

Division of Corporations

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FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION

SARASOTA BAY WATCH, INC.

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
SARASOTA BAY WATCH, INC.
(A Corporation Not for Profit)**

In order to form a corporation under and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, I hereby make, adopt and subscribe the following Articles of Incorporation:

**I.
NAME OF CORPORATION**

The name of this corporation shall be: **SARASOTA BAY WATCH, INC.**

The principal address of the corporation shall be:

1001 3rd Avenue W.
Suite 500
Bradenton, FL 34205

The mailing address of the corporation shall be:

P.O. Box 8296
Longboat Key, FL 34228

**II.
PURPOSES**

The purposes for which the corporation is organized are exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

The general nature, objects and purposes of the corporation shall be to operate without profit and to accept and receive property of whatever kind, and wherever situate, received by it by gift, grant, purchase, devise, bequest, or in any lawful manner and to administer and distribute such property exclusively for health, welfare, scientific, educational, environmental, cultural or other charitable purposes, including:

- A. To distribute property in accordance with the terms of gifts, bequests, or devises made to the corporation which are consistent with its purposes; or
- B. To modify any restriction or condition on the administration and distribution of funds for any specified purpose consistent herewith if in the sole judgment of the board of

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directors, such restriction or condition becomes, in effect, unnecessary, incapable of fulfillment, or inconsistent with the designated purposes of the corporation.

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, 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 the purpose clause 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 organization 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. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this document, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Sarasota Bay Watch is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to preserving and restoring Sarasota Bay's ecosystem through community education and citizen participation.

More specifically, the purposes of the corporation shall be:

- A. To restore and preserve the bays and watersheds in the Sarasota Bay region;
- B. To conduct programs and events that educate and actively involve the public in preserving and conserving Sarasota Bay;
- C. To monitor critical environmental resources in the Sarasota Bay watershed and support the enforcement of laws that protect the Bay through education and community involvement;
- D. Foster relations with municipalities, corporations, civic and scientific organizations, and individuals that support preserving and conserving the Bay; and
- E. To raise funds to support and execute the above activities.

III.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a board of directors consisting of not less than three (3) persons, as determined pursuant to provisions of the Bylaws. The method of election of directors shall be as stated in the Bylaws.

IV.

INITIAL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The names and addresses of the initial officers and directors of the corporation are as follows:

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Rusty Chinnis
1001 3rd Avenue W.
Suite 500
Bradenton, FL 34205

Director and President

John Ryan
1001 3rd Avenue W.
Suite 500
Bradenton, FL 34205

Director and Secretary

Ryan Denton
1001 3rd Avenue W.
Suite 500
Bradenton, FL 34205

Director

Sandy Gilbert
1001 3rd Avenue W.
Suite 500
Bradenton, FL 34205

Director

**V.
CORPORATE EXISTENCE**

The existence of this corporation shall be perpetual, unless dissolved according to law.

**VI.
BYLAWS**

The first board of directors of the corporation shall adopt Bylaws consistent with these Articles of Incorporation. Thereafter, the Bylaws may be altered, amended or rescinded by the directors in the manner provided by such Bylaws.



**VII.
REGISTERED OFFICE**

The street address of the initial registered office of the corporation is 5350 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Suite 201A, Longboat Key, FL 34228 and the name of the initial registered agent of this corporation at that address is Rusty Chinnis.

**VIII.
INCORPORATORS**

The names and addresses of the incorporators to these Articles of Incorporation are:

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Ryan Denton
Incorporator
Sandy Gilbert
Incorporator**ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT BY REGISTERED AGENT**

The undersigned, hereby consents to the appointment as Registered Agent of Sarasota Bay Watch, Inc., to accept service of process upon said corporation in this state. The undersigned is familiar with, and accepts, the obligations of this position.


Rusty Chinnis
Registered AgentAPPROVAL
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