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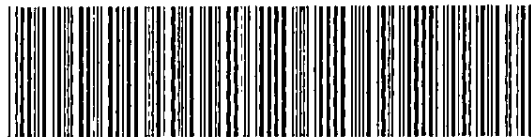
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Phone: 850-558-1500

ACCOUNT NO. : I20000000195

REFERENCE : 420290 7987240

AUTHORIZATION :

Lyndee Olsen

COST LIMIT : \$ 78.75 1

ORDER DATE : September 15, 2020

ORDER TIME : 1:28 PM

ORDER NO. : 420290-005

CUSTOMER NO: 7987240

DOMESTIC FILING

NAME: EDWARDS CREEK ESTATES
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

XX ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
 CERTIFICATE OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
 ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

PLEASE RETURN THE FOLLOWING AS PROOF OF FILING:

XX CERTIFIED COPY
 PLAIN STAMPED COPY
 CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

CONTACT PERSON: Amanda Robinson - EXT. 62968

EXAMINER'S INITIALS: _____

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
EDWARDS CREEK ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
(a not-for-profit corporation)**

I. NAME AND DEFINITIONS.

The name of this corporation shall be **EDWARDS CREEK ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.** All defined terms contained in these Articles shall have the same meanings as such terms are defined by the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions for Edwards Creek Estates to be recorded in the current public records of Duval County, Florida (the "Declaration").

II. PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS.

The location of the corporation's principal office and its mailing address shall be c/o 960194 Gateway Blvd., Suite 203, Amelia Island, Florida 32034, or at such other place as may be established by resolution of the Association's Board of Directors from time to time.

III. PURPOSES.

The general nature, objects and purposes of the Association are:

A. To promote matters of common interest and concern of the Owners of property within Edwards Creek Estates.

B. To own, maintain, repair and replace the common areas, including without limitation the streets, street lights, landscaping, structures, signage, and other improvements located thereon, for which the obligation to maintain and repair has been delegated to and accepted by the Association.

C. To own, operate, manage, maintain, repair, administer and replace the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System (as defined hereinbelow) in a manner consistent with the requirements of the St. Johns River Water Management District ("District"), and applicable District rules, for which the obligation to maintain and repair has been delegated to and accepted by the Association, and shall assist in the enforcement of the provisions of the Declaration which relate to the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System. "Surface Water or Stormwater Management System" means a system which is designed and constructed or implemented to control discharges which are necessitated by rainfall events, incorporating methods to collect, convey, store, absorb, inhibit, treat, use or reuse water to prevent or reduce flooding, overdrainage, environmental degradation, and water pollution or otherwise affect the quantity and quality of discharges on or from the Property.

D. To cooperate with other associations responsible for administration of adjacent or contiguous properties in matters of common interest to the Association and such other associations and to contribute to such common maintenance interests whether within or without the Property.

E. To provide, purchase, acquire, replace, improve, maintain, operate and repair such buildings, structures, landscaping, paving and equipment, and to provide such other services for the benefit of the members of the Association, as the Board of Directors in its discretion determines

necessary, appropriate, and/or convenient.

F. To levy and collect adequate assessments against Members of the Association for the costs of maintenance and operation of the common areas and the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System.

G. To operate without profit for the sole and exclusive benefit of its Members.

H. To perform all of the functions contemplated for the Association and undertaken by the Board of Directors pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Declaration.

IV. GENERAL POWERS.

The general powers that the Association shall have are as follows:

A. To hold funds solely and exclusively for the benefit of the Members for purposes set forth in these Articles of Incorporation.

B. To promulgate and enforce rules, regulations, bylaws, covenants, restrictions and agreements to effectuate the purposes for which the Association is organized, including, without limitation, the Declaration.

C. To delegate power or powers where such is deemed in the interest of the Association.

D. To purchase, lease, hold, sell, mortgage or otherwise acquire or dispose of real or personal property, to enter into, make, perform or carry out contracts of every kind with any person, firm, corporation or association; to do any and all acts necessary or expedient for carrying on any and all of the activities and pursuing any and all of the objects and purposes set forth in the Declaration and these Articles of Incorporation and not forbidden by the laws of the State of Florida.

E. To fix assessments to be levied against all or any portion of the Property to defray expenses and costs of effectuating the objects and purposes of the Association and to create reasonable reserves for such expenditures, and to authorize its Board of Directors to enter into agreements with maintenance entities for the collection of such assessments. The foregoing shall include the power to levy and collect adequate assessments against the Members for the costs of maintenance and operation of the common areas and the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System. Such assessments shall be used for the maintenance and repair of the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System, including but not limited to, work within retention areas, drainage structures and drainage easements.

F. To charge recipients for services rendered by the Association and the users of the Association property where such is deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors of the Association and permitted by the Declaration.

G. To pay taxes and other charges, if any, on or against property owned, accepted, or maintained by the Association.

H. To borrow money and, from time to time, to make, accept, endorse, execute and issue debentures, promissory notes or other obligations of the Association for monies borrowed, or in

payment for property acquired, or for any of the other purposes of the Association, and to secure the payment of such obligations by mortgage, pledge, or other instrument of trust, or by lien upon, assignment of or agreement in regard to all or any part of the property rights or privileges of the Association wherever situated.

I. In general, to have all powers conferred upon a corporation by the laws of the State of Florida, except as prohibited herein and by the terms and conditions set forth in the Declaration.

V. **MEMBERS.**

The Members ("Members") shall consist of EC Signature Estates, LLC, a Florida limited liability company (the "Developer"), and all other Owners of Lots located within the Property. Membership in the Association is appurtenant to, and inseparable from, ownership of a Lot.

VI. **VOTING AND ASSESSMENTS.**

A. The Association shall have two classes of voting membership as follows:

1. Class A Membership. The Class A Members shall be all Owners, with the exception of the Developer, who shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned. When more than one person holds an interest in any Lot, all such persons shall be members of the Association; however, the vote for any such Lot shall be exercised as the Owner's thereof shall determine, but in no event shall more than one (1) vote be cast with respect to any Lot.

2. Class B Membership. The Class B Member shall be the Developer who shall be entitled to one (1) vote, plus two (2) votes for each vote entitled to be cast in the aggregate at any time and from time to time by the Class A Members. The Class B Membership shall cease and be converted to Class A Membership [but limited to one (1) vote per Lot still owned by the Class B Member at such time of conversion] on the happening of either of the following events, whichever occurs earlier:

(i) Three (3) months after ninety percent (90%) of the Lots have been conveyed to members of the Association other than the Developer; or

(ii) Such earlier date as the Developer may choose to terminate the Class B Membership upon notice to the Association.

B. The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes allocated to the Members cast at any meeting of the Members duly called at which a quorum is present, or cast by written ballot by a quorum of the membership, shall be binding upon the Members and the Association.

C. The Association will obtain funds with which to operate by assessment of its Members in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, as supplemented by the provisions of the Articles and Bylaws of the Association relating thereto.

D. No Member may assign, hypothecate or transfer in any manner the Member's membership or voting rights in the Association except as an appurtenance to Member's Lot.

E. Any Member who conveys or loses title to a Lot by sale, gift, judicial decree or otherwise shall, immediately upon such conveyance or loss of title, no longer be a Member with respect to such Lot and shall lose all rights and privileges of a Member resulting from ownership of such Lot.

VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

A. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of three (3) Directors. Directors need not be members of the Association and need not be residents of the State of Florida. For so long as the Class B Membership shall exist, the Developer shall have the right to appoint each of the Directors. Following the termination of the Class B Membership, the Developer shall have the right to appoint one (1) Director for so long as it shall hold for sale in the ordinary course of business, one or more of the Lots within the Property.

B. Elections shall be by plurality vote. At the first annual election of the Board of Directors following the termination of the Class B Membership, the term of office of the Director appointed by the Developer, if any, shall be established at one (1) year and the terms of office of the elected Directors shall be established at two (2) years each. If at the time of such first annual election, the Developer shall not appoint a Director, then the terms of office of the two (2) elected Directors receiving the highest number of votes shall be established at two (2) years each and the term of the remaining Director shall be established at one (1) year. Thereafter, as many Directors shall be elected and appointed, as the case may be, as there are regular terms of office of Directors expiring at such time; and the term of each Director so elected or appointed at each annual election shall be for two (2) years expiring at the second annual election following their election, and thereafter until their successors are duly elected and qualified, or until removed from office with or without cause by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members which elected or appointed them. In no event may a Board member appointed by the Developer be removed except by action of the Developer. Any Director appointed by the Developer shall serve at the pleasure of the Developer, and may be removed from office, and a successor Director may be appointed, at any time by the Developer.

C. The names and addresses of the members of the first Board of Directors who shall hold office until the first annual meeting of the Members and until their successors are elected or appointed and have qualified, are as follows:

Stephen M. Leggett
c/o 960194 Gateway Blvd., Suite 203
Amelia Island, Florida 32034

Teresa Browne
c/o 960194 Gateway Blvd., Suite 203
Amelia Island, Florida 32034

Ms. Tabitha Sorensen
c/o 960194 Gateway Blvd., Suite 203
Amelia Island, Florida 32034

VIII. **OFFICERS.**

A. The Officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and such other officers as the Board may from time to time by resolution create. Any two (2) or more offices, may be held by the same person except the offices of President and Secretary. Officers shall be elected for one (1) year terms in accordance with the procedure set forth in the Bylaws. The names of the officers who are to manage the affairs of the Association until the first annual meeting of the Members and until their successors are duly elected and qualified are:

President	Stephen M. Leggett
Vice President	_____
Treasurer	_____
Secretary	_____

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IX. **CORPORATE EXISTENCE.**

The Association shall have perpetual existence. These Articles shall become effective upon filing as prescribed by law.

X. **BYLAWS.**

The Board of Directors shall adopt Bylaws consistent with these Articles. Such Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by resolution of the Board of Directors.

XI. **AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS.**

These Articles may be altered, amended or repealed upon the affirmative vote of Members holding a majority of the total votes allocated to the Members pursuant to these Articles.

XII. **INCORPORATOR.**

The name and address of the Incorporator is as follows:

Stephen M. Leggett
c/o 960194 Gateway Blvd., Suite 203
Amelia Island, Florida 32034

XIII. **INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.**

A. To the extent allowed by law, the Association hereby indemnifies any Director or officer made a party or threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding:

1. Whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, other than one by or in the right of the Association to procure a judgment in its favor, brought to impose a liability or

penalty on such person for an act alleged to have been committed by such person in his capacity as a Director or officer of the Association or as a director, officer, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise which he served at the request of the Association, against judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, actually and necessarily incurred as a result of such action, suit or proceeding or any appeal thereof, if such person acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interests of the Association, and in criminal actions or proceedings, without reasonable grounds for belief that such action was unlawful. The termination of any such action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not in itself create a presumption that any such Director or officer did not act in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interest of the Association or that he had reasonable grounds for belief that such action was unlawful.

2. By or in the right of the Association to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of his being or having been a Director or officer of the Association, or by reason of his being or having been a director, officer, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise which he served at the request of the Association, against the reasonable expenses including attorneys' fees, actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action, or in connection with an appeal therein if such person acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interest of the Association. Such person shall not be entitled to indemnification in relation to matters to which such person has been adjudged to have been guilty of gross negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duty to the Association unless, and only to the extent that, the court, administrative agency, or investigative body before which such action, suit or proceeding is held shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification for such expenses which such tribunal shall deem proper.

B. The Board of Directors shall determine whether amounts for which a Director or officer seek indemnification were properly incurred and whether such Director or officer acted in good faith in a manner he reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the Association, and whether, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he had no reasonable ground for belief that such action was unlawful. Such determination shall be made by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of Directors who were not parties to such action, suit or proceeding.

C. The foregoing rights of indemnification shall not be deemed to limit in any way the powers of the Association to indemnify under applicable law.

XIV. TRANSACTION IN WHICH DIRECTORS OR OFFICERS ARE INTERESTED.

A. No contract or transaction between the Association and one or more of its Directors or officers, or between the Association and any other corporation, partnership, association, or other organization in which one or more of its Directors or officers are Directors or officers, or in which they have a financial interest, shall be invalid, void or voidable solely for this reason, or solely because the Director or officer is present at or participates in the meeting of the Board or committee thereof which authorizes the contract or transaction, or solely because his or their votes are counted for such purpose. All such contracts or transactions shall, however, be fair and reasonable and upon terms reasonably comparable to those which could be obtained in arms-length transactions with unrelated

entities. No Director or Officer of the Association shall incur liability by reason of the fact that he is or may be interested in any such contract or transaction.

B. Interested Directors may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors or of a committee which authorized the contract or transaction.

XV. DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

A. Upon dissolution of the Association, all of its assets remaining after provisions for creditors and payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed in the following manner:

1. Dedication to any applicable municipal or other governmental authority of any property determined by the Board of Directors of the Association to be appropriate for such dedication and which the authority is willing to accept.

2. Remaining assets shall be distributed among the Members, subject to the limitation set forth below, each Member's share of the assets to be determined by multiplying such remaining assets by a fraction the numerator of which is all amounts assessed by the Association since its organization against the portion of Property which is owned by the Member at that time, and the denominator of which is the total amount (excluding penalties and interest) assessed by the Association against all properties which at the time of dissolution are part of the Property. The year of dissolution shall count as a whole year for purposes of the preceding fractions.

B. The Association may be dissolved upon a resolution to that effect being approved by a majority of the Board of Directors and by two-thirds (2/3) of the Members. In the event of incorporation by annexation or otherwise, of all or part of the Property by a political subdivision of the State of Florida, the Association may be dissolved in the manner set forth above.

C. In no event shall the Association be dissolved, and any attempt to do so shall be ineffective, unless and until maintenance responsibility for the Surface Water or Stormwater Management System and discharge facilities located within the Property is assumed by an entity acceptable to the St. Johns River Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, or other governmental authority having jurisdiction, pursuant to the requirements of Rule 40C-42.027, Florida Administrative Code, or other administrative regulation of similar import.

XVI. MERGERS AND CONSOLIDATIONS.

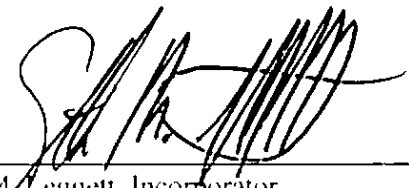
Subject to the provisions of the Declaration applicable to the Property and to the extent permitted by law, the Association may participate in mergers and consolidations with other nonprofit corporations organized for the same purposes, provided that any such merger or consolidation shall be approved in the manner provided by Chapter 617, Florida Statutes as the same may be amended from time to time. For purposes of any vote of the Members required pursuant to said statutes, for so long as the Developer shall own any portion of the Property, any such merger or consolidation shall require the Developer's prior approval.


[Balance of page intentionally left blank; signatures appearing on next page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Incorporator has hereto set his hand and seal this 9 day of September, 2020.

Signed, sealed and delivered
in the presence of, as witnesses:


Print name: Daniel Browne
As Witness


Stephen M. Leggett, Incorporator


Print name: Teresa Browne
As Witness

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Florida

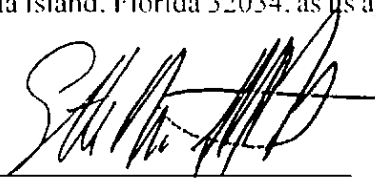
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 9 day of September, 2020, by Stephen M. Leggett, the Incorporator of Edwards Creek Estates Homeowners Association, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, on behalf of the corporation, who (check one) ☒ is personally known to me or ☐ has produced _____ as identification and who did/did not take an oath.


Print Name: Teresa Browne
Notary Public, State and County aforesaid
My commission expires:

**CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING REGISTERED AGENT
AND REGISTERED OFFICE**

In compliance with Sections 48.091 and 617.0501, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted:

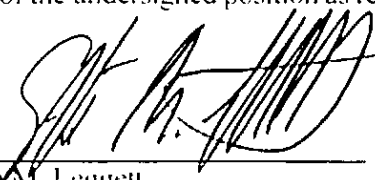
That Edwards Creek Estates Homeowners Association, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, desiring to organize or qualify under the laws of the State of Florida, with its principal place of business at Amelia Island, State of Florida, has named Stephen M. Leggett, whose street address is c/o 960194 Gateway Blvd., Suite 203, Amelia Island, Florida 32034, as its agent to accept service of process within Florida.



Stephen M. Leggett, Incorporator

September 9, 2020

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, the undersigned hereby accepts the appointment as registered agent and agrees to act in this capacity. The undersigned further agrees to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of the undersigned duties, and is familiar with and accepts the obligations of the undersigned position as registered agent.



Stephen M. Leggett

September 9, 2020