

THE JANE DOE PROJECT FLORIDA, INC.



18248 Paulson Drive,
Port Charlotte FL 33954
Tel: 941-916-4096
Fax: 888-713-3146

**NONPROFIT ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR
THE JANE DOE PROJECT FLORIDA, INC.**

Articles of Incorporation of the undersigned, a majority of whom are citizens of the United States, desiring to form a Non-Profit Corporation under the Non-Profit Corporation Laws of the State of Florida, and the United States, do hereby certify:

First: The **name** of the Corporation shall be: **The Jane Doe Project Florida, Inc.**

Second: Principal Office: The place in this state where the principal office of the Corporation is to be located is: **18245 Paulson Drive, Port Charlotte, FL 33954.**

Third: Purpose: (See eighth and ninth for specific purposes) This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Fourth: Board of Directors and manner of election: The corporation shall have a Board of Directors that will govern all activities of the corporation. The Bylaws of the corporations shall also provide for their duties and functions. The Board of Directors shall have the power to make, alter, and rescind the Bylaws of this corporation provided that at least thirty days (30 days) notice has been given all members of the Board of Directors of the character of the prepared amendment or amendments to be voted on. The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors. There shall be no fewer than three voting members. All board members shall be appointed in accordance with the Corporation's Bylaws. The names and addresses of the persons who are the three initial directors of the corporation are as follows:

Fifth: Initial Registered Agent, Incorporator, Officers:

Section 1

The initial **registered agent and incorporator** is:

Virginia A. Rapkin, c/o Law office of Jeffrey A. Rapkin, 18245 Paulson Drive, Port Charlotte, Fl. 33954, mailing address: 18245 Paulson Drive, Port Charlotte, Fl. 33954.

Section 2

The officers of the Corporation shall be: the Chairman; Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected from the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the membership year.

Section 3

Nominations shall be made from the floor. The Board members shall elect, by ballot, the officers for a term of one (1) year. The terms of office shall be upon election and continue until their successors are elected.

Section 4

Officers shall perform the duties provided in this section and such other duties as they are prescribed for the office in these Bylaws, in the adopted parliamentary authority, in the standing rules, or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

(a) The Chairman shall: be Chief Executive Officer and official spokesman of the Corporation, appoint committees subject to approval of the Board of Directors; subject to Board approval, sign contracts as required; be authorized to sign checks, to do anything lawful and necessary to protect the corporation and further its goals.

(b) The Secretary shall: Record minutes of all meetings of the Corporation Board of Directors; Furnish a copy of the minutes to each member of the Board and to other persons, directed by the Chairman not more than thirty (30) days after each meeting, perform any secretarial services lawful and necessary to protect the corporation and further its goals.

(c) The Treasurer shall: be custodian of all funds and serve as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee; make a financial report to the Board of Directors at each meeting and at other times when requested by the Chairman of the Board of Directors; submit semiannual financial reports; be authorized to sign checks; keep records in accordance with all State and Federal statutes.

(d) Vacancies: in office shall be filled by election at any regular or special meeting of the Corporation.

Sixth: Meetings

Section 1

There will be a minimum of two (2) meetings each year to facilitate the planning of corporation activities. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman. A special meeting may be called by the Secretary with approval of a majority of the Board. Three (3) weeks notification by mail or telephone must be given for any meeting.

Section 2

A quorum shall be a majority of the those members of the Board of Directors with voting rights.

Seventh: 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 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.

Eighth: Statement of Lawful Purpose: The specific purpose for which this corporation is organized is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America. The Corporation will not engage in prohibited political and legislative activity under 501(c)(3): 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, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation. Should this corporation be dissolved, it will distribute its assets within the meaning of 501(c)(3): Upon the dissolution of the corporation, should it be dissolved, 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. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation.

Ninth: Specific Purpose:

The Jane Doe Project Florida implements, expands, and establishes cooperative efforts and projects between domestic violence and sexual assault victim services organizations and itself to provide legal assistance for victims of sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence at no cost to the victims.

The Jane Doe Project Florida Corporation's attorneys represent victims in court with any and all matters which are a direct consequence of their victimization.

The Jane Doe Project Florida Corporation provides an opportunity for the 20th and 12th Judicial Circuits to examine how the legal needs of victims of domestic violence, dating

violence, sexual assault, and stalking are met and to prevent injustice that follows when a survivor is unrepresented in court proceedings.

The Jane Doe Project Florida, Inc. (JDPFLINC) hereinafter abbreviated "JDPFL" implements, expands, and establishes efforts and projects to provide legal assistance for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault by providing direct legal or advocacy services on behalf of these victims. JDP also provides training, technical assistance, and data collection to improve its capacity to offer legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. JDP reaches diverse and traditionally underserved populations, including racial, cultural, or ethnic minorities; persons with disabilities; language minorities; or victims of sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence in rural or inner-city areas. Stalking and Domestic Violence victims are able to turn to JDP to obtain assistance with legal matters arising as a consequence of the abuse or violence, including family, immigration, administrative agency, or housing matters, protection or stay-away order proceedings, and other similar matters. JDP is focused solely or primarily on providing a broad range of legal assistance to victims of Domestic Violence and sexual assault.

JDP is a legal advocacy program operated with a close working relationship with sexual assault or domestic violence victim services organizations or shelters. Victims who contact rape crisis centers or domestic violence shelters are often in need of immediate legal assistance or advice. JDP ensures representation by qualified attorneys and/or legal advocates knowledgeable about the law and the dynamics of sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence. JDP collaborates among victim services programs and local agencies, local services (such as public housing agencies, hospitals, health clinics, campuses, and public libraries), or local businesses to provide on-site legal advocacy and/or legal assistance information in places where sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence victims are likely to go.

JDPFL does NOT:

- II Assist alleged batterers or, in the case of mutual arrest, the primary aggressor.
- II Involve itself with law reform initiatives, including but not limited to appellate litigation.
- II Prosecute Tort cases
- II Involve itself with child sexual abuse cases
- II Involve itself with cases involving the child protection system
- II Represent parties in Criminal matters
- II Involve itself with victim service agency employee cases

JDPFL Defines Domestic Violence as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.

All legal services are performed free of charge. All legal services are performed pro bono.

Tenth: Length of corporation and rules: This Corporation is perpetual. However, should JDPFL be dissolved for any reason, upon the dissolution of the corporation, 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. The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Corporation may adopt. Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Corporation by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all voting Board members. The amendment must be submitted in writing.

Signatures:

Incorporator and Registered Agent:

I HEREBY AM FAMILIAR WITH AND ACCEPT
THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE
REGISTERED AGENT.

Date: 8/29/2016

Virginia M Rapkin
Virginia Rapkin, Incorporator and Registered Agent

Physical Address: 18245 Paulson Drive, Port Charlotte, Fl. 33954
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