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15 FEB - 1 PM 3: 05
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Office Use Only

Judith Sovenson gave permession to correct the name of the N.J. corporation

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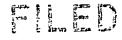
## **COVER LETTER**

| TO: Amendment Section Division of Corporations        |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Association of Independent Credit Counseling SUBJECT: |   |  |  |  |
| (Name of Surviving Corporation)                       |   |  |  |  |
| The enclosed Articles of Merger and fee are submitted | ted for filing.   |  |  |  |
| Please return all correspondence concerning this ma   | atter to following:   |  |  |  |
| Judith R. Sorensen                                    |   |  |  |  |
| (Contact Person)                                      | -   |  |  |  |
| ACCPro's  |   |  |  |  |
| (Firm/Company)  | -   |  |  |  |
| 14104 58th Street North                               |   |  |  |  |
| (Address)   | -   |  |  |  |
| Clearwater, FL 33760                                  |   |  |  |  |
| (City/State and Zip Code)                             | _   |  |  |  |
| For further information concerning this matter, plea  | ise call:   |  |  |  |
| Judith R. Sorensen                                    | 727 254-5353 x3116<br>At ( )                                      |  |  |  |
| (Name of Contact Person)                              | (Area Code & Daytime Telephone Number)                            |  |  |  |
| Certified copy (optional) \$8.75 (Please send an a    | additional copy of your document if a certified copy is requested |  |  |  |
| STREET ADDRESS:                                       | MAILING ADDRESS:  |  |  |  |
| Amendment Section                                     | Amendment Section   |  |  |  |
| Division of Corporations                              | Division of Corporations  |  |  |  |
| Clifton Building 2661 Executive Center Circle         | P.O. Box 6327<br>Tallahassee, Florida 32314                       |  |  |  |

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

## **ARTICLES OF MERGER**

(Not for Profit Corporations)



16 FEB - 1 PM 3: 05

SECRETARY OF STATE TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
The following articles of merger are submitted in accordance with the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, pursuant to section 617.1105, Florida Statutes.

| Name   | <u>Jurisdiction</u>           | Document Number (If known/ applicable)                     |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Association of Independent Consumer  | New Jersey                    | N/A  |
| Credit Counseling Agencies Inc   | :                             |  |
| Second: The name and jurisdiction of e   | ach merging corporation       | :  |
| Name   | <u>Jurisdiction</u>           | Document Number (If known/ applicable)                     |
| Association of Credit Counseling   | Florida                       | N10000001716   |
| Professionals, Inc.  |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
| Third: The Plan of Merger is attached.   |                               |  |
|  |                               |  |
| Fourth: The merger shall become effect Department of State                                       | tive on the date the Artic    | les of Merger are filed with the Florida                   |
| OR / / (Enter a specific date).  | ecific date. NOTE: An effecti | ve date cannot be prior to the date of filing or more than |
| Note: If the date inserted in this block does not document's effective date on the Department of |                               | iling requirements, this date will not be listed as the    |

# Fifth: ADOPTION OF MERGER BY SURVIVING CORPORATION (COMPLETE ONLY ONE SECTION)

**SECTION I** The plan of merger was adopted by the members of the surviving corporation on The number of votes cast for the merger was sufficient for approval and the vote for the plan was as follows: \_\_\_\_\_FOR \_\_\_\_AGAINST **SECTION II** (CHECK IF APPLICABLE) The plan or merger was adopted by written consent of the members and executed in accordance with section 617.0701, Florida Statutes. **SECTION III** There are no members or members entitled to vote on the plan of merger. The plan of merger was adopted by the board of directors on December 30, 2015. The number of directors in office was  $\frac{6}{}$ . The vote for the plan was as follows:  $\frac{6}{}$  FOR  $\frac{0}{}$ AGAINST Sixth: ADOPTION OF MERGER BY MERGING CORPORATION(s) (COMPLETE ONLY ONE SECTION) **SECTION I** The plan of merger was adopted by the members of the merging corporation(s) on . The number of votes cast for the merger was sufficient for approval and the vote for the plan was as follows: \_\_\_\_\_\_FOR \_\_\_\_\_AGAINST **SECTION II** (CHECK IF APPLICABLE) The plan or merger was adopted by written consent of the members and executed in accordance with section 617.0701, Florida Statutes. **SECTION III** There are no members or members entitled to vote on the plan of merger. The plan of merger was adopted by the board of directors on December 30, 2015. The number of directors in office was 6 . The vote for the plan was as follows: 6 FOR 0 AGAINST

## Seventh: SIGNATURES FOR EACH CORPORATION

| Name of Corporation                       | Signature of the chairman/<br>vice chairman of the board<br>or an officer | Typed or Printed Name of Individual & Title |
|---|---|---|
| Association of Independent Credit Counse  | Mil   | Christopher Viale, Chairman of the Board    |
| Association for Credit Counseling Profess | Morenslu  | Judith R. Sorensen, President               |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
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## **PLAN OF MERGER**

The following plan of merger is submitted in compliance with section 617.1101, Florida Statutes and in accordance with the laws of any other applicable jurisdiction of incorporation.

| The name and jurisdiction of the <u>surviving</u> corporation:   |                     |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Name   | <u>Jurisdiction</u> |  |  |  |  |
| Association of Independent Consumer Credit   | New Jersey          |  |  |  |  |
| Counseling Agencies Inc The name and jurisdiction of each merging corporation:   |                     |  |  |  |  |
| Name   | <u>Jurisdiction</u> |  |  |  |  |
| Association for Credit Counseling Professionals, Inc.  | Florida             |  |  |  |  |
|  |                     |  |  |  |  |
|  |                     |  |  |  |  |
|  |                     |  |  |  |  |
|  |                     |  |  |  |  |
| The terms and conditions of the merger are as follows: Please see attached merger documentation  |                     |  |  |  |  |
| A statement of any changes in the articles of incorporation of the surviving corporation to be effected by the merger is as follows:  Please see attached merger documentation |                     |  |  |  |  |
| Other provisions relating to the merger are as follows:  |                     |  |  |  |  |
| Please see attached merger documentation   |                     |  |  |  |  |

#### AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

THIS AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER (this "Agreement") is effective as of the 31st day of December, 2015, by and among the Association for Credit Counseling Professionals, Inc, a Florida nonprofit corporation ("ACCPROS"); and the Association of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies Inc d/b/a Financial Counseling Association of America, Inc., a New Jersey nonprofit corporation ("FCAA") (the Parties are sometimes referred to collectively as the "Parties" or the "Associations" and individually as a "Party" or "Association").

## RECITALS

- A. The Board of Directors of ACCPROS deems it in its best interests to carry out a statutory merger (the "Merger") with and into FCAA, and pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement set forth below and Section 617.1107 et seq, of the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, as amended (the "Florida Act"); and
- B. The Board of Trustees of FCAA deems it in its best interests to carry out a Merger with ACCPROS, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement set forth below and Section 15A:10-7 et seq. of the New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation Act, as amended ("NJNCA"); and
- C. The Board of Trustees or Directors, as applicable, of each of the Associations have duly approved this Agreement and the Merger, and have directed that this Agreement be submitted to the voting members, or board of directors, of each of the Associations, respectively, for adoption.

#### AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals and other consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

### ARTICLE I MERGER

- Section 1.1. Parties to the Merger. On the Effective Date of the Merger, ACCPROS shall be merged with and into FCAA, in connection with which FCAA shall be the surviving Association (sometimes referred to as the "Surviving Association") and the separate existence of ACCPROS shall cease as of the Effective Date of the Merger. Upon the completion of the Merger, the name of the Surviving Association shall be "Financial Counseling Association of America."
- Section 1.2. Effective Date of the Merger. The "Effective Date of the Merger" shall be the date upon which the Certificate of Merger together with the Plan of Merger, shall be filed with the New Jersey Department of State's Office, in accordance with Section 15A of the NJNCA and the Articles of Merger shall be filed with the Florida Department of State Office in accordance with the Florida Act. At the Effective Date of the Merger: (a) ACCPROS shall merge with and into

 $a/\emptyset$ 

the Surviving Association; (b) FCAA shall be the Surviving Association; (c) the separate existence of ACCPROS shall cease; and (d) the Merger shall have the effect as set forth in the NJNCA, which, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and subject thereto, on the Effective Date of the Merger, all of the property, rights, privileges, powers and franchises of ACCPROS shall vest in the Surviving Association, and all debts, liabilities and duties of ACCPROS shall become the debts, liabilities and duties of the Surviving Association.

- Section 1.3. Bylaws of Surviving Association. The bylaws of FCAA shall be the bylaws of the Surviving Association to be in effect on the Effective Date of the Merger (the "Bylaws").
- Section 1.4. Directors of Surviving Association. The members of the Board of Directors of the Surviving Association shall continue to serve as directors as of the Effective Date of the Merger until their removal, resignation or death in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation of FCAA. In addition, the following ACCPROS directors shall be appointed to the Board of FCAA commensurate with the Effective Date of the Merger: Brian DeLaney, Russell Graves, Robert Miller, Hilton Sher, Sheldon Smith and Judith Sorenson, who together with the members of the Board of Directors of the Surviving Association shall collectively constitute the "Combined Board," to serve until their removal, resignation or death in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation of FCAA. The Combined Board, representing an equal number of votes (one (1) vote for each individual director) from each of the Parties, to serve for a minimum of 18 months or until such time as board elections may be held ("the Interim Period"). During the Interim Period, the Combined Board shall at all times maintain equal voting representation between members of FCAA and ACCPROS.
- Section 1.5. Officers of Surviving Association. On the Effective Date of the Merger, the officers of FCAA shall be as follows, with all appropriate actions to effect the appointment of such officers to be undertaken commensurate with the Effective Date of the Merger: Tracy Macomber, Secretary; David Richardson, Treasurer; Kevin Weeks, President; and Todd Emerson, Vice President. Election/reelection of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Combined Board immediately following the Effective Date of the Merger.
- Section 1.6. Conditions to Obligations. The obligation of the Associations to consummate the Merger is subject to the fulfillment of each of the following conditions, any of which may be waived in whole or in part by mutual agreement of the Associations (except for the conditions set forth in Section 1.6(a)):
- (a) Approval and Adoption by Each of the Associations. This Agreement and the Merger shall have received the requisite approval of the board of trustees or board of directors, as applicable, and adoption by the members, as applicable, of ACCPROS and FCAA in accordance with applicable laws and the respective Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, of each Association.
- (b) Representations and Warranties. The representations and warranties of each of the Associations herein shall be true and correct in all material respects at and as of the Effective Date of the Merger.
- (c) <u>Covenants and Obligations</u>. Each of ACCPROS and FCAA, respectively, shall have performed and complied with all of its respective covenants and/or obligations hereunder in all material respects through the Effective Date of the Merger.



- (d) Regulatory Matters: Consents and Approvals. Each of the Associations will give any notices to, make any filings with, and use its best efforts to obtain any authorizations, consents, and approvals of governments and governmental agencies as may be required in connection with the matters referred to herein.
- (e) Ordinary Course: No Material Adverse Change. Until the Effective Date of the Merger, each of the Associations shall: (i) operate in the ordinary and usual course of business consistent with its board approved budget; (ii) not enter into any agreement, contract or commitment out of the ordinary course of business, to dispose of or acquire, or relating to the disposition or acquisition of, any asset (except for the disposition by any Association of any of its real property); (iii) not incur any amount of indebtedness or enter into any transaction other than in the ordinary course of business; (iv) not have any material adverse change in the business, financial conditions, operations, or results of operations; (v) not change or amend its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, as applicable; and (vi) use its best efforts to preserve intact the business organization, to retain services of its employees and to preserve the goodwill of those having business relationships with it. Each of the Associations shall take all actions necessary in accordance with applicable laws and its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as applicable, to convene meetings of members promptly to consider and vote upon the adoption of this Agreement.
- (f) <u>Board Composition</u>. Existing Board members of ACCPROS shall be appointed to the Board of FCAA at and as of the Effective Date of the Merger as provided for in Section 1.4 hereinabove.
- (g) <u>Changes to Standards</u>. The FCAA Board shall take appropriate action so that the FCAA standards shall be amended to (i) admit for-profit entities as full association members; (ii) eliminate the restriction that ancillary services be "opt-in" only and allow such services by itself or through a third party or parties as proscribed by state law; and (iii) expand the approval of certification providers to include any validity existing, state approved provider.
- (h) Employment Agreements. Each of the existing employees of ACCPROS and FCAA, respectively, shall continue or be appointed as employees of equal capacity to FCAA as applicable, and shall execute employment agreements at and as of the Effective Date of the Merger.
- Section 1.7. Articles of Merger/Certificate of Merger. Following the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions described in Section 1.6 above, the Certificate of Merger consistent with the terms of this Agreement shall be filed with the Department of State of the State of New Jersey pursuant to Section 15A of the NJNCA and the Articles of Merger shall be filed with the Department of State of the State of Florida pursuant to Section 607.1105 of the Florida Act (the "Consummation of the Merger").

The Consummation of the Merger contemplated by this Agreement shall take place at the Principal Office (as defined below), at such time and date as shall be fixed by the mutual agreement of the Parties as promptly as practicable following the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions described in Section 1.6 above (defined hereinabove as the "Effective Date of the Merger"). On or prior to the Effective Date of the Merger, ACCPROS and FCAA shall execute the Articles of Merger and Certificate of Merger, as applicable. Subject to the satisfaction or



waiver of all conditions precedent to the Consummation of the Merger, the Parties shall cause the Merger to become effective, pursuant to Section 1.2 hereof by (i) causing the filing, in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, the Certificate of Merger with the Secretary of the State of New Jersey; and (ii) causing all other documents which must be recorded or filed as a result of the Merger to be recorded or filed with the applicable authorities in the State of New Jersey and the State of Florida.

Section 1.8. Further Assurances. If, at any time after the Effective Date of the Merger, the Surviving Association shall determine or be advised that any deeds, bills of sale, assignments, assurances or any other actions or things are necessary or desirable to vest, perfect or confirm of record or otherwise in the Surviving Association its right, title or interest in, to or under any rights, properties or assets as a result of, or in connection with, the Merger or otherwise to carry out this Agreement, the officers and trustees of the Surviving Association shall be authorized to execute and deliver all such deeds, bills of sale, assignments and assurances and to take and do all such other actions and things as may be necessary or desirable to vest, perfect or confirm any and all right, title and interest in, to and under such rights, properties or assets in the Surviving Association or otherwise to carry out the intent of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby.

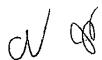
Section 1.9. Principal Office; Consent to be Sued. The place in the State of New Jersey where the Surviving Association consents to be sued is: National Registered Agents, Inc., 100 Canal Pointe Blvd., Suite 212, Princeton, NJ 08540. The principal office address of the Surviving Association is 611 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., #1600, Washington, DC 20003-4303 (the "Principal Office").

Section 1.10. Expenses. The Parties have jointly prepared this Agreement and shall be responsible for the preparation of the Articles of Merger and Certificate of Merger as well as and for obtaining the approval of the Associations' members (collectively, the 'Merger Documents'). The Associations agree that expenses incurred in connection with the preparation of the Merger Documents will be allocated equally among the Associations. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement or as otherwise agreed to by the Associations in writing, regardless of whether the Merger is consummated, each Association agrees to bear its own expenses incurred in the course of reviewing and advising on the Merger Documents and providing necessary information for inclusion in the preparation of the Merger Documents.

# ARTICLE 2 REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

#### Section 2.1. Representations and Warranties FCAA. FCAA, represents and warrants as follows:

- (a) Organization and Corporate Power. It is a nonprofit corporation duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey, as applicable, and has full corporate power and authority to carry on its business as now being conducted. It has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service approving its status as a 501(c)(3) entity, and such determination remains in full force and effect.
- (b) <u>Authorization of Merger Transaction</u>. It has full corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform all of its obligations hereunder in accordance with the terms hereof, and, subject to the adoption of this Agreement and the Merger by its



members, all necessary corporate action to authorize the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement on its part has been duly and effectively taken. This Agreement constitutes the valid and legally binding obligation of FCAA enforceable in accordance with its terms.

- (c) No Conflicts. It is not in default under or in violation of any provision of its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws or in material default or violation of any restriction, lien, encumbrance, contract, lease, sublease, loan agreement, note or other obligation or liability to which it is a party or by which it is bound or to which its assets are subject. Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement, nor the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, will (i) result in the acceleration of, or the creation in any party of the right to accelerate, terminate, modify or cancel, any indenture, contract, lease, sublease, loan agreement, note or other obligation or liability to which it is a party or by which it is bound or to which any of its assets are subject, or (ii) conflict with or result in a breach of or constitute a default under any provision of its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, or a material default or violation of any restriction, lien, encumbrance, indenture, contract, lease, sublease, loan agreement, note or other obligation or liability to which it is a party or by which it is bound or to which its assets are subject, or result in the creation of any hen or encumbrance upon said assets.
- (d) <u>Financial Statements</u>. It has delivered to ACCPROS its balance sheet for the fiscal year most recently ended, together with its profits and loss statement for the fiscal year then ended. In addition, it shall continue to provide ACCPROS with timely monthly financial statements through the Effective Date of the Merger. Such financial statements are correct and complete in all material respects, have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied consistently during the periods covered thereby and present fairly its financial condition at the dates of said statements and the results of its operations for the periods covered thereby.
- (e) Absence of Undisclosed Liabilities, It has no material liabilities of any nature, whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise (including, without limitation, liabilities as guarantor or otherwise with respect to obligations of others, or liabilities for taxes due or than accrued or to become due), except (i) as reflected in its most recent interim balance sheet, a copy of which has been provided to ACCPROS, (ii) incurred after the date of such balance sheet in the ordinary course of business and in amounts usual and normal, both individually and in the aggregate, or (iii) as disclosed in writing to ACCPROS. Since the date of such balance sheet, it has not:
  - engaged in any action or transaction, or entered into a contract or commitment or incurred any obligation or liability (contingent or otherwise) except in the ordinary course of business.
  - (ii) suffered the occurrence of any event or events which, individually or in the aggregate, has or have resulted in it incurring a material adverse effect on its operations, prospects or business.
  - (iii) issued any note, bond, or other debt security or created, incurred, assumed, or guaranteed any indebtedness for borrowed money or capitalized lease obligation.
  - (iv) imposed any security interest upon any of its assets.
  - (v) made any capital investment in, made any loan to, or acquired the securities or assets of any other person.



- (vi) made any change in employment terms for any of its officers and employees.
- (vii) committed to any of the foregoing.
- (f) <u>Tax Matters</u>. It has filed all required tax returns and reports, and the same are complete and correct in all material respects. All taxes which it is required to withhold or collect have been withheld or collected and paid to the proper governmental authorities. There is no tax litigation, investigation or proceeding pending, or to its knowledge, threatened against it. To its knowledge, no facts or circumstances exist which could give rise to such litigation, investigation or proceeding. It will timely file all tax returns and pay any taxes relating to the operation of the business prior to the Effective Date of the Merger.
- (g) <u>Litigation</u>. Except as disclosed to ACCPROS, and set forth in Schedule 2.2(g) attached hereto, there are no actions, suits, proceedings or investigations pending, threatened against or affecting it, at law or in equity, or before or by any federal, state, municipal or other governmental or nongovernmental department, commission, board, bureau, agency or instrumentality, or any other person that have not been disclosed, and there are no outstanding or unsatisfied judgments, orders, decrees or stipulation affecting it or to which it may become a party that have not been disclosed. It does not have reason to believe that any such action, suit, proceeding or investigation may be brought or threatened against it.
- (h) <u>Compliance</u>. Except as disclosed to ACCPROS, it has complied and is in compliance with all federal and state laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, decrees and orders applicable to the operation of its business as presently conducted, the failure to comply with which might materially adversely affect its operations, prospects or business.
- (i) <u>Title and Condition of Assets</u>. It has good and marketable title to its assets, free and clear of all liens, claims, charges or other encumbrances.
- (j) Accounts Receivable. Each of its accounts receivable represents obligations arising from bona fide transactions in the ordinary course of business. Each receivable has been or will be collected in full, without set-off, refund, or adjustment, and is subject to no defenses or conditions. To its knowledge, there is no dispute regarding any receivable.
- (k) <u>Contracts</u>. Except as disclosed to ACCPROS, all of its material contracts are in full force and effect. It is not in default under any of the contracts nor, to its knowledge, is any other party in default thereunder. No party to any material contract has given notice of cancellation, termination or nonrenewal. No consent of any person is needed for the material contracts to be assigned. It has made available to ACCPROS complete copies of the contracts.
- (1) Real Property. It owns no real property. It has made available to ACCPROS complete copies of all real property leases to which it is a party. Each lease is in full force and effect. It is not in default under any lease nor, to its knowledge, is any other party in default thereunder.
- (m) <u>Labor Matters</u>. It has paid in full or made appropriate accruals for all wages, commissions, bonuses and other compensation for its employees. It has withheld or collected all taxes required to be withheld or collected from its employees and has paid the same when due. Except as disclosed in writing to ACCPROS, there have been no controversies, grievances or claims by any current or former employees or their beneficiaries with respect to employment or



benefits, including discrimination, harassment or workers' compensation claims. There is no union representation of any employees.

- (n) <u>Association Plans</u>. It has performed all of its obligations under all its benefit plans. It has made appropriate entries in its financial records and statements for all obligations and liabilities under such plans that have accrued but are not due.
- (o) <u>Trademarks. Etc.</u> It does not own or use any trademarks, trade names, copyrights, or patents in connection with the business, except as disclosed in writing to ACCPROS. It has no licenses granted by or to it, except for licenses for computer software used in the business. To its knowledge, it is not violating the rights of any person with respect to any trademark, trade name, trade secret, copyright or patent.
- (p) <u>Insurance</u>. All insurance policies held by it have been made available to ACCPROS. All the policies are in full force and effect and all premiums have been timely paid.
- (q) <u>Full Disclosure</u>. None of the information provided by it to ACCPROS contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained therein not misleading. There are no facts known to it that have or may materially adversely affect the operation of its business that has not been disclosed to ACCPROS.

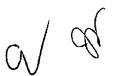
## Section 2.2. Representations and Warranties of ACCPROS represents and warrants as follows:

- (a) Organization and Corporate Power. ACCPROS is a nonprofit corporation duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of Florida and has full corporate power and authority to carry on its business as now being conducted. It has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service approving its status as a 501(c)(6) entity, and such determination remains in full force and effect.
- (b) <u>Authorization of Merger Transaction</u>. ACCPROS has full corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform all of its obligations hereunder in accordance with the terms hereof, and, subject to the adoption of this Agreement and the Merger by its members, all necessary corporate action to authorize the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement on the part of ACCPROS has been duly and effectively taken. This Agreement constitutes the valid and legally binding obligation of ACCPROS enforceable in accordance with its terms.
- (c) No Conflicts. ACCPROS is not in default under or in violation of any provision of its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws or in material default or violation of any restriction, lien, encumbrance, contract, lease, sublease, loan agreement, note or other obligation or liability to which it is a party or by which it is bound or to which its assets are subject. Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement, nor the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, will (i) result in the acceleration of, or the creation in any party of the right to accelerate, terminate, modify or cancel, any indenture, contract, lease, sublease, loan agreement, note or other obligation or liability to which ACCPROS is a party or by which it is bound or to which any of its assets are subject, or (ii) conflict with or result in a breach of or constitute a default under any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of ACCPROS, or a material



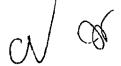
default or violation of any restriction, lien, encumbrance, indenture, contract, lease, sublease, loan agreement, note or other obligation or liability to which it is a party or by which it is bound or to which its assets are subject, or result in the creation of any lien or encumbrance upon said assets.

- (d) <u>Financial Statements</u>. ACCPROS has delivered to FCAA the balance sheet of ACCPROS for the year most recently ended, together with its profits and loss statement for the fiscal year then ended. Such financial statements are correct and complete in all material respects, have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied consistently during the periods covered thereby and present fairly the financial condition of ACCPROS at the dates of said statements and the results of its operations for the periods covered thereby.
- (e) Absence of Undisclosed Liabilities. ACCPROS has no material liabilities of any nature, whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise (including, without limitation, liabilities as guarantor or otherwise with respect to obligations of others, or liabilities for taxes due or than accrued or to become due), except (i) as reflected in the ACCPROS most recent interim balance sheet, a copy of which has been provided to FCAA, (ii) incurred after the date of the ACCPROS balance sheet in the ordinary course of business and in amounts usual and normal, both individually and in the aggregate, for ACCPROS, or (iii) as disclosed in writing to FCAA. Since the date of such ACCPROS balance sheet, ACCPROS has not:
  - engaged in any action or transaction, or entered into a contract or commitment or incurred any obligation or liability (contingent or otherwise) except in the ordinary course of business.
  - (ii) suffered the occurrence of any event or events which, individually or in the aggregate, has or have resulted in a material adverse effect on ACCPROS.
  - (iii) issued any note, bond, or other debt security or created, incurred, assumed, or guaranteed any indebtedness for borrowed money or capitalized lease obligation.
  - (iv) imposed any security interest upon any of its assets.
  - (v) made any capital investment in, made any loan to, or acquired the securities or assets of any other person.
  - (vi) made any change in employment terms for any of its officers and employees.
  - (vii) committed to any of the foregoing.
- (f) Tax Matters. ACCPROS has filed all required tax returns and reports, and the same are complete and correct in all material respects. All taxes which ACCPROS is required to withhold or collect have been withheld or collected and paid to the proper governmental authorities. There is no tax litigation, investigation or proceeding pending, or to ACCPROS's knowledge, threatened against it. ACCPROS will timely file all tax returns and pay any taxes relating to the operation of the business prior to the Effective Date of the Merger.
- (g) <u>Litigation</u>. Except as disclosed to FCAA and set forth in Schedule 2.2 (g) attached hereto, there are no actions, suits, proceedings or investigations pending or, to ACCPROS's knowledge, threatened against or affecting ACCPROS, at law or in equity, or before or by any federal, estate, municipal or other governmental or non-governmental department, commission, board, bureau, agency or instrumentality, or any other person, and there are no outstanding or unsatisfied judgments, orders, decrees or stipulation affecting ACCPROS or to which it may



become a party. ACCPROS does not have reason to believe that any such action, suit, proceeding or investigation may be brought or threatened against ACCPROS.

- (h) <u>Compliance</u>. Except as disclosed to FCAA, ACCPROS has complied and is in compliance with all federal and state laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, decrees and orders applicable to the operation of its business as presently conducted, the failure to comply with which might materially adversely affect the operations, prospects or business of ACCPROS.
- (i) <u>Title and Condition of Assets</u>. ACCPROS has good and marketable title to its assets, free and clear of all liens, claims, charges or other encumbrances.
- (j) <u>Accounts Receivable</u>. Each of ACCPROS's accounts receivable represents obligations arising from bona fide transactions in the ordinary course of business. Except as disclosed to FCAA, each receivable has been or will be collected in full, without set-off, refund, or adjustment, and is subject to no defenses or conditions. To ACCPROS's knowledge, there is no dispute regarding any receivable.
- (k) <u>Contracts</u>. Except as disclosed to FCAA, all of ACCPROS's material contracts are in full force and effect. ACCPROS is not in default under any of the contracts nor, to its knowledge, is any other party in default thereunder. No party to any material contract has given notice of cancellation, termination or nonrenewal. No consent of any person is needed for the material contracts to be assigned. ACCPROS has made available to FCAA complete copies of the contracts.
- (1) Real Property. ACCPROS owns no real property. ACCPROS has made available to FCAA complete copies of all real property leases to which it is a party. Each lease is in full force and effect. ACCPROS is not in default under any lease nor, to its knowledge, is any other party in default thereunder.
- (m) <u>Employees</u>. Except as set forth on Schedule 2.2(m), ACCPROS is not a party to any written or oral employment, compensation, consulting, severance or similar agreement. ACCPROS may terminate each employee's employment at any time without cause.
- (n) <u>Labor Matters</u>. ACCPROS has paid in full or made appropriate accruals for all wages, commissions, bonuses and other compensation for its employees. ACCPROS has withheld or collected all taxes required to be withheld or collected from its employees and has paid the same when due. Except as disclosed to FCAA, there have been no controversies, grievances or claims by any current or former employees or their beneficiaries with respect to employment or benefits, including discrimination, harassment or workers' compensation claims. There is no union representation of any employees.
- (o) <u>Association Plans</u>. ACCPROS has performed all of its obligations under all its benefit plans. ACCPROS has made appropriate entries in its financial records and statements for all obligations and liabilities under such plans that have accrued but are not due.
- (p) <u>Trademarks, Etc.</u> ACCPROS does not own or use any trademarks, trade names, copyrights, or patents in connection with the business, except as disclosed in writing to FCAA. ACCPROS has no licenses granted by or to it, except for licenses for computer software used in



the business. To ACCPROS's knowledge, it is not violating the rights of any person with respect to any trademark, trade name, trade secret, copyright or patent.

- (q) <u>Insurance</u>. All insurance policies held by ACCPROS have been made available to FCAA. All the policies are in full force and effect and all premiums have been timely paid,
- (r) <u>Full Disclosure</u>. None of the information provided by ACCPROS to FCAA contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained therein not misleading. There are no facts known to ACCPROS that have or may materially adversely affect the operation of the business, that has not been disclosed to the FCAA.

## ARTICLE 3 TERMINATION

### Section 3.1. Termination.

- (a) The Board of Trustees or Directors, as applicable, of any Party may terminate this Agreement without reason or abandon the Merger by providing written notice of termination at any time prior to the Effective Date of the Merger. In such event, the terminating Party shall reimburse the non-terminating Party in an amount equal to their portion of the expenses incurred as of the effective date of termination in accordance with Section 1.10 hereof. The non-terminating Party shall provide the terminating Party with an expense report within seven (7) days of receipt of the notice of termination (the "Expense Report"). The terminating Party will reimburse the non-terminating Party for the amounts reflected in the Expense Report within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Expense Report.
- (b) ACCPROS may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to FCAA at any time prior to the Effective Date of the Merger (i) in the event FCAA has breached any material representation, warranty, or covenant contained in this Agreement in any respect, ACCPROS has notified FCAA of the breach, and the breach has continued without cure for a period of fifteen (15) days after the notice of breach; (ii) if the investigation undertaken pursuant to Section 4.2 hereof reveals information that would have material adverse consequences for ACCPROS if the Merger is consummated; or (iii) if the transactions contemplated by this Agreement shall not have been consummated on or before December 31, 2015 by reason of the failure of any condition precedent under Section 1.6 hereof.
- (c) FCAA may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to ACCPROS at any time prior to the Effective Date of the Merger (i) in the event ACCPROS has breached any material representation, warranty, or covenant contained in this Agreement in any material respect, FCAA has notified ACCPROS of the breach, and the breach has continued without cure for a period of fifteen (15) days after the notice of breach; (ii) if the investigation undertaken pursuant to Section 4.2 hereof reveals information that would have material adverse consequences for FCAA if the Merger is consummated; or, (iii) if the transactions contemplated by this Agreement shall not have been consummated on or before December 31, 2015, by reason of the failure of any condition precedent under Section 1.6 hereof.

<u>Section 3.2. Effect of Termination</u>. If any Party hereto terminates this Agreement pursuant to Section 3.1 above, all rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall terminate without any liability of any Party to any other Party, except as set forth in Sections 3.1(a) and 4.1(c) hereof.

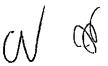


Section 3.3. Waiver. At any time prior to the Effective Date of the Merger, the Parties, by action taken by their respective Boards of Trustees or Directors, as applicable, may (i) extend the time for the performance of any obligations or other acts, including but not limited to conditions described in Section 1.6 hereof (except as otherwise provided therein); (ii) waive any inaccuracies in the representations and warranties contained herein or in any document delivered pursuant hereto; and (iii) waive compliance with any of the agreements or conditions herein. Any agreement on the part of a Party hereto to any such extension or waiver shall be valid if set forth in an instrument in writing signed on behalf of such Party.

# ARTICLE 4 MISCELLANEOUS

#### Section 4.1. Survival of the Representations and Warranties.

- (a) The representations and warranties provided by FCAA in Section 2.1 hereof, shall not survive the Effective Date of the Merger.
- (b) The representations and warranties provided by ACCPROS in Section 2.2 hereof shall not survive the Effective Date of the Merger.
- (c) In the event of any breach of any representation or warranty contained in this Agreement by any Party from the date of the execution of this Agreement until the Effective Date of the Merger resulting in a Party terminating this Agreement and abandoning the Merger in accordance with Sections 3.1(b)(i) or 3.1(c)(1) hereof, as applicable, such breaching Party shall be liable to pay damages immediately to the non-breaching Party in an amount equal to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) in the aggregate.
- Section 4.2. Access to Information; Investigation. From the date hereof through the Effective Date of the Merger, each Party shall permit the other Party, and their respective authorized representatives, reasonable access during regular business hours to its properties. Each Party shall make their respective directors, management, agents and authorized representatives (including counsel and accountants) ("Representatives") available to confer with the other Party, at reasonable times and upon reasonable request, and each Party shall disclose and make available to the other Party and shall cause its Representatives to disclose and make available to the other Party, all books, papers, records, accounts, documents and files relating to the assets, properties, obligations, operations and liabilities of such Party. Each Party may make or cause to be made such investigations of records, business and properties of the other Party, as such Party deems necessary or advisable to familiarize itself and its advisors with such business, properties and other matters, provided that such investigation shall be reasonable related to the Merger contemplated hereby and shall not unduly interfere with the normal operations of the other Party.
- Section 4.3. Press Releases and Public Announcements. No Party shall issue any press release or make any public announcement relating to the subject matter of this Agreement without the prior written approval of the other Party hereto; provided, however, that any Party may make any public disclosure it believes in good faith is required by applicable law (in which case the disclosing Party will use its best efforts to advise the other Party hereto prior to making the disclosure).



<u>Section 4.4.</u> No Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement shall not confer any rights or remedies upon any person or entity other than the Parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

Section 4.5. Entire Agreement. This Agreement (including the documents referred to herein) constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements, or representations by or between the Parties hereto, written or oral, to the extent they are related in any way to the subject matter hereof. The Schedules and/or Exhibits identified in this Agreement are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

Section 4.6. Succession and Assignment. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties named herein and their respective successors and permitted assigns. No Party may assign either this Agreement or any of its rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without the prior written approval of the other Parties hereto.

<u>Section 4.7. Notices.</u> All notices, requests, demands, claims, and other communications hereunder must be in writing. Any notice, request, demand, claim, or other communication hereunder shall be deemed duly given if (and then two business days after) it is sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, and addressed to the intended recipient as set forth below:

If to ACCPROS:

Association of Credit Counseling Professionals, Inc. Attn: Judith R. Sorensen 369 Falmouth Road Falmouth, Maine 04105

If to FCAA:

Financial Counseling Association of America, Inc. Attn: Christopher Viale 611 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., #1600 Washington, DC 20003-4303

<u>Section 4.8. Amendments and Waivers</u>. No amendment of any provision of this Agreement shall be valid unless the same shall be in writing and signed by all of the Parties hereto. No waiver by any Party of any default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder, whether intentional or not, shall be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any prior or subsequent such occurrence.

Section 4.9. Interpretation. The Parties hereto acknowledge and agree that (i) each Party has reviewed the terms and provisions of this Agreement; (ii) the rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are resolved against the drafting Party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement; and (iii) the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be construed fairly as to all Parties hereto and not in favor or against any Party, regardless of which Party was generally responsible for the preparation of this Agreement.



<u>Section 4.10.</u> Severability. The Parties hereto stipulate and agree that each and every paragraph, sentence, term and provision of this Agreement shall be considered severable and that, in the event a court finds any paragraph, sentence, term, or provision to be invalid or unenforceable, the validity and enforceability, operation or effect of the remaining paragraphs, sentences, terms or provisions shall not be affected, and this Agreement shall be construed in all respects as if the invalid and unenforceable matter had been omitted.

Section 4.11. Recitals: Headings. The recitals set forth above are incorporated by reference as if more fully set forth at length herein. The headings placed before the several paragraphs of this Agreement are inserted for ease of reference only, do not constitute a part of this Agreement, and shall not be used in any way whatsoever in the construction or interpretation of this Agreement.

<u>Section 4.12</u>. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

<u>Section 4.13. Governing Law.</u> This Agreement shall be governed by and enforced in all respects, including validity, interpretation and effect, by the laws of the State of New Jersey, without giving effects to its principles of conflicts of laws.

Section 4.14. Dispute Resolution. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or the breach thereof, will be resolved exclusively by final and binding arbitration before a single arbitrator in the State of New Jersey in accordance with the principles and commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association, and the judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator can be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this agreement to arbitrate shall not be construed to limit the right of the Parties hereto to apply to any court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction for injunctive or other equitable or provisional relief to protect its property rights. This arbitration provision shall be deemed self-executing, and, in the event that any Party(ies) fails to appear at any properly noticed arbitration proceeding, an award may be entered against such Party(ies) notwithstanding said failure to appear. The arbitrator in any such proceeding shall not, under any circumstances, be permitted to change the terms of this Agreement. Expenses of any such arbitration proceeding.

<u>Section 4.15. Time is of the Essence.</u> Time is of the essence in the performance of all agreements, obligations and covenants of the Parties under this Agreement.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed and delivered this Agreement and Plan of Merger as of the date first written above.

ASSOCIATION OF CREDIT COUNSELING PROFESSIONALS, INC.

Name: Judith R. Sorensen

Its: President

FINANCIAL COUNSELING ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, MC.

Its: Chairman of the Board

## Schedule 2.2(g)

The following actions, suits, proceedings at law or equity, arbitration or other administrative proceeding are currently known by FCAA and have been disclosed to ACCPROS in connection with the merger:

FCAA was a designated charitable recipient of cy pres funds distributed as part of the resolution of a class action lawsuit. The FCAA Board became aware that a portion of the funds may have been inappropriately distributed and notified the appropriate authority. A stipulation was ultimately entered and approved by the presiding judge. The organization understands that this matter is now concluded and sees little risk of any litigation.

Apart from the action listed above, FCAA does not currently know of any event, circumstance or action that could materially and adversely affect the right or ability of ACCPROS to conduct business or question the validity of this Agreement. FCAA does not currently know of any event or circumstance that may give rise to or serve as a basis for any such action.

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The following actions, suits, proceedings at law or equity, arbitration or other administrative proceeding are currently known by ACCPROS and have been disclosed to FCAA in connection with the merger:

NONE.



## Schedule 2.2(m)

ACCPROS is currently a party to the following written employment and/or consulting agreements which will be assumed by FCAA:

Employment Agreement with Lori Pollack LegiNation (Bill Track 50) - Legislative tracking service NCHER membership

ACCPROS is not a party to any other written or oral employment, compensation, consulting, severance or similar agreement not disclosed above.

