

N14000008832

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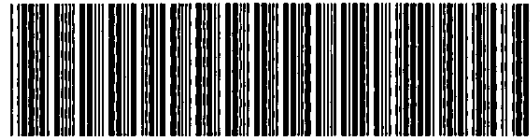
(Business Entity Name)

(Document Number)

Certified Copies \_\_\_\_\_ Certificates of Status \_\_\_\_\_

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TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399

ymd 9/23

## COVER LETTER

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

SUBJECT: **Empower 1st Incorporated**

(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME - MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

EIN: 47-1867983

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: **Shikita Gerard**  
Name (Printed or typed)

**1040 Willow Drive**  
Address

**Leesburg, FL 34748**  
City, State & Zip

**352-308-6879**  
Daytime Telephone number

**empower1stctr@gmail.com**

E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

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

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

**Empower 1st, Inc.**

The undersigned, being of legal age and competent to contract, for the purpose of organizing a non-profit corporation pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida, do hereby state the Articles of Incorporation of Empower 1st, Inc., in their entirety, and adopt the following Articles of Incorporation and agree and certify as follows:

ARTICLE I

NAME

Empower 1st, Inc.  
EIN: 47-1867983  
(Hereinafter a non-profit corporation)

ARTICLE II

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

The principal place of business for this corporation is at 1040 Willow Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748

The property and assets of this corporation are irrevocably dedicated to Charitable, Religious, Educational and Literary purposes.

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE

The purpose of Empower 1st is established to provide assistance to disadvantaged citizens of Florida in every way possible and equip them to be better for themselves, their families and their community. The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and literary purposes under the Internal Revenue Code section 501(c) (3).

and nationally  
Empower 1st, Inc. shall do all lawful activities which may be necessary, useful or desirable for the furtherance, accomplishment, fostering or attaining of the aforementioned purposes, either directly or indirectly, and either alone or in conjunction or cooperation with others, whether such others be persons or organizations of any kind or nature, such as corporations, firms, associations, trusts, institutions, foundations or governmental bureaus, departments or agencies.

Notwithstanding, any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal and state income tax under Section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Code.

The Corporation is not organized nor shall it be operated for the primary purpose of generating pecuniary gain or profit. The Corporation shall not distribute any gains, profits or dividends to the Directors, Officers or Members thereof, or to any individual except as reasonable compensation for services actually performed in carrying out the Corporation's Charitable and educational purposes. The property, assets, profits and net income of the corporation are irrevocably dedicated to charitable, literary and educational purposes, and no part which shall inure to the benefit of an individual.

No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in, any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

#### ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

There is no membership in this organization.

#### ARTICLE V REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

The Registered Agent for Empower 1st, Inc., is Ms. Shikita Gerard whose address is at 1040 Willow Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748.

#### ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This Corporation shall have three (3) or more directors. The number of directors may be either increased or diminished from time to time as provided in the By-Laws of the Corporation. The names and street addresses of the directors of this Corporation are as stated below. The manner in which directors are elected or appointed is as stated in the By-Laws of the Corporation.

Shikita Gerard  
1040 Willow Drive  
Leesburg, FL 34748

Michael Hill  
1109 Willow Ct.  
Tavares, FL 32778

Laura Williams  
11307 Lamoille Lane  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28278

Carolyn Jones  
1000 Wall Street Apt 42  
Eustis, FL 32757

Nina Ware  
170-40 130th Ave 3F  
Jamaica, NY 11434

Rhonda Golden  
1312 Louis Court  
Eustis, FL 32726

#### ARTICLE VII INDEMINIFICATION

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 and gross negligence.

#### ARTICLE VIII BYLAWS

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

#### ARTICLE IX DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purpose of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or literary purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501C3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the city or county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE X  
INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the Incorporator is:  
Ms. Shikita Gerard  
1040 Willow Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748

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LEGATARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the incorporator hereinbefore named, for the purpose of forming a non-profit corporation pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida to do business both within and without the State of Florida, do hereby make and file these Articles of Incorporation declaring and certifying that the facts stated herein are true and do hereby subscribe thereto and hereunto set her hand and seal this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

Shikita Gerard  
Shikita Gerard, President

STATE OF FLORIDA )

COUNTY OF LAKE )

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public authorized to take acknowledgements in the state and county set forth above, personally appeared Shikita Gerard, personally known to me or provided identification \_\_\_\_\_, to be the person who executed the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, and she has acknowledged before me that she has executed these Articles of Incorporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, in the state and county aforesaid, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

Israel Branton III  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:



ISRAEL BRANTON III  
MY COMMISSION # FF 086202  
EXPIRES: February 3, 2018  
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

**CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED  
AGENT/REGISTERED OFFICE**

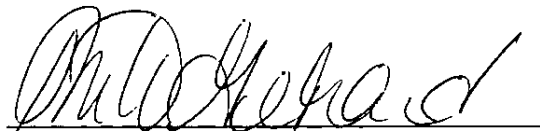
Pursuant to the provisions of section 607.0501, Florida Statutes, the undersigned corporation, organized under the laws of Florida submits the following statements designating the registered officer/registered agent, in the State of Florida.

1. The name of the corporation is: Empower 1st, Inc.

The name and address of the registered agent and office is:

Ms. Shikita Gerard  
1040 Willow Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748

**HAVING BEEN NAMED AS REGISTERED AGENT TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS FOR THE ABOVE STATED CORPORATION AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED IN THIS CERTIFICATE, I HEREBY ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT AS REGISTERED AGENT AND AGREE TO ACT IN THIS CAPACITY. I FURTHER AGREE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISION OF ALL STATUTES RELATING TO THE PROPER AND COMPLETE PERFORMANCE OF MY DUTIES, AND I AM FAMILIAR WITH AND ACCEPT THE OBLIGATIONS OF MY DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED AGENT.**



Shikita Gerard, President

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STATE OF FLORIDA