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### FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION THE VINE CHURCH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, INC.

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#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

# THE VINE CHURCH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, INC. (A FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION)

The undersigned, hereby make, subscribe and acknowledge these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a not for profit corporation under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, and to that end do hereby set forth the following:

#### <u>ARTICLE I</u>

#### CORPORATE NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The name of this Corporation shall be: THE VINE CHURCH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, INC. ("the Corporation"). The initial principal office of the Corporation shall be located at 1003 S. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, but the Corporation shall have the power to relocate its principal office and to establish branch offices at other places within or without the State of Florida as may be determined and deemed expedient from time to time. The initial mailing address of the Corporation shall be 1003 S. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, but the Corporation shall have the power to change its mailing address to an address within or without the State of Florida.

#### <u>ARTICLE II</u>

#### **PURPOSES**

The Corporation shall be organized exclusively as a non-profit, tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and is not formed for pecuniary profit or financial gain. The Corporation shall be a not for profit corporation under the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act and is irrevocably dedicated to and operated exclusively for educational and charitable purposes. Accordingly, the Corporation shall be operated exclusively for the following exempt purposes:

- (a) to own and operate a school for children of all ages, emphasizing moral values based on Bilical principles and academic excellence;
- (b) to form and operate one or more schools that will fulfill exclusively an educational purpose within the meaning of the term "educational" in \$501(c)(3) of the Code;
- (c) to offer pre-school, elementary and secondary instruction to children through grade eight that compliments and supports the basic precepts of the Christian faith;
- (d) the Corporation shall have the power to acquire and hold title in fee simple, in trust, acquired by gifts, or otherwise, to both real and personal property, and to improve,

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encumber, sell, convey, use, lease, mortgage, and dispose of all such property in conformity with the Bylaws of said Corporation;

- (e) the Corporation shall further be authorized to invest, reinvest, and administer the principal or the income of the Corporation's assets in such manner as, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, will best promote the purposes of the Corporation and shall be further authorized to exercise each and every power and right granted to a not for profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes; all in accordance with its Bylaws or as the same may be hereafter modified or amended;
- (f) to collect funds in furtherance of the Corporation's objectives, to prudently expend all funds received and disburse the net interest and other earnings that may be received in satisfaction of its operating expenditures and expenses and in support of meritorious projects which may further its objectives;
- (g) no part of the funds of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private individual, and no part of the activities shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, or of participating in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office;
- (h) the Corporation is not organized for pecuniary profit, nor shall it have any power to issue certificates of stock or declare dividends, and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any individual and the balance, if any, of all money received by the Corporation from its operations, after the payment in full of all debts and obligations of the Corporation of whatever kind and nature, shall be used and distributed exclusively to organizations that qualify under Section 509(a)(1) or (2) of the Code; and
- (i) to perform all other acts and carry on and conduct all other activities necessary or useful in connection with or incidental to the accomplishment of any of the purposes set forth herein to the full extent permitted by the laws of the State of Florida and this charter.

In fulfilling its purposes, the Corporation shall admit students of any race, color, and national and ethnic origin, and the Corporation shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its admission policies, educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other Corporation-administered programs.

#### **ARTICLE III**

#### **DURATION AND EXISTENCE**

The Corporation shall come into existence on on the date when these Articles of Incorporation are filed by the Department of State, and thereafter the Corporation shall have a perpetual existence.

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#### ARTICLE IV

#### **POWERS**

The Corporation shall possess all powers granted by law pertaining to corporations not for profit, including the power and authority to accept gifts, devises and other contributions for the purposes set forth in Article II hereof, to buy and sell real and personal property, or an undivided interest therein, to lease property to hold, administer, invest and reinvest the funds and properties received and the expend, contribute and otherwise dispose of funds or properties for charitable purposes either directly by contribution to other organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes; provided, however, that such powers and authorities shall be exercised only in the furtherance of charitable purposes permitted under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, and under Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Code and regulations pertaining thereto.

The enumeration of the foregoing shall not be beld to limit or restrict in any manner the general powers of the Corporation. The objects, purposes and powers of the Corporation however, shall be exercised, construed and limited in their application to accomplish the religious and educational purposes for which the Corporation is formed. The activities of the Corporation shall be consistent with Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

#### <u>ARTICLE</u> V

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

The sole member of the Corporation shall be New Community Baptist Church, Inc. a/k/a The Vine Church.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of the initial registered office of the Corporation shall be 1801 N. Highland Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33602, and the initial registered agent of the Corporation at such address is BUSH ROSS REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES, LLC.

#### <u>ARTICLE VII</u>

#### INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the Corporation's incorporator is:

Address <u>Name</u>

1801 N. Highland Avenue Randy K. Sterns Tampa, Florida, 33601

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## ARTICLE VIII

#### AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any time by a resolution adopted by the majority vote of the Board of Directors at any annual or special meeting, provided a quorum is present and further provided that due notice of the proposed amendment has been given to the directors then serving on the Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws of the Corporation.

#### ARTICLE IX

#### **BY-LAWS**

The power to adopt, alter, amend or repeal by-laws of this Corporation shall be vested in its Board of Directors, as prescribed by the by-laws of the Corporation.

# ARTICLE X CHARITABLE LIMITATIONS

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, the directors or officers of the Corporation, or to any other private person; no part of the assets of the Corporation shall be expended to the benefit of anyone other than a recipient of funds for charitable purposes. All such income and all such assets shall be used and expended solely for the purposes stated in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered to the Corporation and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes as set forth herein.

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 of Incorporation, the Corporation shall not conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or by any organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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## ARTICLE XI

#### **DISPOSITION OF ASSETS**

In the event of the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation by transferring such assets to its parent organization, New Community Baptist Church, Inc. a/ka/ The Vine Church, or if it is no longer in existence, to an organization exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### <u>ARTICLE XII</u>

#### **INDEMNIFICATION**

If the criteria set forth in §607.0850(1) or (2), Florida Statutes, as then in effect, have been met, then the Corporation shall indemnify any director, officer, employee or agent thereof, whether current or former, together with his or her personal representatives, devisees or heirs, in the manner and to the extent contemplated by §607.0850, as then in effect, or by any successor law thereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed these Articles of Incorporation effective as of this 3rd day of December, 2018.

Randy K. Sterns, Incorporator

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#### **CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING**

#### REGISTERED AGENT

Pursuant to the provisions of §§48.091 and 607.0501, Florida Statutes, THE VINE CHURCH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, INC., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, hereby designates BUSH ROSS REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES, LLC, as its Registered Agent for the purpose of accepting service of process within such State and designates 1801 N. Highland Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33602, the business office of its Registered Agent, as its Registered Office.

THE VINE CHURCH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, INC.

Randy K. Sterns, Incorpor

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

BUSH ROSS REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES, LLC hereby accepts the appointment as Registered Agent of the above named corporation and agrees to act as such in accordance with the provisions of §§48.091 and 607.0505, *Florida Statutes*.

BUSH ROSS REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES, LLC

Randy K. Sterns. Vice President