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COVER LETTER

Department of State Division of Corporations 1 P. O. Box 6327 - 12 7 14 15 Tallahassee, FL 32314

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Friends of Southwest Florida CISMA, 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: Marlik Pate | Name (Printed or typed)

20200 Tagniami Trail E.
Address

Naples, FL 34/14 City, State & Zip

(239) 285 - 9636

Daytime Telephone number

maulik pate 1815 @ 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 FRIENDS OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CISMA, INC.

WE, the undersigned, acting as incorporators of a not-for-profit Florida Corporation pursuant to Chapter 617, Fla. Stat., adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

ARTICLE I. Name. The name of this corporation is Friends of Southwest Florida CISMA, Inc.

ARTICLE II. Principal Place of Business and Mailing Address. The mailing address and initial principal place of business is 20200 Tamiami Trail E., Naples, Florida 34114.

ARTICLE III. Purposes. The purposes for which this corporation is organized are as follows:

- Δ. Educational Outreach to the public to further their knowledge regarding exotic invasive species threatening Southwest Florida's ecosystems;
- B. Financial support for the management of invasive species including Early Detection/Rapid Response activities by the Southwest Florida CISMA to combat newly discovered invasive species;
- C. Any scientific, educational or charitable purpose as specified in § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code and as relates to the forgoing purposes;
- D. Cooperative efforts related to the purposes of this corporation as specified in documents of the corporation, including but not limited to its Bylaws.

The above-stated purposes may be implemented in ways that include, but are not limited to, the making of grants or other distributions to other tax-exempt organizations or entities. The grants or other distributions must be used only with activities that fit the exempt purpose of this corporation. This corporation must be able to verify that any and all grants or other distributions are used for these purposes.

ARTICLE IV. Election of Directors. The number of initial directors is four. The minimum number of directors shall be three. The manner in which the directors are elected or appointed is by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The duration of an elected term shall be two years. A term can be renewed after two years by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. Officers and Directors. The name and Florida street address of the directors and officers of the corporation are as follows:

Maulik Patel, President and Director 20200 Tamiami Trail E., Naples, FL 34114

Jonathan Meyer, Vice-President and Director 20950 S. Tamiami Trail, Unit 2, Estero, FL 33928

Mike Owen, Secretary and Director 15656 Janes Scenic Dr., Copeland, FL 34137

Erin Myers, Treasurer and Director 640 24th Ave. NE, Naples, FL 34120

A Property

ARTICLE VI. Registered Agent. The name of the registered agent is Mimi S. Wolok, PA. The registered agent's street address is 1248 Frank Whiteman Blvd., Naples, Florida 34103.

Having been named as registered agent and 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. If further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent as provided in Chapter 617, Fla. Stat.

Registered Agent's Signature

THE

ARTICLE VII. Incorporator. The incorporator is Maulik Patel, 20200 Tamiami Trail E., Naples, FL 34114.

ARTICLE VIII. Effective Date and Duration. The effective date of this corporation shall be the date of receipt recorded by the Florida Department of State. The duration of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE IX. Amendment. The Articles of Incorporation and Articles of Dissolution may be amended only by majority vote of the Directors.

ARTICLE X. Dissolution. This corporation may be dissolved by a majority vote of the Directors. Upon the dissolution of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

ARTICLE XI. Additional Provisions.

No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by § 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code), and this 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.

No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that this 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 these Articles.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (1) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under in $\S 501(c)(3)$ of the Internal Revenue Code, or (2) by a corporation contributions to which are deductible under $\S 170(c)(2)$ of the Internal Revenue Code.

In any taxable year in which this corporation is a private foundation as described in § 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, the corporation 1) shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under § 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code; 2) shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in § 4941(c) of the Internal Revenue Code; 3) shall not retain any excess business holdings as defined in § 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code; 4) shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject the corporation to tax under § 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code; and 5) shall not make any taxable expenditures as defined in § 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

As the Initial Incorporator, 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 § 817.55, Fla. Stat.

Maulik Patel, Incorporator

Date

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