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### **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

**OF** 

#### SAVE OUR SEAS, BEACHES AND SHORES, INC.

The undersigned, acting as incorporator of this Corporation not for profit pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, adopts the following articles of incorporation and states as follows:

### <u>ARTICLE I</u>

Name and Principal Place of Business

The name of the corporation is Save Our Seas, Beaches and Shores, Inc. The initial principal place of business is: 2545 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.

### ARTICLE II

The period of the duration of this corporation shall be perpetual unless dissolved in accordance with Florida law. Corporate existence shall commence upon filing with the Secretary of State.

### ARTICLE III

Purposes

The purposes for which this corporation is created and maintained shall be exclusively for the promotion of social welfare and only activities which may be undertaken by an organization exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, shall be permitted.

The corporation shall have the following powers:

- 1) To gather, analyze and disseminate data and information relating to the protection of Florida's seas, beaches and shores from contamination, pollution and degradation;
- 2) To serve as a core organization to bring together citizens, governmental agencies and representatives of other non-governmental organizations which have a common interest in

issues relating to the protection of seas, beaches and shores within the State of Florida;

- To conduct fundraising activities for the production of revenues adequate to carry out the purposes of the corporation;
- To employ staff, consultants, attorneys and accountants to ensure that all regulatory provisions governing a corporation not for profit are satisfied;
- 5) To disseminate information relating to the purposes of the corporation and such other subjects as may from time to time arise to the public, civic organizations and governmental organizations and other non-profit and business entities;
- 6) To exercise powers of a corporation not for profit permitted by Florida law;
- 7) To register and function as a ballot initiative political committee pursuant to Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, or the corresponding section of any later adopted statutes; and
- 8) To conduct such other related activities permitted to be conducted by an organization exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

### ARTICLE IV Restrictions

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, officers, or other private persons; provided, however, 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 Article III, hereof and to pay or reimburse the reasonable expenses of fundraising and carrying out the objectives of the corporation.

### ARTICLE V Members

The initial members of the corporation shall be the Officers and Board of Directors of the corporation. Other classifications of membership may be as established by the Board of Directors as provided in the by-laws of the corporation and may consist of separate categories of membership, each with different rights and responsibilities.

#### ARTICLE VI

The street address and city of the registered office of the corporation is:

Save Our Seas, Beaches and Shores, Inc. c/o Preston T. Robertson, Esquire 2545 Blairstone Pines Dr. Tallahassee. Florida 32301

The name of the initial registered agent at such address is Preston T. Robertson, Esquire.

# ARTICLE VII Board of Directors

The number of persons constituting the Board of Directors of the corporation shall not be less than three (3) nor more than twenty (20) members as determined in the by-laws. The by-laws shall provide the process for the selection of Directors. There shall be no limit on the number of terms a Board member may serve. Board members shall serve with no compensation; provided, however, the Board may authorize reimbursement of expenses incurred by Board members in conjunction with the corporation's business or other approved activities directly related to the corporation's purposes. The Officers of the corporation shall serve as *ex officio* Directors. Only the *ex officio* Directors shall have voting rights. The other members of the Board of Directors shall serve in an advisory capacity to the *ex officio* Directors.

Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any Director from receiving compensation for

serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore.

## ARTICLE VIII Officers

The corporation shall have such Officers as may be provided for in the by-laws. The manner of selection of Officers shall also be provided for in the by-laws. The corporation shall have at least the following Officers:

- 1. Chairperson Manley K. Fuller, III
- 2. President Preston T. Robertson, Esq.
- 3. Secretary Thomas W. Reese, Esq.
- 4. Treasurer Tasha O. Buford, Esq.

An individual may hold more than one office in the corporation. Duties of Officers shall be described in the by-laws.

### ARTICLE IX Indemnification of Officers and Directors

As provided in the by-laws, Officers and Directors shall be indemnified by the corporation against all expenses and liabilities, including attorney's fees, (including any incurred in appellate proceedings), reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding or settlement thereof in which they may become involved by reason of holding such office. The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of all Officers and Directors against any such liability asserted against them or incurred by them in their capacity as Officers and Directors or arising out of their status as such.

#### ARTICLE X

#### Non-Stock Basis

This corporation is organized on a non-stock basis.

ARTICLE XI

Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of this corporation, the residual assets of the corporation will be

turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations

described in Section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, or

corresponding sections of any prior or future United States Internal Revenue law or will be

distributed as otherwise provided by law.

<u>ARTICLE XII</u>

Amendments

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by majority vote of the ex officio directors as

provided in Section 617.1002(1)(b), Florida Statutes, at a meeting called for such purposes.

ARTICLE XIII
Incorporator

The name and address of the original incorporator of this Corporation is as follows:

Preston T. Robertson, Esquire 2545 Blairstone Pines Drive

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned incorporator, pursuant to the laws of the

State of Florida, does hereby make and file in the office of the Secretary of State of Florida these

Articles of Incorporation and further certifies that the facts stated herein are true and correct.

PRESTON T. ROBERTSON, ESQUIRE

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INCORPORATOR

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### STATE OF FLORIDA) COUNTY OF LEON)

### **VERIFICATION**

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 12 h of May, 2010, by Preston T. Robertson, who is personally known to me.

WITNESS my hand and seal in the County and State named above on this 12 day of

10/ay, 2010.

My Commission Expires:

DIANE H. HINES

Motary Public - State of Florida
My Comm. Expires Dec 16, 2013

Commission # DD 918442

Sonded Through National Notary Assn.

**NOTARY PUBLIC** 

Notary Public:

Printed Name: Diane Hines

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#### ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT

Preston T. Robertson, Esquire, the Registered Agent named in the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, by the execution of this acceptance, does hereby agree to abide by the provisions of Section 607.0501, Florida Statutes, with respect to the duties of such registered agent and agrees to maintain normal business hours at the following address: 2545 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.

PRESTON T. ROBERTSON, ESQUIRE

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