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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
MERCHANT VILLAS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.**

[A Florida Corporation Not For Profit]

2005 SEP 13 AM 9:03

The undersigned incorporator, a resident of the State of Florida and of full age, hereby makes, subscribes, acknowledges and files with the Department of the State of Florida these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this corporation is Merchant Villas Condominium Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not for profit, (hereinafter called the "Association" in these Articles.)

ARTICLE II - OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

This Association's registered office is 15429 Brushwood Drive, Tampa, Florida 33624, Hillsborough County, Florida, and its registered agent is E.L. Merchant, who maintains a business office at 15429 Brushwood Drive, Tampa, Florida 33624. Both this Association's registered office and registered agent may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors as provided by law.

ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

This Association does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to its members and the specific purposes for which it is formed are to provide for the maintenance, preservation and architectural control of all common areas and other residential Units within that certain tract of property (hereinafter called the Property) in Hillsborough County, Florida and more particularly described as Merchant Villas.

ARTICLE IV - POWERS

Without limitation this Association is empowered to:

(a) Declaration. Exercise all rights, powers, privileges and perform all duties, of this Association set forth in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (hereinafter called the Declaration) applicable to the property and recorded or to be recorded in the Public Records of Hillsborough County, Florida and as the same may be amended from time to time as therein provided, said Declaration being incorporated herein as if set forth in full;

(b) Property. In any lawful manner, acquire, own, hold, improve, manage, operate, maintain, repair, replace, operate, convey, sell, lease, transfer, assign, and otherwise dispose of property of any nature whatsoever, real, personal, or mixed, tangible or intangible, in connection with this Association's affairs, specifically including the surface water management system facilities, including all inlets, ditches, swales, culverts, water control structures, retention and detention areas, ponds, lakes, flood plain compensation areas, wetlands and any associated buffer areas, and wetland mitigation areas.

(c) Assessments. Fix, levy, collect, and enforce by any lawful means all charges or assessments established by, or pursuant to, the Declaration; and to use and expend the proceeds of assessments in the exercise of its powers and duties hereunder.

(d) Costs. Pay all costs, expenses, and obligations lawfully incurred in connection with this Association's affairs including, without limitation, all licenses, taxes, or other governmental charges levied or imposed against this Association's property; and contract for services, such as to provide for operation and maintenance of facilities including surface water management system facilities.

(e) Borrowing. Borrow money and, with the approval of two-thirds of each class of members, mortgage, pledge, deed in trust, hypothecate, assign, grant security interests in, or otherwise transfer any or all of its property as security for money borrowed, debts incurred, or any of its other obligations.

(f) Dedications. With the approval of three-fourths of the members, dedicate, sell or transfer all or any part of its property to any public agency, authority, or utility for such purposes, and subject to such conditions, as two-thirds (2/3) of the members determine.

(g) Mergers. With the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the members, participate in mergers and consolidations with other non-profit corporations organized for similar purposes.

(h) Rules. From time to time adopt, alter, amend, rescind, and enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing the use of the Units, Common Area, and Corporate Property consistent with the rights and duties established by the Declaration and these Articles and governing Members' responsibilities.

(i) General. Have and exercise all common law rights, powers, and privileges and those that a corporation not for profit may now or hereafter have or exercise under the laws of the State of Florida, together with all other rights, powers, and privileges reasonably to be implied from the existence of any right, power, or privilege so granted, or granted by the Declaration or these Articles, or reasonably necessary to effectuate the exercise of any right, power, or privilege so granted.

(j) Enforcement. To enforce by legal means the obligations of the members of the corporation; the provisions of the Declaration, and the provisions of a dedication or conveyance of the Corporate Property to the corporation with respect to the use and maintenance thereof; to sue and be sued.

(k) Operate and maintain (or contract with a maintenance company to provide for the operation and maintenance of) the surface water management system facilities including all inlets, ditches, swales, culverts, water control structures, retention and detention areas, ponds, lakes, floodplain compensation areas, wetlands and any associated buffer areas, and wetland mitigation areas.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

Every person who from time to time holds the record fee simple title to, or any undivided fee simple interest in, any Unit that is subject to the provisions of the Declaration is a member of this Association, including contract sellers, but excluding all other persons who hold any interest in any Unit merely as security for the performance of an obligation. An Owner of more than one Unit is entitled to one membership for each Unit owned. Membership is appurtenant to, and may not be separated from, ownership of at least one Unit that is subject to the provisions of the Declaration, and membership may not be transferred other than by transfer of title to such Unit. Each membership is transferred automatically by conveyance of title of a Unit.

ARTICLE VI - VOTING RIGHTS

The Association shall have two classes of voting membership:

Class A: Class A members shall be all Owners, with the exception of the Declarant (as defined in the Declaration), and shall be entitled to one vote for each Unit owned. When more than one person holds an interest in any Unit, all such persons shall be members. The vote for such Unit shall be exercised as they determine, but in no event shall more than one vote be cast with respect to any Unit.

Class B: The Class B member shall be the Declarant, and shall be entitled to three (3) votes for each Unit owned. The Class B membership shall cease and be converted to Class A membership on the happening of the following events, whichever occurs earlier:

(a) when the total votes outstanding in the Class A membership equal the total votes outstanding in the Class B membership; or

(b) on the anniversary date five years from the date when the first Unit is conveyed to an individual purchaser.

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. This Association's affairs are managed by a Board of Directors initially composed of three Directors. The number of Directors from time to time may be changed by amendment to this Association's By-Laws, but at all times it must be an odd number of three or more but not to exceed five (5). The initial Directors named below shall serve until this Association's first annual meeting. The term of office for all Directors is one year. Before any such annual meeting, all vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors, if any, will be filled by majority vote of the remaining Directors, even if less than a quorum. Any Director may succeed himself or herself in office. All Directors will be elected by ballot. Each member may cast as many votes for each vacancy as such member has; and the person receiving the largest number of votes cast for each vacancy is elected. Cumulative voting is not permitted. Directors shall be Association members.

Section 2. The names and addresses of the persons who will serve as Directors until their successors have been duly elected and qualify, unless they sooner die, resign, or are removed, are:

E.L. Merchant
15429 Brushwood Drive
Tampa, Florida 33624

Pamela A. Robinson
15429 Brushwood Drive
Tampa, FL 33624

Joseph M. Merchant, III
15429 Brushwood Drive
Tampa, FL 33624

ARTICLE VIII - INCORPORATOR

The name and residence of the incorporator is:

E.L. Merchant
15429 Brushwood Drive
Tampa, FL 33624

ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION

This Association may be dissolved in the manner from time to time provided by the laws of the State of Florida and with the assent given in writing and signed by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of each class of members. Upon dissolution of this Association in any manner other than incident to a merger or consolidation, all of this Association's assets including the control or right of access to the property containing the surface water management system facilities, must be dedicated to an appropriate public agency to be used for purposes similar to those for which this Association was created. If dedication is refused, such assets must be granted, conveyed, and assigned to any nonprofit corporation, association, trust, or other organization to be devoted to such similar purposes. In no event, however may any assets inure to the benefit of any member or other private individual.

ARTICLE X - DURATION

This Association exists perpetually.

ARTICLE XI - BY-LAWS

This Association's By-Laws initially will be adopted by the Board of Directors. Thereafter, the By-Laws may be altered, amended, or rescinded with the approval of a majority of each class of members, except as to those provisions for Amendment to the By-Laws which are provided in the Declaration or any Supplemental Declaration in which case those provisions shall control such Amendments.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Articles may be proposed and adopted in the manner from time to time provided by the laws of the State of Florida, provided that each such amendment must have the approval in writing of fifty (50%) of the entire membership, except as to those provisions for Amendment to the By Laws which are provided in the Declaration or any Supplemental Declaration in which case those provisions shall control such Amendments.

ARTICLE XIII - INTERPRETATION

Express reference is made to the Declaration where necessary to interpret, construe, and clarify the provisions of the Articles. Without limitation, all terms defined in the Declaration have the same meaning where used in these Articles. By subscribing and filing these Articles, the incorporators intend its provisions to be consistent with the provisions of the Declaration and to be interpreted, construed, and applied with those of the Declaration to avoid inconsistencies or conflicting results.

ARTICLE XIV - FHA/VA APPROVAL

As long as there is a Class B membership, the following actions will require the prior approval of the Federal Housing Administration or the Veterans Administration: annexation of additional properties, mergers and consolidations, mortgaging of Common Area, dedication of Common Area, dissolution and amendment to these Articles.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, for the purpose of forming this corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, I, the undersigned, constituting the incorporator of this Association, have executed these Articles of Incorporation this 9th day of September, 2005.

E.L. Merchant

E.L. Merchant

CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS OR DOMICILE FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND NAMING THE REGISTERED AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED.

Merchant Villas Condominium Association, Inc., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, as a corporation not for profit with its principal office, as indicated in its Articles of Incorporation, at 15429 Brushwood Drive, Tampa, Florida 33624, County of Hillsborough, State of Florida, has named E.L. Merchant, whose business office is 15429 Brushwood Drive, Tampa, FL 33624, as its registered agent to accept service of process within Florida.

ACCEPTANCE

Having been named to accept service of process for the foregoing corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby agree to act in this capacity, and I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes, including the duties and obligations imposed by Section 607.325, relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties.

E.L. Merchant

E. L. Merchant

Date: 9/9/05

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