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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

JAN 9 7 2015

S. GILBERT

COVER LETTER

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

SUBJECT: Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.
(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME – MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

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: Catherine P. Dortch
Name (Printed or typed)

112 Oglesby Avenue
Address

Crestview, FL 32536
City, State & Zip

850-682-6287
Daytime Telephone number

mvdortch@yahoo.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

In compliance with Chapter 617, F.S., (Not for Profit)

The undersigned, as a citizen of the United States, desiring to form a Non-Profit Corporation under the Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of Florida, do hereby certify:

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation shall be: Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.

ARTICLE II

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Principal street address: 112 Oglesby Avenue
Crestview, FL 32536

Mailing address: P.O. Box 733
Crestview FL 32536

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE OF CORPORATION:

The Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., shall operate as a non-profit corporation, organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. The Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., is an organization whose activities will advance educational success, including through annual scholarship award(s) to a graduating senior or seniors from public high schools in Crestview, Okaloosa County, Florida, who plan to enroll full-time at an accredited college or university as defined by the U.S. Department of Education. The Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., shall receive majority support from governmental entities and/or the general public via contributions, gifts, and other resources to support charitable and educational activities.

SECTION 1. In accordance with the Bylaws of the Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., to be eligible for recognition and/or scholarship award(s), specific selection criteria must be met as set forth in the Bylaws. Minimum selection criteria requires that a student be a graduating senior of a public high school in Crestview, Okaloosa County, Florida, achieve the required grade point average (GPA), he/she must have the recommendation of a high school's guidance counselor and/or principal, have shown overall achievement/leadership through his/her educational years, in addition to significant consideration of "overcoming hardship" to achieve educational success. (Adopted November, 2014).

SECTION 2. Scholarship award(s) will be eligible for a specific timeframe and must be utilized within that time unless the Officers of the Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., waives this rule due to extenuating circumstance(s). The recipient must comply with requests to submit confirmation via the respective institution's Office of the Registrar to assure being enrolled as a full-time student in good standing.

SECTION 3. As established in the Bylaws, the scholarship recipient, or scholarship recipients, will be selected based on qualifying requirements via a Selection Committee. Members of the Selection Committee will have met stringent professional qualifications. Methods prescribed in the Bylaws ensure an unbiased selection process and procedures to prevent any conflict of interests.

SECTION 4. The Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., will conduct public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures, or other similar programs to promote educational success.

ARTICLE IV

MANNER OF ELECTION:

Initially, *appointed*, as set forth in the Bylaws. Subsequent directors shall be selected by a majority vote of the direct lineal descendants of the late Joseph Claude Dortch, and based on professional qualifications as set forth in the Bylaws.

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members and each member shall continue to serve as prescribed in the Bylaws. An annual list of directors and their terms shall be listed in the minutes of each annual meeting.

SECTION 2. Any newly elected director or directors shall serve in that capacity for a specific term as designated in the Bylaws. If for any reason there is a vacancy that occurs due to a director being unable to remain in that role, the vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors at any special or regular meeting for the unexpired term.

SECTION 3. The Officers of the Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., shall be elected by the directors and as prescribed in the Bylaws.

The president of the Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. The president will perform duties that typically pertain to this position as explained in the Bylaws. The president shall be a director.

The vice-president will perform duties as ordinarily relate to that office. The Vice-President shall be a director.

The secretary shall keep full and accurate minutes of each meeting of the Board of Directors, along with assistance from the president and vice-president. The Secretary will perform such duties as described in the Bylaws. The secretary shall be a director.

The treasurer will accurately record and report all financial transactions, and perform all other duties of this position as explained in the Bylaws. The treasurer shall be a director.

If the president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer are unable to continue in his/her respective role(s), the vacancy will be filled based on the Bylaws.

ARTICLE V

INITIAL OFFICERS AND/OR DIRECTORS:

Name / Title / Address:

Catherine P. Dortch, President and Director
112 Oglesby Avenue
Crestview, Florida 32536

Name / Title / Address:

Michael V. Dortch, Vice-President and Director
112 Oglesby Avenue
Crestview, Florida 32536

Name / Title / Address:

Shirley Coleman, Secretary and Director
112 Oglesby Avenue
Crestview, FL 32536

ARTICLE VI

REGISTERED AGENT:

Catherine P. Dortch
112 Oglesby Avenue
Crestview, FL 32536

ARTICLE VII

INCORPORATOR:

Catherine P. Dortch
112 Oglesby Avenue
Crestview, FL 32536

ARTICLE VIII

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 Article Third or 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 corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section

501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE IX

Upon the dissolution of the Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the 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

AMENDMENTS:

The Articles of Incorporation and/or the Bylaws of the corporation may be amended at a regular or called meeting of the Board of Directors, and any amendment shall require majority vote of the board members present at such meeting. Advanced written notice as prescribed in the Bylaws must be provided to all directors prior to the time of consideration and discussion of a desired action. No amendments may subvert or shall be counter to the charitable and educational purposes of the Joseph Claude Dortch Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Catherine P. Dortch
Required Signature of Registered Agent

01-02-15
Date

Catherine P. Dortch
Print Name

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 s.817.155, F.S.

Catherine P. Dortch
Required Signature of Incorporator

01-02-15
Date

Catherine P. Dortch
Print Name