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## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF BERNICE GAINES DORN BLACK WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (a corporation not for profit)

The undersigned Incorporator signs and delivers these Articles of Incorporation in order to form a corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida.

#### 1. NAME.

The name of this corporation is:

#### BERNICE GAINES DORN BLACK WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

#### 2. PURPOSES.

- (a) This corporation is organized and shall operate exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, literary, scientific, cultural and other purposes that fare exempt purposes described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. This corporation may engage in only such activities as are permitted under the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America, which shall constitute activities in furtherance of such exempt purposes. In furtherance of such purposes, this corporation may promote, establish, conduct and maintain activities on its own behalf, and it may contribute to or otherwise assist other corporations, organizations and institutions carrying on exempt activities.
- (b) As a means and incidental to accomplishing the purposes for which this corporation is being organized, it shall have the following powers:
  - To accept, acquire, receive and hold by bequest, devise, grant, gift, purchase, exchange, lease, transfer, or otherwise, for any of its objects and purposes, any property, both real and personal, of whatever nature or description and wherever situated; and
  - (ii) To sell, exchange, convey, mortgage, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any such property, both real and personal, as the objects and purposes of the corporation may require, subject to such limitations as may be prescribed by law; and
  - (iii) To borrow money and, from time to time, to make, accept, endorse, execute and issue bonds, debentures, promissory notes, bills of exchange and other obligations of the corporation for monies borrowed or in payment for property acquired or for any of the other purposes of the corporation, and to secure the payment of any such obligations by mortgages, pledge, deed, indenture, agreement or other instrument of trust, or by other lien upon, assignment of, or agreement in regard to all or any

- part of the property, rights or privileges of the corporation, wheresoever situated; and
- (iv) To invest or reinvest its funds in such stocks, bonds, debentures, mortgages or other investments or securities and property as its Board of Directors shall deem advisable, subject to the limitations and conditions contained in any bequest, devise, grant or gift; and
- (v) To serve as trustee of any property, real or personal, wheresoever situated either within or without the State of Florida; and
- (vi) In general, to exercise such other powers which now are or which hereafter may be conferred by law upon a corporation organized for the purposes herein above set forth or necessary or incidental to the powers so conferred or conducive to the attainment of the purposes of the corporation, subject to such limitations as are or may be prescribed by law.
- (c) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, this corporation may exercise any and all (but no other) powers in furtherance of the exempt purposes of organizations set forth in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and its Regulations as the same now exist, or as they may be hereafter amended from time to time.
- (d) No part of the income or principal of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributed to any member, director or officer of the corporation or any other private individual in such a fashion as to constitute an application of funds not within the purpose of exempt organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. However, reimbursement for expenditures or the payment of reasonable compensation for services rendered shall not be deemed to be a distribution of income or principal.
- (e) No part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, or of participating information intervening in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.
- (f) In the event of the complete or partial liquidation or dissolution of the corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, no member, director or officer shall be entitled to any distribution or division of the corporation's property or proceeds therefrom, and the balance of all money and other property received by the corporation from any source, after the payment of all debts and obligations of the corporation, shall be used or distributed, to any exempt organization as described in Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (or corresponding sections of any prior or future law), or to the federal, state or local government for exclusively public purposes.

#### 3. <u>MEMBERS</u>.

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All members of this corporation shall be natural persons, of eighteen (18) years of age or older, of good character and reputation, and members of financial good standing at all appropriate levels.

#### 4. TERM OF EXISTENCE.

This corporation shall exist perpetually.

#### ADDRESS.

The street address of the initial principal office and mailing address of the Corporation is Kemie King, Esquire, King Lindsey, PA, 633 South Federal Highway, Suite 200B, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

#### 6. **MEMBERS**.

This corporation shall have eight (8) directors, initially. The number of directors may be increased or diminished from time to time in accordance with the By-laws, but shall never be less than three (3).

The names and addresses of the members of the Board of Directors who shall serve until their successors are elected are:

Hilary Creary, Director 633 South Federal Highway, Suite 200B. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Alfreda Coward, President 4752 W. Commercial Blvd Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319-2877

Sheena Benjamin Wise, Vice President 6750 N Andrews Ave, Ste 200 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-2180

Kemie King, Treasurer 633 South Federal Highway, Suite 2008 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Alison Smith, Secretary 200 E Broward Blvd Ste 1900 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-1949

Jane Cross, Director 3305 College Ave Davie, FL 33314-7721

Tricia-Gaye Cotterell, Director 111 NW 1st Street Ste 2800 Miami, FL 3312

Florence Barner, Liaison 201 SE 6th St Ste 13133 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-3303

Successors shall be elected pursuant to the By-laws of the corporation.

#### 7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INCORPORATOR.

The name and address of the Incorporator of this corporation is Hilary Creary, 633 South Federal Highway, Suite 200B, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301.

#### 8. NAME AND OFFICE OF REGISTERED AGENT.

The street address of this corporation's initial registered office and the name of this corporation's initial registered agent at such address is Kemie King, King Lindsey, P.A., 633 South Federal Highway, Suite 200B, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

#### 9. BY-LAWS.

The By-laws of this corporation may only be made, altered or rescinded by a majority vote of the voting members, unless all of the voting members sign a written statement manifesting their intention that the By-laws be made, altered or rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has subscribed to these Articles of Incorporation at Miami, Florida, this  $\frac{1}{3}$  day of July, 2024.

Hilary Creary Incorporator

### CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING OFFICE FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE, AND NAMING AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED

Pursuant to Section 617.0202 and Section 617.0501, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted, in compliance with the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act.

BERNICE GAINES DORN BLACK WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, INC. is desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, with its principal office at 633 South Federal Highway, Suite 200B, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, has named Kemie King, as its agent to accept service of process within this state.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Having been appointed to accept service of process for the above stated corporation, at the place designated in this certificate, Kemie King, hereby states that she is familiar with, and accepts, the obligations of such appointment. Date: July | 5 , 2024.

Kemie King, Registered Agent