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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

W07-1456
C-8.1-10

COVER LETTER

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

SUBJECT: Empowering Word International Church, Inc.
(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME - MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

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: Adrian O. Odle
Name (Printed or typed)

8340 NW 51 Street
Address

Lauderhill, Florida 33321
City, State & Zip

954-530-0255
Daytime Telephone number

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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

January 18, 2007

Empowering Word International Church, Inc.
Adrian O. Odle
8340 N.W. 51st Street
Lauderhill, FL 33321
954-530-0255

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The necessary changes and additions requested for the Articles of Incorporation for
EMPOWERING WORD INTERNATIONAL CHURCH, INC.

The changes are as follows:

Page (1) One Article I – Name

Name correction of EMPOWERING WORD INTERNATIONAL CHURCH, INC.

Page (4) Four – (7) Seven Article V – Manner of Election

Second paragraph added to identify Directors of the Church.

Under headings – (a) Pastor and Co-Pastor, (b) Assistant Pastors, Elders and Ministers (c) Deacons (d) Treasurer/Trustee (e) Church Administrator/Clerk – a section explaining the Election Process for each Director position.

Thank you in advance for completing or filing process.

Adrian O. Odle
Senior Pastor



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Corporations

January 10, 2007

ADRIAN O. ODLE
8340 NW 51 ST.
LAUDERHILL, FL 33321

SUBJECT: EMPOWERING WORD INTERNATIONAL CHURCH, INC.
Ref. Number: W07000001456

We have received your document for EMPOWERING WORD INTERNATIONAL CHURCH, INC. and your check(s) totaling \$87.50. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

The name of the entity must be identical throughout the document.

Section 617.0202(d), Florida Statutes, requires the manner in which directors are elected or appointed be contained in the articles of incorporation or a statement that the method of election of directors is as stated in the bylaws.

Please return the original and one copy of your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 245-6047.

Carolyn Lewis
Document Specialist
New Filing Section

Letter Number: 907A00002200

Articles of Incorporation
In Compliance with Chapter 617, F.S., (Not for Profit)

For

**Empowering Word International
Church, Inc.**

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Empowering Word International Church, Inc.

8340 N.W. 51 Street

Lauderhill, Florida 33321

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Introduction

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Whereas, we, a body of believers in Jesus Christ organized for the purpose of fellowship and the spreading of the Gospel of our Lord as recorded in the Holy Scripture, deem it wise that we have certain laws to serve as a criterion to work by, and help preserve the purpose and function of the local church, therefore be it resolved, that beginning with its legal adoption thereof we shall be governed by the following Articles of Incorporation and By Laws.

Article I – Name

The name of this organization, a not-for-profit religious corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida, is **Empowering Word International Church, Inc.**

Article II – Principle Office

The initial registered principle place of business shall be located at:
8340 N.W. 51 Street, Lauderhill, FL 33321

Article III – Purpose

Section 1. The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1969, as amended. More particularly, the purposes of this Corporation are:

- a) To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the worship of God among its members and attendants, and practice the Christian virtues inculcated in the Holy Scriptures.

- b) To accept and to participate the Great Commission of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
"And He said unto them, Go ye unto all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," (Mark 16:15)
- c) To employ and discharge ordained ministers of the Gospel, and others to conduct and carry on divine services at the place of worship of the members/disciples of the Corporations, and elsewhere, and to collect and disburse any and all necessary funds for the maintenance of said Corporation and the accomplishment of its purposes.
- d) To build, in Christ, a church of Love where believers by working together for the unity, edification, discipline, and encouragement of believers that they might grow into our Lord, Jesus Christ's image. *"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God."* (Romans 12:2)(Rom. 12)
- e) To conduct, accomplish and carry on its objectives, functions and purposes or any part thereof set forth in the Constitution, if any, of the Corporation as amended from time to time, within or without the State of Florida.

Section 2. This Corporation is also organized to promote, encourage, and foster any other similar religious, charitable and educational activities, to accept, hold, invest, reinvest and administer any gifts, legacies, bequests, devices, funds and property of any sort or nature, and to use, expand, or donate the income or principal thereof for, any and all lawful acts and things which may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance of accomplishment or the purposes of this Corporation. Provided however, no act may be performed which would violate Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended.

Section 3. The powers of the Corporation to promote the purposes set out above are limited and restricted in the following manner:

- a) No part of the net earning of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its incorporators, officers or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to make payments and distributions (including reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the Corporation) in furtherance of its purposes as set forth in these Articles.
- b) 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 publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.
- c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (i) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, or (ii) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1989, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax law.
- d) The Corporation shall not accept any gift or grant if the gift or grant contains major conditions, which would restrict or violate any of the Corporation's religious, charitable or educational purposes or if the gift or grant would require serving a private as opposed to a public interest.

Article IV – Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the organization, Empowering Word International Church, Inc., the remaining assets will be used exclusively for exempt purposes, such as religious, charitable and educational.

Article V – Manner of Election

The authority of the Corporation shall reside in the membership of the congregation under the teaching of Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Church. The church will have one or more Pastors, set by the founding Pastor, and may set up other churches, church offices and Ministries according to this document.

All titles below are Directors/Officials of Empowering Word International Church, Inc., but not limited. All persons holding the following position must undergo an election process, with the exception of the Founding Pastors who have been appointed and ordained by their Pastors and Spiritual Overseers.

Senior Pastors

a) Pastor and Co-Pastor

Qualifications:

Characteristics: Trustworthy, good witness, patience, self-control, loving-kindness, meekness, and above reproach.

Godliness: Obedience to God, Holiness, pure, firm foundation in belief of Jesus Christ, Spiritual wisdom and understanding.

Family: A Pastor shall have one spouse, who is an exemplary Christian, and obedient children, if any.

Believe: Completely recognize accept and firmly believe in the Holy Bible and the Faith Statement of this church.

The Founding Pastor of the church shall remain the Senior Pastor of the church until retirement. This will now incorporate him into Pastor emeritus status, or

until death. The Co-Pastor, who is the Co-Founder will be installed in the role of Senior Pastor until retirement which will bring on incorporation of Pastor emeritus status or until death.

Election Process

- Founding Pastors are appointed and ordained by their Pastors and Spiritual Overseers.
 - Successors must be elected by the congregation of members and be appointed and ordained once they have presented the church with an initial sermon, showed him/herself to be worthy of the position by proven dedication to the ministry and to their Pastors along with their Spiritual walk and live Holy. Final selection will be made by the Pastoral Ministry.
- b) **Assistant Pastors, Elders and Ministers** – Qualifications same as above. The Pastoral Ministry shall search and recommend candidates to the Senior Pastors. They will schedule his/her initial sermon, granting him/her the opportunity to preach at one or more church services. (This is solely up to the discretion of the Senior Pastors of this church). *"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."* 2 Timothy 4:2. They will then be interviewed by the Senior Pastors for the final decision. The candidate(s) will then be presented to the church. The role of the office of Assistant Pastor, Elder or Minister will be to work in conjunction with the Senior Pastors under their leadership. The Assistant Pastor or Elder will be appointed and ordained by the Senior Pastors by the examination of his/her Christian walk, Bible knowledge, Conduct, Humility and their ability to follow the Vision of EWIC. The Assistant Pastor or Elder at times may travel with the Pastors or will be held as acting Pastor in the absence the absence of the Senior Pastors. He/She must conduct themselves in a manner which is first, pleasing to God and to Senior Pastors. He/She will oversee and on occasion conduct worship service, Bible Study, Meetings, Membership Classes, Sunday School, Prayer Meeting as delegated by the Senior Pastors.

Election Process

- Assistant Pastors, Elders, Ministers are appointed and ordained by their Pastors and Spiritual Overseers which are the Sr. and Co-Pastors of Empowering Word International Church, Inc.
 - These Directors must be elected by the Pastors and Pastoral Ministry along with showing themselves worthy to the congregation of members and be appointed and ordained once they have presented the church with an initial sermon, and by proven dedication to the ministry and to their Pastors along with their Spiritual walk and live Holy. Final selection will be made by the Sr. Pastors.
- c) **Deacons** – Qualifications: Same as above and, *“Likewise must the deacons be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy money; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be reverent, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in faith which is in Christ Jesus.”* 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Once a Deacon is identified he will be considered a “Walking Deacon” for one year, or otherwise determined by the Board of Directors. The Deacon will then be ordained along with the Elders and Assistant Pastor at the annual Holy Consecration Service.

Election Process

- Deacons are appointed and ordained by their Pastors and Spiritual Overseers which are the Sr. and Co-Pastors of Empowering Word International Church, Inc.
- These Directors must be elected by the Pastors, Pastoral Staff (Assistant Pastors, Elders, Ministers) and Pastoral Ministry along with showing themselves worthy to the congregation of members and be appointed and

ordained once by proven their dedication to the ministry and to their Pastors along with their Spiritual walk and live Holy. Final selection will be made by the Sr. Pastors.

- d) **Treasurer/Trustee** – Qualifications: Same as above honest and pure, willing to serve God for the uplifting, edification and sanctification of the finances of the church. The Treasurer/Trustee Ministry will be selected by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer/Trustee will have an assistant and additional members (as determined by Senior Pastors) to handle the financial responsibilities of the church. At no time will one person be allowed to count, distribute or receive offerings on their own, there must be at least two trustees present at all times. Finances must be counted double-counted and logged into the ledger.

Election Process

- Treasurers/Trustees are appointed and ordained by their Pastors and Spiritual Overseers which are the Sr. and Co-Pastors of Empowering Word International Church, Inc.
 - These Directors must be elected by the Pastors along with showing themselves and be appointed once by proven their dedication to the ministry and to their Pastors along with their Spiritual walk and live Holy. Final selection will be made by the Sr. Pastors.
- e) **Church Administrator/Clerk** – Qualifications: Same as above and maintain calendar for the Pastors the Church and the members. The Church Administrator/Clerk will be selected by the Senior Pastors.
- Church Administrator/Clerk is appointed and ordained by their Pastors and Spiritual Overseers which are the Sr. and Co-Pastors of Empowering Word International Church, Inc.
 - These Directors must be elected by the Pastors along with showing themselves and be appointed once by proven their dedication to the

ministry and to their Pastors along with their Spiritual walk and live Holy.
Final selection will be made by the Sr. Pastors.

Article VI – Initial Directors and/or Officers

The names, address and titles of the initial Directors Officers shall be as follows:

| NAME | ADDRESS | TITLE |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Adrian O. Odle | 8340 NW 51 Street, Lauderhill, FL 33321 | Senior Pastor/Founder |
| Maurnette L. Odle | 8340 NW 51 Street, Lauderhill, FL 33321 | Co-Pastor/Co-Founder |
| Ramona Bartee | 1860 SW 68 Ave Ave. #106 Miramar, FL 33023 | Administrator/Trustee |

Article VII – Initial Registered Agent

The initial Registered Agent of the Corporation shall be
Maurnette L. Odle, 8340 NW 51 Street, Lauderdale, Florida 33321
who has accepted the designation as Registered Agent.

Article VIII – Incorporator

The name and address of the Incorporator shall be:
Adrian O. Odle, 8340 NW 51 Street, Lauderdale, Florida 33321

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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/Registered Agent

Marnette L. Odle, Co-Pastor

1/20/07

Date



Signature/Incorporator

Adrian O. Odle, Senior Pastor

1/20/07

Date

This document was prepared by: Marnette L. Odle for Empowering Word International Church, Inc. 8340 NW 51 Street, Lauderhill, Florida 33321

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