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#### **COVER LETTER**

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

SUBJECT: Bear Creek Feline Center, Inc.					_
	(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME - MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)				
	•				
Enclosed is an o	riginal and	lone(1) copy of the Arti	icles of Incorporation and	a check for:	
☐ \$70.0 Filing Fo			\$78.75 Filing Fee & Certified Copy	\$87.50 Filing Fee, Certified Copy & Certificate	
			ADDITIONAL CO	PPY REQUIRED	
8822 Tracy Way Ad			is, Jr.	gara ana ana ana	<u>,</u> **** ***
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		Address			
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		City, State & Zip			
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NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF BEAR CREEK FELINE CENTER, INC. a Florida corporation



The undersigned, being of legal age and competent to contract, for the purpose of organizing a not for profit corporation on a non-stock basis pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, does hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation and does hereby agree and certify as follows:

#### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this corporation is BEAR CREEK FELINE CENTER, INC., whose principal office shall be located at 8822 Tracy Way, Panama City, FL 32404.

#### ARTICLE II - COMMENCEMENT OF CORPORATE EXISTENCE

BEAR CREEK FELINE CENTER, INC. (The "Corporation") shall commence corporate existence immediately upon the execution of these Articles and shall have perpetual existence unless sooner dissolved according to law.

#### **ARTICLE III - PURPOSE**

The purposes of the Corporation shall be exclusively for charitable and education purposes within the meaning of the section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended (the "Code") and shall otherwise comply with any requirements for classification as an exempt organization under such section. The rules governing organization and operation of the Corporation shall be as set forth in the Corporation's By-laws.

#### ARTICLE IV - GENERAL POWERS

Except as may be restricted in Articles III and V herein, this Corporation shall have all of the powers enumerated for corporations in the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, as it now exists and as hereafter amended, and all such other powers as are permitted by applicable law, including without limitation and only by illustration, the following powers unless later restricted by applicable law:

- a) To have succession by its corporate name for the duration of its existence.
- b) To sue and be sued and appear and defend in all actions and proceedings in its corporate name to the same extent as a natural person.
- c) To have a corporate seal, which may be altered at pleasure, and to use the same by causing it, or a facsimile thereof, to be impressed, affixed, or in any other manner reproduced provided; however, such seal shall always contain the words "corporation not for profit."
- d) To purchase, take, receive, lease, take by gift, devise or bequest or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use, and otherwise deal in and with real or personal property or any interest therein, wherever situated.
- e) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, create security interests in, lease exchange, transfer, and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property and assets.

- f) To lend money for its corporate purposes, invest and reinvest its funds, and take and hold real and personal property as security for the payment of funds so loaned or invested.
- g) To make donations for the public welfare or for religious, charitable, scientific, educational, or other similar purposes.
- h) To increase, by a vote of its members cast as the By-laws may direct, the number of its directors, so that the number shall not be less than (3) nor more than (7).
- I) To purchase, take, receive, subscribe for, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, employ, sell, mortgage, lend, pledge, or otherwise dispose of, and otherwise sell and deal in and with, shares or other interest in, or obligations of, other domestic or foreign corporations, whether for profit or not for profit associations, partnerships or individuals, or direct or indirect obligations of the United States or of any other government, state, territory, governmental district, or municipality or any instrumentality thereof.
- j) To make contracts and guarantees and incur liabilities, borrow money at such rates of interest as it may determine, issue its notes, bonds, and other obligations, and secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of all or any of its property, franchises, and income.
- k) To conduct its affairs, carry on its operations, and have offices and exercise the powers granted by the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act in any state, territory, district, or possession of the United States or any foreign country.
- l) To elect or appoint officers and agents and define their duties and allow them reasonable compensation.
- m) To adopt, change, amend and repeal By-Laws, not inconsistent with these Articles of Incorporation or with the laws of the State of Florida, for the administration and regulation of its affairs and the exercise of its powers.
  - n) To have and exercise all powers necessary or convenient to effect its purpose.
- o) To merge and consolidate with other corporations both for profit and not for profit, domestic and foreign provided that the surviving corporation is a corporation not for profit.

#### ARTICLE V - PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.

The Corporation shall not allow any expenditure of any part of the net earnings of the Corporation to inure to the benefit of any member, director or officer of the Corporation, (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Corporation effecting one or more of its purposes), nor shall any member, director or officer of the Corporation, or any private individual, be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the Corporation's assets on dissolution of the Corporation, or shall a substantial part of the activities of the Corporation be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate or intervene (including the publication and distribution of statements) in the political campaign on behalf of any candidate of public office. Provided, further, that if at any time the Corporation is deemed to be a Private Foundation as defined by Section 509 of the Code, then for so long as the Corporation is deemed a Private Foundation, the following provisions shall also be applicable:

1. The Corporation shall not engage in any act of "self-dealing" as defined in Section 4941(d) of the code.

- 2. The Corporation shall not retain any "excess business holdings" as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Code, which would give rise to any liability for the tax imposed by Section 4943(a) of the Code.
- The Corporations shall not make any investments which would jeopardize the carrying out
  of any of its exempt purposes or in such manner as to subject it to tax under Section 4944 of
  the Code.
- 4. The Corporation shall not make any "taxable expenditures" as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Code, which would give rise to any liability for the tax imposed by Section 4945(a) of the Code.
- The Corporation shall distribute its income for each taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942(a) of the Code.

#### ARTICLE VI - DISTRIBUTION UPON DISSOLUTION

Upon the liquidation, dissolution or the winding up of the affairs of the Corporation, the assets of the Corporation shall be distributed exclusively to charitable, religious, scientific, literary, or education organizations which are then qualified under the provision of Section 501(C)(3) of the Code.

#### **ARTICLE VII - MEMBERSHIP**

The members of this Not For Profit Foundation shall be qualified and admitted as set forth in the By-Laws of this Corporation.

#### <u>ARTICLE VIII - INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT</u>

The initial register office of this Corporation shall be located at 8822 Tracy Way, Panama City, FL 32404, and the initial registered agent of the Corporation at that address shall be James E. Broaddus, Jr. The Corporation may change its registered agent or location of its registered office, or both, from time to time without amendment of these Articles of Incorporation.

#### ARTICLE IX - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Corporation shall have four(4) Directors initially. The number of Directors may be either increased or diminished from time to time as provided in the By-Laws. The names and street addresses of the initial Directors of the Corporation are:

James E. Broaddus, Jr. 8822 Tracy Way Panama City, FL 32404

Bertie S. Broaddus 8822 Tracy Way Panama City, FL 32404

Bonita Thames Martin 9122 Abba Lane Panama City, FL 32407 Carey J. Smith, Jr. 323 Beacon Road Port St. Joe, Fl 32456

Directors may be removed with or without cause as provided for in the By-Laws.

#### **ARTICLE X - INCORPORATOR**

The names and street addresses of the persons signing these Articles as Incorporators are:

James E. Broaddus, Jr. 8822 Tracy Way Panama City, FL 32404

#### **ARTICLE XI - BY-LAWS**

Except as otherwise provided by law, the power to adopt, alter, amend or repeal the By-Laws shall be vested in the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE XII - INDEMNIFICATION**

In addition to any rights and duties under applicable law, the Corporation shall indemnify and hold harmless all its directors, officers, employees and agents, and former directors, officers, employees and agents from and against all liabilities and obligations, including attorneys' fees incurred in connection with any actions taken or failed to be taken by said directors, officers, employees and agents in their capacity as such except for willful misconduct or gross negligence.

#### **ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENT**

The headings or captions of these various Articles are inserted for convenience and none of them shall have any force or effect, and the interpretation of the various Articles shall not be influenced by any of said heading or captions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the Incorporator hereinbefore named, for the
purpose of forming a Not For Profit Corporation pursuant to the law of the State of Florida to operate
both within and without the State of Florida, hereby makes and files these Articles of Incorporation
declaring and certifying that the facts stated herein are true, and hereunto sets his hand and seal this
day of,

James E. Broaddus, Jr.

Incorporator

### STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF BAY

The foregoing instrument was sworn to, sub of <u>line</u> 2007, by <u>lines</u> E. to me or who has produced	scribed, and ackn Broaddus JR	owledged before me this 20 da , who is personally know as identification.
Notary Public - Signature	(SEAL)	TERRY ROBBINS MY COMMISSION #00601242
Oct 02, 2010 Commission Number & Expiration Date		EXPIRES: OCT 02, 2010  Bonded through 1st State insurance

#### ACCEPTANCE OF DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED AGENT OF BEAR CREEK FELINE CENTER, INC. a Florida corporation

Having been named to accept service of process for the above-named corporation at the place designated in the Articles of Incorporation, I hereby accept to act in this capacity, and agree to comply with the provisions of Chapter 617 of the Florida Statutes relative to keeping open said office.

Dated as of the \_36ch day of \_Jun-\_\_\_\_\_2007.

James E. Broaddus, Jr.

Registered Agent

