# 070000000

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

02 FEB -6 AM 8: 43

SECKLING OF STATE TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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

100004882871--02/06/02--01017--016 \*\*\*\*\*87.50 \*\*\*\*\*87.50

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

ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

FROM:

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

FILED

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SEC. ... STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

## LIGHTS ON AMERICA, INC.

## A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

The undersigned Incorporator, in order to form a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

#### ARTICLE I:

#### Name 1

The name of this corporation is LIGHTS ON AMERICA, INC.

#### ARTICLE II:

#### Principal Office

The principal office of the business and mailing address of this corporation shall be: 2807 Hope Street, Sarasota, FL 34231.

#### ARTICLE III:

#### **Purposes**

The purpose of the corporation is charitable and educational. Its specific purposes are to charitably raise funds to assist military personnel and families in need, as well as to educate the American public about the importance of the United States Armed Forces and its members' needs, and to carry out other objectives not inconsistent with these specific purposes.

Thus, through its charitable and educational purposes, this corporation is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

#### ARTICLE IV:

### Manner of Election of Directors

The initial directors shall be appointed by the Incorporator for a term of one year. Each director shall serve for one year and until his or her successor has been elected by a majority vote of the existing directors. Vacancies as they appear shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining directors of the board.

#### ARTICLE V:

## **Initial Registered Agent and Street Address**

The name and Florida street address of the registered agent is Jon R. Stefanik, 2807 Hope Street, Sarasota, FL 34231. The initial registered agent signifies his acceptance by his signature, following the Articles.

#### ARTICLE VI:

#### Incorporator

The name and address of the Incorporator of this corporation is: Daniel Rodgers, 4645 Spottswood Trail, Barboursville, VA 22923. The Incorporator authorizes these articles by his signature following the Articles.

#### ARTICLE VII:

#### **Duration**

The period of duration of this corporation is perpetual.

#### ARTICLE VIII:

## **Membership**

The corporation is not a membership organization.

#### ARTICLE IX:

# Compliance with IRC § 501(c)(3) and Related Rules

# Assets Dedicated to Tax-Exempt Purposes Upon Dissolution:

Upon the dissolution of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

## No Political Activity by the Corporation:

No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code), and this corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

# Net Earnings Dedicated to Tax-Exempt Purposes:

No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that this corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in these Articles.

# Full Compliance with IRC §§ 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2):

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (1) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or (2) by a

corporation contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

# In the Event Corporation Found to be a Private Foundation:

In any taxable year in which this corporation is a private foundation as described in Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, the corporation 1) shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code; 2) shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code; 3) shall not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code; 4) shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject the corporation to tax under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code; and 5) shall not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### ARTICLE IX:

# Signatures of Registered Agent and Incorporator

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Signature/Joh R. Stefanik, Registered Agent

Date

The undersigned Incorporator hereby declares under penalty of perjury that the statements made in the foregoing Articles of Incorporation are true to the best of his knowledge.

Signature/Daniel Rodgers, Incorporator

D'ate