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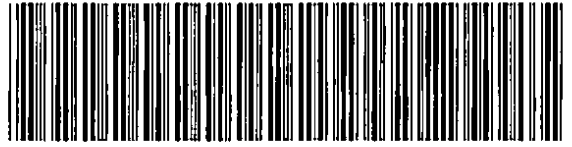
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Corporations

June 21, 2023

CASSIDY THOMSON
2375 TAMIAMI TRAIL NORTH
SUITE 208
NAPLES, FL 34013 US

SUBJECT: MEETING OF OUR LORD SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, INC.
Ref. Number: N23000002287

We have received your document and check(s) totaling \$55.00. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned to you for the following reason(s):

If the corporation is a **NOT FOR PROFIT** corporation it must be signed by the chairman or vice chairman of the board, president or other officer - if directors have not been selected, by an incorporator - if in the hands of a receiver, trustee, or other court appointed fiduciary, by that fiduciary.

The name and title of the person signing the document must be noted beneath or opposite the signature.

If there are **MEMBERS ENTITLED TO VOTE** on a proposed amendment, the document must contain: (1) the date of adoption of the amendment by the members and (2) a statement that the number of votes cast for the amendment was sufficient for approval.

If there are **NO MEMBERS OR MEMBERS ENTITLED TO VOTE** on a proposed amendment, the document must contain: (1) a statement that there are no members or members entitled to vote on the amendment and (2) the date of adoption of the amendment by the board of directors.

Please return your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 245-6050.

Jasmine N Horne
Regulatory Specialist II

Letter Number: 123A00013963

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CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

In compliance with Chapter 617, Florida Statutes (Not for Profit)

This corporation, **Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church, Inc.**, was incorporated on February 22, 2023 (Document Number N23000002287).

Initial Articles of Incorporation were filed via the Sunbiz portal on February 22, 2023.

Pursuant to Section 617.1006, Florida Statutes, this Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation is intended to **fully restate** the articles of incorporation, which shall read in their entirety as set forth hereafter and herein.

ARTICLE I CORPORATE NAME

The name of the corporation is:

Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church, Inc.

(hereinafter "the Corporation").

ARTICLE II ADDRESS

The principal place of business address of the Corporation is:

2430 Vanderbilt Beach Road
Suite 108-303
Naples, FL 34109

The mailing address of the Corporation is the same as the principal place of business:

2430 Vanderbilt Beach Road
Suite 108-303
Naples, FL 34109

ARTICLE III
PURPOSE, INUREMENT OF BENEFITS, DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS AND
PROPERTY UPON DISSOLUTION

Purpose: The Corporation is organized primarily for religious purposes, as well as for educational, philanthropic, charitable and cultural purposes, including the making of distributions to other organizations for religious, charitable, educational, scientific, and literary purposes, but only to the extent and in such manner that such purpose constitute exclusively charitable, educational, scientific, literary and religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) and also Sections 170(c)(2)(B), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax law. The Corporation shall not undertake any activities that are contrary to the legal system of the United States of America. All purposes and activities of the Corporation shall be consistent with the Constitution of the Serbian Orthodox Church (hereinafter "S.O.C.") and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

Inurement of Benefits. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, 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 above. 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 distributing 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 or the laws of any jurisdiction otherwise applicable, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on and shall not make any distribution not permitted to be made (a) by a Corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provision of any subsequent federal tax law, or (b) by a Corporation contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax law.

Distribution of Assets and Property upon Dissolution. Upon dissolution, the assets and property of the Corporation shall be distributed to the New York Not for Profit corporation presently known as the "**Eastern American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church**" (New York Secretary of State No. 170718000403), as long as the above-named entity is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) and also Sections 170(c)(2)(B), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the Code. If it is not then exempt, then the assets and property shall be distributed to one or more legal entities which are integral parts of the Serbian Orthodox Church (Belgrade, Republic of Serbia) and are then-existing in any State in the United States of America, selected by the Member of the Corporation (see Article VII below), as long as the entities selected are exempt under Section 501(c)(3) and also Sections 170(c)(2)(B), 2055(a)(2) and 2522(a)(2) of the Code.

ARTICLE IV
MANNER OF APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF
PARISH TRUSTEESHIP/PARISH COUNCIL
(Directors/Officers)

The Parish Trusteeship/Parish Council (Directors/Officers) is appointed and removed pursuant to the procedures set forth in the governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Member (see Article VIII below) i.e., of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

ARTICLE V
REGISTERED AGENT

Registered Agent:	Cassidy B. Thomson, Esq.
Registered Agent Address:	LCS Law LLC 2375 Tamiami Trail North Suite 208 Naples, FL 34013-4439

ARTICLE VI
INCORPORATOR

Incorporator:	Cassidy B. Thomson, Esq.
Incorporator Address:	LCS Law LLC 2375 Tamiami Trail North Suite 208 Naples, FL 34013-4439

ARTICLE VII
INITIAL PARISH TRUSTEESHIP
(Directors/Officers)

Parish Priest
V. Rev. Milan Jovanovic
13455 Oval Drive E
Largo, FL 33774

President

William R. Slepceovich
2375 Tamiami Trail N.
Suite 208
Naples, FL 34103

Treasurer

Frank Sterdjevich
721 Regency Reserve Circle
Unit 5703
Naples, FL 34119

English Language Secretary

Cassidy B. Thomson
2375 Tamiami Trail North
Suite 208
Naples, FL 34013-4439

Serbian Language Secretary

Branislava Popovic
1330 Charleston Square Drive
Unit 201
Naples, FL 34110

**ARTICLE VIII
SOLE MEMBER**

The Corporation shall have one member: Eastern American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church, a New York Not for Profit Corporation (New York Secretary of State No. 170718000403).

**ARTICLE IX
ANNUAL AND SPECIAL/EXTRAORDINARY REPORTS**

The Corporation is obligated to file annual and other reports with the Secretary of State and other agencies of the State of Florida, in compliance with the laws of the State of Florida governing not for profit corporations. The Corporation is also obligated to submit annual written reports to the Member of the Corporation, which summarize the general work of the Corporation for the preceding year/twelve (12) month period, including but not limited to detailed information about the work, corporate resolutions, contracts entered into by the Corporation, financial reports, property reports, etc. Said annual reporting obligation is consistent with the requirements of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. The Corporation is also obligated to submit in a timely fashion to the Member of the Corporation special/extraordinary written reports, regarding

significant facts related to the internal church-ecclesial organization and order of the S.O.C. and related to church property, which are related to the Corporation.

ARTICLE X PROPERTY

All property (real, movable, personal, etc.), which is owned, managed, or in any manner controlled by the Corporation, shall be considered special church property (church treasure) of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., with said property only being used for and serving the special needs of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

No property (real, movable, personal, etc.), which is owned, managed, or in any manner controlled by the Corporation, may be purchased, sold, or disposed of in any other manner, or be mortgaged, or be encumbered in any other manner, without the prior written consent/approval of the Diocesan Administrative Board of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

All property (real, movable, personal, etc.) of the Corporation, may be transferred/conveyed only to other integral-organizational parts of the S.O.C. or to another corporation/legal entity of an integral-organizational part of the S.O.C., which is located in the U.S.A., only if said corporation is validly organized/incorporated pursuant to applicable state or federal law (U.S.A.) law, consistent with the prescribed canons of the Orthodox Church and the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. Any transfer/conveyance of the property (real, movable, personal, etc.) of the Corporation requires the prior explicit written consent/approval of the Member of the Corporation.

All property (real, movable, personal, etc.) of the Corporation, as well as any income earned from its property, shall be used exclusively for the church-ecclesial goals and the church-ecclesial purposes-needs of the Corporation and of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., consistent with the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES TO ARTICLES, GOVERNING DOCUMENTS (BY-LAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, ETC.), REGISTRATION DOCUMENTATION

All amendments and changes to the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation, and to the Governing Documents (By-Laws, Local Regulations, etc.) of the Corporation, including but not limited to these Articles of Incorporation, along with all changes made to the relevant corporate

registration documentation and reports filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida, including all future amendments and changes to the Articles of Incorporation and to the Governing Documents (By-Laws, Local Regulations, etc.) of the Corporation, first must be proposed and submitted by the Trustees (Directors/Officers) of the Corporation to the Member of the Corporation for written consent/approval. Prior written consent/approval by the Member represents an explicit condition for the proposed changes and amendments to come into force.

ARTICLE XII

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS (BY-LAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, ETC.)

The Governing Documents (By-Laws, Local Regulations, etc.) of the Corporation must be in accord with and consistent with these Articles of Incorporation. Should any provisions of the Governing Documents (By-Laws, Local Regulations, etc.) not be in accord and consistent with these Articles of Incorporation, then these Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation shall be applied and enforced, along with the provisions of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

ARTICLE XIII

INTEGRAL-ORGANIZATIONAL PART OF THE S.O.C.

The Corporation is an integral-organizational part of the S.O.C. and as such the Corporation is part of the S.O.C.'s internal church legal system and internal organization and must function in a manner that is consistent with the S.O.C.'s internal church legal system and internal organization. The Corporation shall function and be managed consistent with the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. and the tenets of the S.O.C., and consistent with all other rules, regulations and decisions rendered both by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C., and by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C.

These Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation, as well as the Governing Documents (By-Laws, Local Regulations, etc.) of the Corporation and any corporate registration documentation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida related to the Corporation, as well as all other general and specific acts, legal transactions, legal acts and legal operations of the Corporation, must be made and rendered in accordance and consistent with the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. and principles of the S.O.C., as well as with other rules, regulations and decisions rendered both by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. and by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C. Should said acts, registrations, legal transactions, legal acts or legal operations of the Corporation be rendered to the contrary, they shall be of no force or legal effect.

For all situations not anticipated by the then-applicable Articles of Incorporation, including but not limited to these Articles of Incorporation, the provisions of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. shall be applied and enforced.

The Governing Documents (By-Laws, Local Regulations, etc.) and other general acts and decisions of the Corporation, including but not limited to any corporate registration documentation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida, must be consistent with these Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation, and with the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. Should said Governing Documents (By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, etc.), and other general acts and decisions of the Corporation, be rendered to the contrary, they shall be of no force or legal effect. For all such situations, the provisions of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. shall be applied and enforced, along with those provisions of these Articles of Incorporation, which are consistent with said Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

For all decisions of the Corporation which deal with the Corporation's legal status, such as: its incorporation, its dissolution, its reorganization, its name change, its registered office change and similar decisions, prior explicit written decisions of consent/approval are required of the Member of the Corporation. Should said legal status decisions of the Corporation be rendered to the contrary, they shall be of no force or legal effect.

ARTICLE XIV

DIOCESAN BISHOP, DIOCESAN AUTHORITIES, HOLY SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Church-ecclesial management/authority and oversight over the Corporation and its property in the first instance shall be the responsibility and duty of the Diocesan Bishop of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., in conjunction with the Diocesan governing authorities and governing bodies. The Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C. is the supreme managing and supervisory body of the S.O.C., which has supreme church-ecclesial control over the work of the Corporation and its property, consistent with the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. Should the Diocesan Bishop of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. die, be transferred, replaced, removed or released, his duties, powers and responsibilities in the Corporation will be performed by an Administrator appointed by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C., until the election of a new Diocesan Bishop of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. (Articles 111 and 112 of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.).

ARTICLE XV

CORPORATE HISTORY

The S.O.C. is autocephalous and has the dignity/rank of a Patriarchate. The highest body/organ of the S.O.C. is the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C., which consists of all of its Bishops/Hierarchs, under the presidency of the Serbian Patriarch, who is the Primate of the S.O.C. The executive body/organ of the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. is the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C., which is comprised of the Patriarch as the President and four Bishops/Hierarchs who are elected by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. In the

landmark decision *Serbian Orthodox Diocese v. Milivojevic*, 426 U.S. 696 (1976), the S.O.C. was recognized by the Supreme Court of the United States of America as an “Hierarchical Church” under US law, and the Supreme Court explicitly ruled that the decisions made by the S.O.C.’s highest hierarchical bodies/organs, i.e. decisions made by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. and the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C., are recognized as final and binding under US law and are not subject to inquiry and interpretation by US secular authorities and courts.

Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church is a parish and an integral part of the S.O.C., is located on the territory of the Diocese of Eastern America of the S.O.C., and is under the canonical jurisdiction-omophorion of the Bishop of Eastern America of the S.O.C.

Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church is subject to the canons of the Orthodox Church, the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. and other rules, regulations and decisions that have been and will be rendered by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. and the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C.

Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church is an integral-organizational part of Diocese of Eastern America of the S.O.C. The Parish Priest of Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church is appointed and removed by the Bishop of Eastern America of the S.O.C.

Without interruption since 1921, the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. has solely had the authority over the election, consecration (ordination), appointment, relocation and replacement/removal of Bishops (Hierarchs) of the S.O.C. in the USA, as the heads and representatives of their Dioceses. The scope of authority/competencies of Diocesan Bishops (Hierarchs) of the S.O.C. are enumerated by the Canons of the Orthodox Church and the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., as solely interpreted by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. and the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C.

Although Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church was officially established in January 2023, a mission parish was registered to serve the Serbian Orthodox faithful living in Naples, Florida and its surrounding in the 1990s and liturgical services and mission parish activities have taken place since that time. A Florida Not for Profit Corporation was established in 1998 under the name “St. George Serbian Eastern Orthodox Mission Corporation,” but this legal entity lapsed under Florida law.

Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church is governed by the Holy Scriptures and Holy Tradition, according to teachings of the Holy Orthodox Church, the sacred Canons of the Orthodox Church, the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., and decisions of the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. and of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the S.O.C., as well as consistent with the regulations, rules and basic decisions of the church governing authorities of the S.O.C., and the rules and regulations which are consistent with Article 7 of the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C.

The duties and powers of the governing authorities of Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church are prescribed by the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C. The legal ecclesial-church position of Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church, as an integral-organizational part of the internal organization and ecclesial-church system of the S.O.C., is established by and set forth in the Constitution of the S.O.C and the other governing documents, statutes, rules and regulations of the Eastern American Diocese of the S.O.C., as interpreted solely by the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the S.O.C. and the Holy Synod of the S.O.C. in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia.

I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that the 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.

Dated: 7/22/23 Signature: Cassidy B. Thomson
(By a director, president or other officer – if
directors or officers have not been selected,
by an incorporator – if in the hands of a
receiver, trustee or other court appointed
fiduciary by that fiduciary)

Printed Name: Cassidy B. Thomson, Esq.

Title: Secretary and Registered Agent

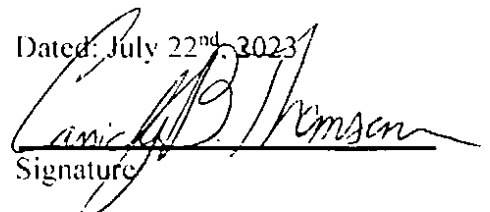


Adoption of Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation

The Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church, Inc., a corporation duly organized, created and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Florida, DOES HEREBY CERTIFY:

- A. The named of the corporation is: Meeting of Our Lord Serbian Orthodox Church, Inc.
- B. The attached amendment was adopted on March 17th, 2023, by the Board of Directors.
- C. There are no members or members entitled to vote on the amendment(s) The amendment(s) was adopted by the board of directors.

Dated: July 22nd, 2023


Signature

Cassidy B. Thomson

Secretary and Registered
Agent