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#### **COVER LETTER**

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

SUBJECT: Floridians for a Fair Democracy, Inc. (PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME - MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation and a check for:

□ \$78.75 \$70.00 Filing Fee Filing Fee &

Certificate of Status

\$78.75 Filing Fee & Certified Copy \$87.50 Filing Fee, Certified Copy

& Certificate

ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

FROM: Jennifer Blohm Name (Printed or typed)

P.O. Box 1547

Address

Tallahassee, FL 32302

City, State & Zip

850-878-5212

Daytime Telephone number

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

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

APPROVED AND FILED

#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

14 OCT 15 AM 9: 35

SECRETARY OF STATE FALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

### FLORIDIANS FOR A FAIR DEMOCRACY, INC.

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

# ARTICLE I Name and Principal Place of Business

The name of the corporation is "Floridians for a Fair Democracy, Inc." The initial principal place of business is 3000 Gulf-to-Bay Boulevard, Suite 502, Clearwater, Florida 33759.

## ARTICLE II Duration

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.

### Purposes

<u>Purposes</u>

The purposes for which this corporation is created and maintained shall be exclusively for the promotion of social welfare and no activities which are not permitted 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 specific powers:

- (1) To gather, analyze and disseminate data and information and to educate citizens on the importance of social justice and providing a fair process for the restoration of civil rights;
- (2) To serve as a core organization to bring together citizens, governmental agencies and representatives of other organizations which have the common goals stated above;
- (3) To conduct fundraising activities for the production of revenues adequate to carry out the purposes of the corporation;
- (4) To employ staff, consultants, attorneys and accountants to ensure that all regulatory provisions are abided and the corporation's goals are achieved;
- (5) To disseminate to the public, civic and governmental organizations and other non-profit and business entities information relating to the purposes of the corporation and such other subjects as may from time to time arise;
- (6) To exercise powers permitted by Florida law for a corporation not for profit;
- (7) To create a ballot initiative political committee pursuant to Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, or the corresponding section of any later adopted statutes, in furtherance of the goals of the corporation;
- (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 by directors, officers, members and other private citizens 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 or incurred in carrying out the objectives of the corporation.

### ARTICLE V

#### Members

The incorporator shall be the initial member of the corporation and shall serve as Chair of the initial Board of Directors of the corporation.

Other classifications of membership may be 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**

#### Resident Office and Agent

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

241 Coralwood Court Kissimmee, Florida 34743

The name of the initial registered agent at such address is Jerry Ellis Pena.

### ARTICLE VII Board of Directors

The number of persons constituting the Board of Directors of the corporation shall be established in the by-laws, but shall not be less than three (3). The by-laws shall provide the process for the selection of Directors; provided, however, the initial Directors of the corporation shall be:

Jessica Chiappone, Chair 138 West Palmetto Park Road Boca Raton, Florida 33432

Faith Seabrooks, Vice Chair 545 Charles Court Orlando, Florida 32805

Pam Goodman, Vice Chair 3603 North Ocean Boulevard Gulf Stream, Florida 33483

Norman Wilson 7305 Crooked Lane Circle Orlando, Florida 32818

Johnnie Raye McMillian 16062 Southwest 63<sup>rd</sup> Terrace Miami, Florida 33193

There shall be no limit on the number of terms a Board member may serve unless provided otherwise in the by-laws. The term of office of Board members shall be stated in the by-laws. The Board of Directors 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.

Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving additional compensation therefore.

## ARTICLE VIII Officers

The corporation shall have at least the following Officers – Chair/President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer – and such other 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; provided, however, the initial officers shall be:

Jessica Chiappone, Chair/President 138 West Palmetto Park Road Boca Raton, Florida 33432

Faith Seabrooks, Vice President 545 Charles Court Orlando, Florida 32805

Pam Goodman, Vice President 3603 North Ocean Boulevard Gulf Stream, Florida 33483

Johnnie Raye McMillian, Secretary 16062 Southwest 63<sup>rd</sup> Terrace Miami, Florida 33193

> Norman Wilson, Treasurer 7305 Crooked Lane Circle Orlando, Florida 32818

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

### **ARTICLE IX**

### <u>Indemnification of Officers and Directors</u>

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 as provided in the by-laws. 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 to the federal, state or local government to be used for exclusively public purposes.

# ARTICLE XII Amendments

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by majority vote of the Directors as provided in Section 617.1002(1)(b), Florida Statutes, at a meeting called for such purpose.

### ARTICLE XIII

Incorporator

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

Jessica Chiappone 138 West Palmetto Park Road Boca Raton, Florida 33432 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in Section 817.155, Florida Statutes.

JESSICA CHIAPPONE INCORPORATOR

### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PALM BEACH	) )
The foregoing instrument v	was acknowledged before me thisday of October,
2014, by Jessica Chiappone, who	o is personally known to me or $\square$ has produced
satisfactory evidence of identificat	tion.
WITNESS my hand and se	eal in the County and State named above on this 14
day of October, 2014.	Jan Jay
My Commission Expires:	NOTARY PUBLIC  Notary Public:
(Type of Identification Produced:	Printening U.CARY  MY COMMISSION # EE173273  EXPIRES April 17, 2016  [497) 306-0183 FlorideNotaryBernice.com

### ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT

Jerry Elias Pena, the Registered Agent named in the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, by the execution of this acceptance, does hereby agree to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, is familiar with and accepts the appointment as registered agent and agrees to act in this capacity and to maintain normal business hours at the following address: 241 Coralwood Court, Kissimmee, Florida 34743.

Jerry Elias Pena

15 AM 9: 36