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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
CLERK OF COURT

COVER LETTER

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

SUBJECT: Gulf Coast Community Benefits Corporation, Inc.
(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME - MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

Enclosed are 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: Tony McCray .
Name (Printed or typed)

1402 E. Leonard Street
Address

Pensacola, FL 32503
City, State & Zip

(850) 341-1060
Daytime Telephone number

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

FILED

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
FOR THE GULF COAST COMMUNITY BENEFITS CORPORATION, INC.**

05 OCT -3 PM 2:58

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned hereby form a Corporation under the Nonprofit Corporation Code of the State of Florida:

ARTICLE I

The name of the Corporation is the Gulf Coast Community Benefits Corporation, Inc.

ARTICLE II

The principal place of business and mailing address of the Gulf Coast Community Benefits Corporation, Inc. is 1402 E. Leonard Street, Pensacola, FL 32503.

ARTICLE III

The nature of the activities to be conducted and the purposes to be promoted or carried out by the Corporation shall be exclusively charitable, social service and educational within the meaning of Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, (the Code), and for such purposes the Corporation may engage in any lawful act or activity for which a Corporation may be organized under the Nonprofit Corporation Code of the State of Florida in furtherance of the foregoing:

The purpose and general nature of this corporation is to promote better and affordable housing, improved education, enhanced health care and social services, economic development, and responsible community development throughout the Gulf Coast Region of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Specifically, the Corporation shall achieve this by:

1. Engaging in facilitative and collaborative activities and relationships that will allow for economic, educational, and social parity, as well as prosperity, for those residing within the region, by shoring up and enhancing existing programs, and developing programs and services where needed and does not yet exist.
2. Having the power to acquire real property and/or land, and interests therein, and to develop such or to make such property and/or land available by sale, lease, or otherwise, for development in a manner consistent with the purpose of this corporation.
3. Working with existing and emerging organizations to advance the availability and dissemination of resources for economic development, and delivery of social services programs in the region, with particular emphasis on residents in underserved communities.
4. Providing technical expertise, financial services support and assistance for residential and commercial enterprises and initiatives, to those who could not otherwise obtain such services for them selves.

5. Promoting cooperation, consensus building, and collaboration among and between individuals, community organizations, government agencies, and the private sector in creating opportunities for meeting the needs of residents for business growth, employment, decent and affordable housing, community facilities, health care and other social services.
6. Supporting and promoting quality education initiatives, in support of the K-20 educational agenda, as well as supporting the development of a quality workforce training agenda that enhances job opportunity throughout the region.
7. Seeking out and cultivating entertainment opportunities and initiatives that generate employment, recreation and economic development opportunities throughout the region.

ARTICLE IV

The Corporation shall have no members, and the care, control and disposition of its property and funds and the general management of its affairs shall be vested in its Board of Directors, which shall be elected in accordance with its bylaws. The initial Board of Directors shall be composed of three members, whose names and addresses are as follows:

Honor M. Bell, Sr., Chief Executive Officer
6073 Spanish Oak Drive
Pensacola, FL 32526

Tony McCray, Chief Operating Officer
1402 E. Leonard Street
Pensacola, FL 32503

Cornelius Wooten, Chief Financial Officer
5606 Firestone Drive
Pace, FL 32571

ARTICLE V

The Corporation is nonprofit and shall not have or issue shares of stock or pay dividends.

ARTICLE VI

No part of the property or net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to the Corporation's directors, officers or other private persons, except that the 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

Paragraph 2 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE VII

The duration of the Corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VIII

Upon any dissolution or termination of the existence of the Corporation, all of its property and assets shall after payment of the lawful debts of the Corporation and the expenses of its dissolution or termination, be delivered, conveyed and paid over to one or more charitable, scientific or educational organizations located in the State of Florida and qualified as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)3 of the Code, and described under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Code, in such proportions and for such exclusively charitable, scientific or educational purposes as the Board of Directors may determine.

ARTICLE IX

Reference in these Articles of Incorporation to sections of the Code shall be deemed to include references to the corresponding provisions of any future amendments to the Code and to the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

ARTICLE X

The address of the initial registered and principal office of the Corporation is 1402 E. Leonard Street, Pensacola, Florida 32503 and the initial registered agent of the Corporation at such address is Tony McCray.

The name and address of the incorporator is:

Mr. Tony McCray
1402 E. Leonard Street
Pensacola, FL 32503

ARTICLE XI

The Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the directors of the Corporation then in office; provided, however, that no amendment maybe made which would cause the Corporation to no longer be qualified as an exempt organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Dated at Pensacola, Florida the 15th day of September 2005.

We hereby declare, under the penalties of false statement, that the statements made in the foregoing certificate are true.

Incorporator

Tony R. McCray, Jr.
Signature

Tony R. McCray, Jr.
Print Name

9/15/05
Date

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

Tony R. McCray, Jr.
Signature/Registered Agent

9/15/05
Date

Tony R. McCray, Jr.
Signature/Incorporator

9/15/05
Date