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$ \setminus \text{ INC. } \underline{ \qquad \qquad P.O. Box} $	37066 (32315-7066) ~ ((850) 222-2666 or (800) 969-1666 . Fa	x (850) 222-1666
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PECIAL INSTRUCTIONS			

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

LOFTON CREEK RESERVE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
(a corporation not-for-profit)

I. <u>NAME AND DEFINITIONS.</u>

The name of this corporation shall be Lofton Creek Reserve Homeowners Association, Inc. All defined terms contained in these Articles shall have the same meanings as such terms are defined by the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions for Lofton Creek Reserve to be recorded in the current public records of Nassau County, Florida (the "Declaration").

II. PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS.

The location of the corporation's principal office and its mailing address shall be 9283-2 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville, Florida 32257, or at such other place as may be established by resolution of the Association's Board of Directors from time to time.

III. PURPOSES.

The general nature, objects and purposes of the Association are:

- A. To promote matters of common interest and concern of the Owners of property within Lofton Creek Reserve.
- B. To own, maintain, repair and replace the Common Area, including without limitation the streets, street lights, landscaping, structures, and other improvements located thereon, for which the obligation to maintain and repair has been delegated to and accepted by the Association.
- C. To operate, maintain and manage the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System in a manner consistent with the St. Johns River Water Management Permit and applicable District rules, and to assist in the enforcement of the requirements, restrictions and covenants contained therein.
- D. To cooperate with other associations responsible for administration of adjacent or contiguous properties in matters of common interest to the Association and such other associations and to contribute to such common maintenance interests whether within or without the Property.
- E. To provide, purchase, acquire, replace, improve, maintain, operate and repair such buildings, structures, landscaping, paving and equipment, and to provide such other services for the benefit of the members of the Association, as the Board of Directors in its discretion determines necessary, appropriate, and/or convenient.

- F. To operate without profit for the sole and exclusive benefit of its Members.
- G. To perform all of the functions contemplated for the Association and undertaken by the Board of Directors pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Declaration.

IV. GENERAL POWERS.

The general powers that the Association shall have are as follows:

- A. To hold funds solely and exclusively for the benefit of the Members for purposes set forth in these Articles of Incorporation.
- B. To promulgate and enforce rules, regulations, bylaws, covenants, restrictions and agreements to effectuate the purposes for which the Association is organized.
- C. To delegate power or powers where such is deemed in the interest of the Association.
- D. To purchase, lease, hold, sell, mortgage or otherwise acquire or dispose of real or personal property, to enter into, make, perform or carry out contracts of every kind with any person, firm, corporation or association; to do any and all acts necessary or expedient for carrying on any and all of the activities and pursuing any and all of the objects and purposes set forth in the Declaration and these Articles of Incorporation and not forbidden by the laws of the State of Florida.
- E. To fix assessments to be levied against all or any portion of the Property to defray expenses and costs of effectuating the objects and purposes of the Association and to create reasonable reserves for such expenditures, and to authorize its Board of Directors to enter into agreements with other property owner's associations or maintenance entities for the collection of such assessments. The foregoing shall include the power to levy and collect adequate assessments against the Members for the costs of maintenance and operation of the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System. Such assessments shall be used for the maintenance and repair of the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System, including but not limited to, work within retention areas, drainage structures and drainage easements.
- F. To charge recipients for services rendered by the Association and the users of the Association property where such is deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors of the Association and permitted by the Declaration.
- G. To pay taxes and other charges, if any, on or against property owned, accepted, or maintained by the Association.
- H. To borrow money and, from time to time, to make, accept, endorse, execute and issue debentures, promissory notes or other obligations of the Association for monies borrowed, or in payment for property acquired, or for any of the other purposes of the

Association, and to secure the payment of such obligations by mortgage, pledge, or other instrument of trust, or by lien upon, assignment of or agreement in regard to all or any part of the property rights or privileges of the Association wherever situated.

- I. To merge with any other association which may perform similar functions located within the same general vicinity of the Property.
- J. In general, to have all powers conferred upon a corporation by the laws of the State of Florida, except as prohibited herein and by the terms and conditions set forth in the Declaration.

V. <u>MEMBERS.</u>

The Members ("Members") shall consist of the Developer, and all other Owners of Lots located within the Property. Membership in the Association is appurtenant to, and inseparable from, ownership of a Lot.

VI. <u>VOTING AND ASSESSMENTS.</u>

- A. The Association shall have two classes of voting membership as follows:
- 1. <u>Class A Membership.</u> The Class A Members shall be all Owners, with the exception of the Developer, and shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned.
- 2. <u>Class B Membership.</u> The Class B Member shall be the Developer who shall be entitled to three (3) votes for each Lot owned. The Class B Membership shall cease and be converted to Class A Membership within ninety (90) days after the earlier of the following events:
 - (i) The date on which Developer (which term includes, for purposes of this provision, any builder owning a Lot for the purpose of constructing a Residence thereon for sale to an ultimate third party purchaser) no longer owns any Lots within the Property.
 - (ii) Ten (10) years after the recording of the Declaration;
 - (iii) Such earlier date as Developer, in its sole discretion, may determine.
- B. When any Residential Lot is owned of record in the name of two (2) or more persons or entities, whether fiduciaries or in any other manner of joint or common ownership, only one of such persons, who shall be designated by such joint owners, shall become the member entitled to vote. Such vote shall be exercised as they among themselves determine but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast with respect to any such Residential Lot. Where a partnership, corporation or other entity is a Class A member, such Class A member

shall designate one representative of such partnership or such corporation or other entity to be the member entitled to vote.

C. The Association will obtain funds with which to operate by assessment of its Members in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, as supplemented by the provisions of the Articles and Bylaws of the Association relating thereto.

VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

A. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of not less than three (3) Directors. Directors need not be members of the Association and need not be residents of the State of Florida. The number of Directors shall be elected or appointed and may be changed in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.

VIII. OFFICERS.

The officers of the Association shall be elected and shall serve for the term as prescribed by the Bylaws. The Board, by resolution, may create such officers as determined necessary for the operation of the Association.

IX. CORPORATE EXISTENCE.

The Association shall have perpetual existence. These Articles shall become effective upon filing as prescribed by law.

X. BYLAWS.

The Board of Directors shall adopt Bylaws consistent with these Articles. Such Bylaws may be amended by the Developer on its own motion from the date hereof until the Class B membership terminates and thereafter, the Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by resolution of the Board of Directors.

XI. AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS.

These Articles may be altered, amended or repealed upon the affirmative vote of Members holding not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the total votes allocated to the Members pursuant to these Articles.

XII. INCORPORATOR AND REGISTERED AGENT.

The name and address of the Incorporator and Registered Agent is as follows:
Charles David
9283-2 San Jose Blvd
Jacksonville, Florida 32257

XIII. INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

- A. To the extent allowed by law, the Association hereby indemnifies any Director or officer made a party or threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding:
- 1. Whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, other than one by or in the right of the Association to procure a judgment in its favor, brought to impose a liability or penalty on such person for an act alleged to have been committed by such person in his capacity as a Director or officer of the Association or as a director, officer, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise which he served at the request of the Association, against judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, actually and necessarily incurred as a result of such action, suit or proceeding or any appeal thereof, if such person acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interests of the Association, and in criminal actions or proceedings, without reasonable grounds for belief that such action was unlawful. The termination of any such action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not in itself create a presumption that any such Director or officer did not act in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interest of the Association or that he had reasonable grounds for belief that such action was unlawful.
- 2. By or in the right of the Association to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of his being or having been a Director or officer of the Association, or by reason of his being or having been a director, officer, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise which he served at the request of the Association, against the reasonable expenses including attorneys' fees, actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action, or in connection with an appeal therein if such person acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interest of the Association. Such person shall not be entitled to indemnification in relation to matters to which such person has been adjudged to have been guilty of gross negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duty to the Association unless, and only to the extent that, the court, administrative agency, or investigative body before which such action, suit or proceeding is held 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 tribunal shall deem proper.
- B. The Board of Directors shall determine whether amounts for which a Director or officer seek indemnification were properly incurred and whether such Director or officer acted

in good faith in a manner he reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the Association, and whether, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he had no reasonable ground for belief that such action was unlawful. Such determination shall be made by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of Directors who were not parties to such action, suit or proceeding.

C. The foregoing rights of indemnification shall not be deemed to limit in any way the powers of the Association to indemnify under applicable law.

XIV. TRANSACTION IN WHICH DIRECTORS OR OFFICERS ARE INTERESTED.

- A. No contract or transaction between the Association and one or more of its Directors or officers, or between the Association and any other corporation, partnership, association, or other organization in which one or more of its Directors or officers are Directors or officers, or in which they have a financial interest, shall be invalid, void or voidable solely for this reason, or solely because the Director or officer is present at or participates in the meeting of the Board or committee thereof which authorizes the contract or transaction, or solely because his or their votes are counted for such purpose. All such contracts or transactions shall, however, be fair and reasonable and upon terms reasonably comparable to those which could be obtained in arms-length transactions with unrelated entities. No Director or Officer of the Association shall incur liability by reason of the fact that he is or may be interested in any such contract or transaction.
- B. Interested Directors may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors or of a committee which authorized the contract or transaction.

XV. DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

- A. Upon dissolution of the Association, all of its assets remaining after provisions for creditors and payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed in the following manner:
- 1. Dedication to any applicable municipal or other governmental authority of any property determined by the Board of Directors of the Association to be appropriate for such dedication and which the authority is willing to accept.
- 2. If no municipal or governmental authority will accept such dedication, the assets shall be distributed among the Members, subject to the limitation set forth below, each Member's share of the assets to be determined by multiplying such remaining assets by a fraction the numerator of which is all amounts assessed by the Association since its organization against the portion of Property which is owned by the Member at that time, and the denominator of which is the total amount (excluding penalties and interest) assessed by the Association against all properties which at the time of dissolution are part of the Property. The year of dissolution shall count as a whole year for purposes of the preceding fractions.

- B. The Association may be dissolved upon a resolution to that effect being approved by a majority of the Board of Directors and by two-thirds (2/3) of the Members. In the event of incorporation by annexation or otherwise, of all or part of the Property by a political subdivision of the State of Florida, the Association may be dissolved in the manner set forth above.
- C. In the event of termination, dissolution or final liquidation of the Association, the responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System must be transferred to and accepted by an entity which would comply with Section 40C-42.027, Florida Administrative Code, and be approved by the St. Johns River Water Management District prior to such termination, dissolution or liquidation.

XVI. MERGERS AND CONSOLIDATIONS.

Subject to the provisions of the Declaration applicable to the Property and to the extent permitted by law, the Association may participate in mergers and consolidations with other nonprofit corporations organized for the same purposes, provided that any such merger or consolidation shall be approved in the manner provided by Chapter 617, Florida Statutes as the same may be amended from time to time, and provided that prior to any merger or consolidation, the responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the stormwater management system be transferred to and accepted by an entity which would comply with Section 40C-42.027, Florida Administrative Code. Said entity shall be acceptable to the District as defined in Section 40C-42.027. For purposes of any vote of the Members required pursuant to said statutes, for so long as the Developer shall own any portion of the Property, any such merger or consolidation shall require the Developer's prior approval.

For so long as the Class B Membership shall exist, the following actions shall require the prior approval of the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and the Veteran's Administration ("VA"): annexation of additional properties, mergers and consolidations of the Association, mortgaging of the Common Area, dissolution of the Association, and amendment of these Articles of Incorporation.

XVII. CONFLICT.

In the event of any conflict between these Articles and the Bylaws, the Articles shall control and prevail and in the event of a conflict between these Articles and the Declaration, the Declaration shall control and prevail.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Incorpora day of	tor has hereto set his hand and seal this 15th epts the designation as Registered Agent.
Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:	
Kirta S. Echold Tuny fur	Charles David Incorporator
STATE OF FLORIDA SSS	