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J DENNIS  
MAY 26 2021

## COVER LETTER

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

SUBJECT: GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, 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: DANA BURRSCH  
Name (Printed or typed)

470 S HEATHWOOD DRIVE  
Address

MARLBOROUGH, FL 34145  
City, State & Zip

630-650-1849  
Daytime Telephone number

dburrsch@outlook.com  
E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

**NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.**

**GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC.**  
**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

**ARTICLE I, NAME**

**1.01 Name**

The name of this corporation shall be GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. or GOFAR, INC.

**ARTICLE II, DURATION**

**2.01 Duration**

The period of duration of the corporation shall be perpetual.

**ARTICLE III, ADDRESSES**

**3.01 Addresses**

The physical and mailing address of the corporation is:  
3872 Riviera Circle  
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

**ARTICLE IV, PURPOSE**

**4.01 Purpose**

GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. is a non-profit corporation and shall operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future Federal Tax code.

GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. is organized for the purpose of prevention of cruelty to animals. Specifically, to:

1. Remove animals from situations that are abusive, endangering and/or neglectful, which include, but are not limited to, kill shelters, stray animals, owner surrenders and puppy mills;
2. Provide temporary homes and appropriate care (general and medical) for rescued animals;
3. Place rescued animals into responsible, permanent adoptive homes or provide sanctuary for rescued animals for which adoption is not feasible;
4. Promote and advance public education on the importance of spaying/neutering and responsible animal ownership.

#### **4.02 Public Benefit**

GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. is designated as a public benefit corporation.

### **ARTICLE V, NON-PROFIT NATURE**

#### **5.01 Non-profit Nature**

GUARDIANS OF FLORDIA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. is organized exclusively for charitable and educational 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.

#### **5.02 Personal Liability**

No officer or director of this corporation shall be personally liable for the debts or obligations of GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. of any nature whatsoever, nor shall any of the property or assets or the officers or directors be subject to the payment of the debts or obligations of this corporation.

#### **5.03 Dissolution**

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.

#### **5.04 Prohibited Distributions**

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.

#### **5.05 Restricted Activities**

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.

#### **5.06 Prohibited Activities**

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 VI, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **6.01 Governance**

GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. shall be governed by its Board of Directors.

#### **6.02 Initial Directors**

The number of directors, and the method of selecting directors, shall be fixed by the Bylaws of this corporation. The initial directors shall be four (4) in number. The names and addresses of these initial directors are as follows:

Dana Bursch                      470 S Heathwood Drive, Marco Island, Florida, 34145

Melanie Harris                26824 Robinhood Lane, Bonita Springs, Florida, 34135

Sherri-Lee Mercuri          3872 Riviera Circle, Bonita Springs, Florida, 34134

Diana Thies                    3872 Riviera Circle, Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

### **ARTICLE VII, MEMBERSHIP**

#### **7.01 Membership**

GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. shall have no members. The management of the affairs of the corporation shall be vested in the Board of Directors, as defined by the corporation's bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VIII, AMENDMENTS**

### **8.01 Amendments**

Any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation may be adopted by approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX, REGISTERED AGENT**

### **9.01 Registered Agent**

The registered agent of the corporation is:

Sherri-Lee Mercuri  
3872 Riviera Circle  
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

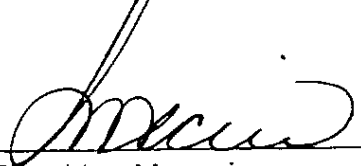
## **ARTICLE X, INCORPORATOR**

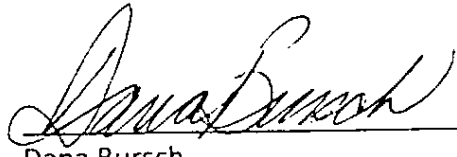
### **10.01 The incorporator of the corporation is:**

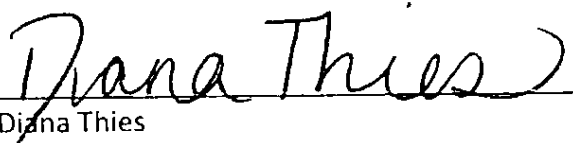
Dana Bursch  
470 S Heathwood Drive  
Marco Island, Florida 34145

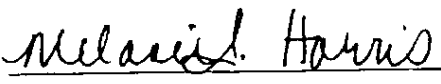
CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above stated Articles of Incorporation of GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC were approved by the Board of Directors on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and constitute a complete copy of Articles of Incorporation of the GUARDIANS OF FLORIDA ANIMAL RESCUE, INC.

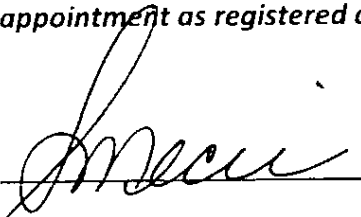
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherri-Lee Mercuri  
3872 Riviera Circle  
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

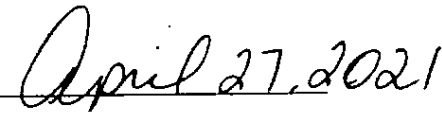
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Bursch  
470 S Heathwood Drive  
Marco Island, Florida 34145

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diana Thies  
3872 Riviera Circle  
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

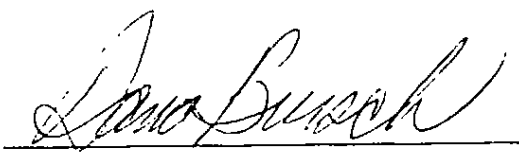
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melanie Harris  
26824 Robinhood Ln  
Bonita Springs, Florida 34135

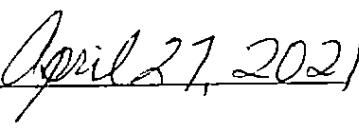
*Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherri-Lee Mercuri - Registered Agent

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*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.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Bursch - Incorporator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date