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FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION**HIGHLAND LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC**

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
HIGHLAND LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

In compliance with the requirements of Florida Statutes, Chapter 617 and 720, the undersigned incorporator has executed, adopted and caused to be delivered for filing these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit and does hereby certify:

ARTICLE I

NAME OF CORPORATION

The name of the corporation is HIGHLAND LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (hereinafter called the "Association").

ARTICLE II

PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The principal place of business and the mailing address of the Association is located at 2502 North Rocky Point Drive, Suite 1050, Tampa, FL 33607.

ARTICLE III

REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

The street address of the registered office of the Association is 1150 Cleveland Street, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33755, and the name of the initial registered agent to accept service of process within the State of Florida at that address is Gary N Strohaner, Esquire of Baxter, Strohaner, Mannion & Silberman, P A.

ARTICLE IV

DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise provided herein to the contrary, all terms used in these Articles shall have the same definitions and meanings as those set forth in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for HIGHLAND LAKES, recorded or to be recorded in the Public Records of Pasco County, Florida, as it may from time to time be amended (hereinafter called the "Declaration").

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ARTICLE V**PURPOSE AND POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the Members thereof. The specific purposes for which the Association is formed are to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents within the Property described in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for HIGHLAND LAKES, to be recorded in Pasco County, Florida, and any additions thereto as may hereafter be brought under the jurisdiction of the Association. The Association shall not pay dividends and no part of any income of the Association shall be distributed to its Members, directors or officers. The Association shall have all the powers of a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida, subject only to such limitations upon the exercise of such powers as are expressly set forth in these Articles, the Bylaws, or the Declaration. The Association shall have the power and duty to do any and all lawful things which may be authorized, assigned, required or permitted to be done by the Declaration, these Articles or the Bylaws, and to do and perform any and all acts which may be necessary or proper for, or incidental to, the exercise of any of the duties or powers of the Association for the benefit of the Owners and for the maintenance, operation and improvement of the Property and Areas of Common Responsibility, including, without limitation, the following powers:

- (a) Own and convey real property;
- (b) Own, operate, maintain and convey the Common Property and to operate and maintain Areas of Common Responsibility, including, without limitation, the Master Surface Water Management System and any personal property owned by the Association;
- (c) Operate and maintain the Master Surface Water Management System 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;
- (d) Grant easements as to the Common Property to public and private utility companies, including, without limitation, cable television, and to public bodies or governmental agencies or other entities or persons, with or without cost or charge at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, where convenient, desirable or necessary in connection with the development of the Properties, and the providing of utilities and other services thereto, and to enter into shared facilities agreements and related reciprocal easement agreements as may be deemed desirable to provide for utilities and other facilities, and the maintenance thereof and costs associated therewith with any third parties, including, without limitation, homeowners' associations and other public and private utility companies, agencies and entities;
- (e) Establish rules and regulations for the operation of the Association, the Common Property and the Development;

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- (f) Annex additional real property in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration;
- (g) Sue and be sued;
- (h) Fix, levy, collect and enforce payment by any lawful means, all charges or assessments pursuant to the terms of the Declaration, and to pay all expenses in connection therewith and all office and other expenses incident to the conduct of the Association;
- (i) Abate nuisances and enjoin or seek damages from Owners for violation of the provisions of these Articles, the Bylaws, the Declaration and any rules and regulations of the Association;
- (j) Contract for services to be provided to and for the benefit of the Association, including, without limitation, contract for services to provide for the operation and maintenance of the Master Surface Water Management System if the Association contemplates employing a maintenance company for such purposes; and
- (k) Purchase insurance of any nature in such amounts and with such companies as the Board of Directors shall deem necessary or appropriate.

ARTICLE VI

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Members. Every person or entity who is a record Owner of a fee interest in any Lot in the Property shall be a Member of the Association. The Declarant under the Declaration shall also be a Member for so long as Declarant owns any portion of the Property. Notwithstanding anything else to the contrary set forth in this Article, any such person or entity who holds such interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation shall not be a Member of the Association. The Association membership of each Owner (other than Declarant) shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from the Lot giving rise to such membership, and shall not be transferred except upon the transfer of title to said Lot and then only to the transferee of title thereto. Any prohibited separate transfer shall be void. Any transfer of title to a Lot shall operate automatically to transfer the membership in the Association appurtenant thereto to the new Owner thereof.

Section 2. Classes. The Association shall have two (2) classes of voting membership:

- (1) **Class "A".** Class "A" Members shall be all Owners of Lots, with the exception of Declarant for so long as Declarant retains Class "B" voting rights. Class "A" Members shall be entitled on all issues to one (1) vote for each Lot in which they hold the interest required for membership.

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- (m) Class "B". The sole Class "B" Member shall be Declarant. Declarant shall be entitled to three (3) votes for each Lot actually or potentially included in the Property owned by Declarant. The actual number of votes of Declarant shall be determined, from time to time, in accordance with the terms of the Declaration. The Class "B" Member shall be entitled to cast all of its votes in any vote or election held by the Association.
- (n) Termination of Class "B" Membership. As each Lot in the Property is conveyed by Declarant to a Class "A" Member, Declarant's votes for that Lot shall lapse. The Class "B" membership shall terminate and become converted to Class "A" membership upon the earlier of the following:
- i. Three months after the total votes outstanding in the Class A membership equal the total votes outstanding in the Class B membership, including Class B votes for any Property annexed or planned for annexation by Declarant;
 - ii. On January 1, 2015;
 - iii. When the Declarant waives, in writing, its right to Class B membership;
or
 - iv. When required by law.

Upon the happening of any one of these events, Declarant shall call a special meeting of the Members to advise of the termination of Class "B" membership, and provide written notice of such event.

Section 3. Multiple Owners. Each vote in the Association must be cast as a single vote, and fractional votes shall not be allowed. If joint or multiple Owners are unable to agree among themselves as to how their vote is to be cast, none of the votes for that Lot shall be counted. If any Owner casts a vote on behalf of a Lot, it shall be conclusively presumed that Owner was acting with the authority and consent of all other Owners of that Lot. If more than one Class "A" vote is cast for a particular Lot, none of said votes shall be counted and said votes shall be deemed void.

ARTICLE VII

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The affairs of this Association shall be managed and administered by a Board of Directors consisting of at least three (3) members. Initially, the Board shall consist of three (3) members, with the number in subsequent years to be determined by the members of the Board or by amendment to the Bylaws of the Association; provided that there shall always be an odd number of directorships

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created. Each director must be either (1) a Member of the Association, or (2) an officer, director or agent either of Declarant or of a member of Declarant. The names and addresses of persons who are to act in the capacity of director until appointment or election of their successors are:

NAMEADDRESS

John M Ryan

2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050
Tampa, FL 33607

Michael Lawson

2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050
Tampa, FL 33607

Paul Ray, Jr.

2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050
Tampa, FL 33607

Any other provision of this Article VII to the contrary notwithstanding, Owners other than Declarant shall be entitled to elect at least a majority of the members of the Board of Directors not later than the earliest of the events specified in Article VI, Section 2(c) above. Until then, Declarant shall be entitled to appoint and remove all members of the Board of Directors. Thereafter, Declarant shall be entitled to elect at least one member of the Board of Directors as long as Declarant holds for sale in the ordinary course of business at least five percent (5%) of the Lots in all phases of the Development. After Declarant relinquishes control of the Association, Declarant may exercise the right to vote any Declarant-owned voting interests in the same manner as any other Owner, except for purposes of reacquiring control of the Association or selecting the majority of the members of the Board of Directors. Interim vacancies in the Board of Directors shall be filled by Declarant until Declarant has no authority to appoint Directors and thereafter by the majority of the remaining Directors, and any such appointed Director shall serve for the remaining term of his predecessor. After Declarant relinquishes its right to appoint the Board of Directors, the Members shall elect the directors by majority vote, for staggered terms of three (3) years each. To create the staggered terms, one post shall become vacant in one (1) year and a successor director shall be elected. The second post shall be deemed vacant at the end of the second year, and a successor director shall be elected. The third post shall be deemed vacant at the end of the third year, and a successor director shall be elected. All successor directors shall serve for terms of three (3) years each. In the event that the number of people comprising the Board of Directors is changed, such change in number shall be implemented in such a manner as to have as nearly equal in number as possible the number of directors whose terms expire in any given year.

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ARTICLE VIII**OFFICERS**

The day-to-day affairs of the Association shall be administered, subject to the direction and authority of the Board of Directors, by the officers of the Association, which may include a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and such other officers as permitted by the Bylaws. The Declarant shall have the right to appoint and remove any officer so long as Declarant shall own ten percent (10%) or more of the Lots in the Property; thereafter the officers shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and they shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The names and addresses of the officers who shall serve until their successors are designated by the Board of Directors are as follows:

NAME**ADDRESS**

President:

John M Ryan

2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050
Tampa, FL 33607

Secretary:

Michael Lawson

2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050
Tampa, FL 33607

Treasurer:

Paul Ray, Jr.

2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050
Tampa, FL 33607**ARTICLE IX****DURATION**

The corporation shall commence to exist upon the filing of these Articles with the Florida Department of State and shall thereafter exist in perpetuity. In the event the Association is dissolved, the Master Surface Water Management System and any other Common Property shall be conveyed to an appropriate agency of local government, and that if such property is not accepted thereby, then the Master Surface Water Management System and any other Common Property shall be dedicated to another not for profit corporation.

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ARTICLE X**AMENDMENTS**

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

Section 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 Chapters 617 and 720, Florida Statutes. Such notice shall contain the proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be affected thereby.

Section 2. Adoption. Amendments shall be proposed and adopted in the manner provided in Chapters 617 and 720, Florida Statutes. Subject to the terms of Article XIV, any amendment to these Articles of Incorporation shall require the assent of two thirds (2/3) of the votes of the entire membership without regard to class.

Section 3. Amendment by Declarant. Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 1 and 2 of this Article X, the Declarant shall have the right to amend these Articles at any time in its sole and absolute discretion so long as Class B Membership exists.

Section 4. 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 Pasco County, Florida.

Section 5. Limitations. No amendment shall be made that is in conflict with the Declaration.

ARTICLE XI**BYLAWS**

The Bylaws of the Association shall be adopted by the Board of Directors and may be altered, amended, or rescinded in the manner provided in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII**INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Section 1. The Association shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless any person of the Association who is made a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or contemplated action, suit or proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, committee member, employee or agent of the Association:

(a) From and against expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees for pretrial, trial, or appellate proceedings), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and

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reasonably incurred by him in connection with an action, suit, or proceeding (other than one by or in the right of the Association), if he acted in good faith, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceedings, he had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful; and

(b) From and against expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees for pretrial, trial, or appellate proceedings) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of an action or suit by or in the right of the Association, if he acted in good faith.

Section 2. The termination of any action, suit, or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of *nolo contendere* or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith, or, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, that such person had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

Section 3. Notwithstanding any other provision hereof to the contrary, no indemnification shall be made with respect to any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for gross negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duty to the Association.

Section 4. Any indemnification under Section 1 (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the Association only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director or officer, committee member, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because he has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 1. 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 action, suit, or proceeding, or (b) if such quorum is not obtainable, or even if obtainable and a quorum of disinterested Directors so directs, by a majority vote of Members of the Association.

Section 5. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit, or proceeding shall be paid by the Association from time to time as incurred rather than only after the final disposition of such action, suit, or proceeding. Payment of such expenses shall be authorized by the Board of Directors in each specific case only after receipt by the Association of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director or officer to repay such amounts if it shall later develop that he is not entitled to be indemnified by the Association.

Section 6. The indemnification provided by this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the Association's directors, officers, committee members, employees or agents may be entitled under the Association's bylaws, agreement, vote of Members or disinterested directors, or otherwise, both as to actions in their official capacities and as to action in another capacity while holding such offices or positions, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, committee member, agent or employee and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

Section 7. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, indemnification provided under this Article shall not include indemnification for any action of a director, officer, committee member, agent or employee of the Association for which indemnification is deemed to be against public

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policy. In the event that indemnification provided under this Article is deemed to be against public policy, such an event shall not invalidate or affect any other right or indemnification herein provided.

Section 8. The Association shall have the power, but shall not be obligated, to purchase and maintain indemnification insurance to provide coverage for any liability asserted against any director, officer, committee member, agent or employee of the Association in any of his capacities as described in Section 1, whether or not the Association would have the power to indemnify him or her under this Article.

Section 9. Any person requesting indemnification shall first look to any insurance maintained by the Association for indemnification against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement (as described above). The Association shall be obligated to indemnify such person (if entitled to indemnification by the Association) only to the extent such insurance does not indemnify such person. In the event that any expenses, judgments, fines, or amounts paid in settlement are paid pursuant to insurance maintained by such Association, the Association shall have no obligation to reimburse the insurance company.

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ARTICLE XIII**INCONSISTENCY**

In the event of any inconsistency between the terms and provisions contained in the Declaration and those contained in these Articles of Incorporation, the terms and provisions of the Declaration shall prevail.

ARTICLE XIV**REQUIRED APPROVALS**

Notwithstanding anything in these Articles to the contrary, as long as there exists a Class "B" membership, if any one or more of HUD, FHA or VA requires approval or consent by it or them to annexation of Additional Property, any merger or consolidation involving the Association, the placing of any mortgage lien on the Common Property, dedication to the public of any Common Property, any amendment of the Declaration or these Articles, or dissolution of the Association, by any one or more of said agencies as a condition of making, insuring or purchasing loans on Dwellings in the Property, and any such loan has been approved, insured or purchased by the applicable agency at the time of the proposed annexation, merger, consolidation, mortgaging, dedication, amendment or dissolution, then the required consent or approval shall be obtained. In addition, in the event of termination, dissolution or final liquidation of the Association, the responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the Master Surface Water Management System must be transferred to and accepted by an entity which would comply with Section 40D-4, F.A.C., and be approved by the Southwest Florida Water Management District prior to such termination, dissolution or liquidation.

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ARTICLE XV**INCORPORATOR**

The name and street address of the sole incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation is John M. Ryan, 2502 North Rocky Point Drive, #1050, Tampa, FL 33607.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, for the purpose of forming this corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, the undersigned, constituting the sole incorporator of this Association, has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 15 day of May, 2006.

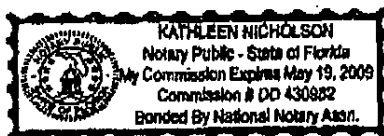



John M. Ryan
Incorporator

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

The foregoing Articles of Incorporation were acknowledged before me this 15 day of May, 2006 by John M. Ryan, who is personally known to me.





Notary Public
My Commission Expires: May 19, 2009

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**CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING REGISTERED AGENT FOR
SERVICE OF PROCESS**

Pursuant to Chapters 48 and 617, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted in compliance with said Acts.

HIGHLAND LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC , desiring to organize as a corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, with its registered office at 1150 Cleveland Street, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33755 has named Gary N. Strohauser, Esquire, of Baxter, Strohauser, Mannion & Silbermann, P A , located at the above-registered office, as its Registered Agent to accept service of process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the above-stated corporation at the place designated in this Certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to comply with the provisions of said Acts relative to keeping open said office

Registered Agent:



Gary N. Strohauser

Dated: May 16, 2006

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