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SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
POLK COUNTY WEDDING & EVENT PROS, INC.

These Articles of Incorporation are signed and acknowledged by the incorporator for the purpose of forming a Florida not for profit corporation under the provision of the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, Chapter 617, *Florida Statutes*.

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is **POLK COUNTY WEDDING & EVENT PROS, INC.** The address of the corporation is 1015 Mississippi Ave, Lakeland, Florida 33803.

ARTICLE II

The effective date of the corporation is December 1, 2021. It shall exist until dissolved pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE III

The corporation is organized and shall operate exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future Internal Revenue Code. Consistent with such limitations, the purposes of the corporation shall include providing education to businesses within Polk County pertaining to the wedding and events industry. The corporation shall not engage in any activity in which corporations qualified as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the corresponding section or provision of any future Internal Revenue Code, are not permitted to engage.

ARTICLE IV

The corporation shall be bound by the following:

- A. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, director, or officer of the corporation, nor to the benefit of any private individual or entity, 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 herein.
- B. The corporation shall have no power to engage in any act or activity prohibited to corporations which are exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding Section of any future Internal Revenue Code.
- C. In the event of the dissolution of the corporation, the residual assets of the corporation shall be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or

- corresponding Sections of any future Internal Revenue Code, or to the federal government or to a state or local government for public purposes exclusively;
- D. No substantial part of activities of the corporation shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and
- E. The corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.

#### ARTICLE V

The business and property of the corporation shall be managed solely and exclusively by the board of directors of the corporation, which shall have full and absolute control over the affairs of the corporation and shall be authorized to exercise all of the corporate powers of the corporation. The board of directors shall carry out the purposes of the corporation in compliance with the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the corporation. The method of electing the directors of the corporation shall be as stated in the Bylaws of the corporation. The number of directors of the corporation may be increased or decreased from time to time and at any time, but the corporation shall never have less than four (4) directors. No director shall be compensated for the performance of his or her duties as a director, but a director may be reimbursed for expenses reasonably and necessarily incurred in the performance of his or her duties as a director in accordance with the Bylaws of the corporation. The board of directors of the corporation shall by a majority vote, have the right to remove, with or without cause, any director and to replace any director so removed. The names and addresses of the initial directors of the corporation are as follows.

Lora B. Gardner  
780 South Floral Ave  
Bartow, Florida 33830

Ivy R. Myers  
923 Sandywood Dr  
Brandon, Florida 33510

Lea A. Williams  
3640 Publix Rd  
Lakeland, Florida 33810

Christopher Grainger  
1015 Mississippi Ave  
Lakeland, Florida 33803

#### ARTICLE VI

All officers of the corporation shall be members of the board of directors of the corporation. All officers shall be elected by the board of directors of the corporation annually at the annual meeting of the board of directors of the corporation. Officers (including an officer who is also a member of

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the board of directors of the corporation) may be compensated for the performance of his or her duties as an officer as determined by the board of directors of the corporation. Officers may be reimbursed for expenses reasonably and necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties as officers as determined by the board of directors of the corporation. The board of directors of the corporation shall, by majority vote, have the right to remove, with or without cause, any officer and to replace any officer so removed. The names and addresses of the initial officers of the corporation are as follows:

Lora B. Gardner, President  
786 South Floral Ave  
Barrow, Florida 33830

Ivy R. Myers, Vice President  
923 Sandywood Dr  
Brandon, Florida 33510

Lea A. Williams, Secretary  
3640 Publix Rd  
Lakeland, Florida 33810

Christopher Grainger, Treasurer  
1015 Mississippi Ave  
Lakeland, Florida 33805

#### ARTICLE VII

The corporation shall indemnify any director or any officer for any acts or alleged acts committed or allegedly committed by such director or officer while serving in his or her capacity as a director or as an officer of the corporation to the extent permitted by Florida and federal law.

#### ARTICLE VIII

The Bylaws of the corporation shall be adopted, altered, amended, repealed, or revised only by a majority vote of those directors present at a meeting of the board of directors of the corporation at which a quorum is present.

#### ARTICLE IX

This corporation shall have members, the rights and authority of which shall be as set forth in the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE X

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended or restated in accordance with Florida law in effect at the time and only by a majority vote of those directors present at a meeting of the board of directors of the corporation at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE XI

The name and street address of the initial registered agent of this corporation is Lora B. Gardner, 780 South Floral Ave, Bartow, Florida 33830.

ARTICLE XII

The name and address of the incorporator of this corporation is Lora B. Gardner, 780 South Floral Ave, Bartow, Florida 33830.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned incorporator executed these Articles of Incorporation on this 1 day of December, 2021.

  
Lora B. Gardner, Incorporator

ACCEPTANCE OF DESIGNATION AS REGISTERED AGENT

I, Lora B. Gardner, having been named to serve as registered agent for POLK COUNTY WEDDING & EVENT PROS, INC., do hereby accept such office and agree to conduct myself therein according to law. I am familiar with and accept the obligations of such office.

DATED this 1st day of December, 2021

  
Lora B. Gardner, Registered Agent

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POLK COUNTY  
CLERK OF COURT