre	es to comp	ly with the	provision of said
statute relative in keeping open said office, and fur	rther states h	ne is familia	rwith §617.0501,
<u>Florida Statutes</u> .)	٨	A

statute relative in keeping open said office, an	d further states he is familiar with §617.0501,
<u>Florida Statutes</u> .	Walt Eppard, Registered Agent
	Dated: 1/4/0/
STATE OF FLORIDA)) SS.	
COUNTY OF SARASOTA)	
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged by Walt Eppard, who is personally known to midentification.	ged before me this 4th day of January, 200 1, ne or has produced as
TESHA J. WOOD MY COMMISSION # CC 778826 EXPIRES: 01/02/2003 (NOTARY SEAL)	(Notary Signature) Teshs J. Wood (Notary Name Printed) Notary Public Commission No: CC 778826

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DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS

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