

N96000002073

Florida Association of Paralegals, Inc.
1802 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Plantation, Florida 33322

March 25, 1996

Department of State
Corporate Records/
Division of Corporations
P.O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, Florida 32314

RE: Incorporation of
Florida Association of Paralegals, Inc.

000001760940
-03/28/96--01049--016
*****70.00 *****70.00

Dear Secretary of State:

Enclosed find one original and a copy of the Articles of Corporation of Florida Association of Paralegals, Inc.

Also find enclosed a check made payable to the Secretary of State in the amount of \$70.00 which includes the statutory filing fee. Your assistance in establishing this corporation is appreciated.

Respectfully,



Ian Gardner

1802 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Plantation, Florida 33322

~~W96-7220~~

Dmp
4/3/96

502

FILED
96 APR 16 PM 2:37
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Sandra B. Mortham
Secretary of State

April 3, 1996

IAN GARDNER
1802 N UNIVERSITY DRIVE
SUITE 100
PLANTATION, FL 33322

SUBJECT: FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF ^{Paralegals} PARALEGALS, INC.
Ref. Number: W96000007220

We have received your document for FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF PARALEGALS, INC. and your check(s) totaling \$70.00. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

The name designated in your document is unavailable since it is the same as, or it is not distinguishable from the name of an existing entity. Simply adding "of Florida" or "Florida" to the end of an entity name **DOES NOT** constitute a difference. Please select a new name and make the substitution in all appropriate places. One or more words may be added to make the name distinguishable from the one presently on file.

When the document is resubmitted, please return a copy of this letter to ensure that your document is properly handled.

If you have any questions about the availability of a particular name, please call (904) 488-9000.

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 (904) 487-6923.

Doris McDuffie
Corporate Specialist Supervisor

Letter Number: 396A00015355

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC PARALEGALS, INC.**

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STATE
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

A FLORIDA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the Corporation is "Florida Association of Public Paralegals, Inc."

ARTICLE II - CORPORATION ADDRESS

The street address of the Corporation's initial principal office is 1802 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Plantation, Florida 33322.

ARTICLE III - DURATION

The duration of the corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE IV - PURPOSES

The purpose of the Corporation is as follows:

- A. This corporation is a not-for-profit corporation organized under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes. It is not organized for the private gain of any person. The specific purposes of this corporation are:
1. To foster, promote and protect the general professional interests of Florida paralegals (traditional, freelance and independent);
 2. To develop, implement, offer and encourage a system of continuing education for Florida paralegals;
 3. To develop, implement and manage a system of self-regulation of paralegals in the State of Florida, that will protect the public interest in the use of paralegal services, including the provision of such services directly to the public;
 4. To establish and maintain liaisons and working relationships with local, state, and national bar and/or paralegal/legal assistant associations;

5. To seek funding and/or working partnerships with the Supreme Court of Florida, the Florida Bar (and any committee thereof), the Florida Bar Foundation and any other such organizations for the purpose of developing, examining and implementing programs which utilize paralegals/legal assistants in an expanded and less-regulated manner for the purpose of delivering legal services;
 6. To monitor legislation, case law, court opinion, and other matters which effect the the industry, and where possible and/or feasible, to provide input and comment into those proceedings;
 7. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas/ viewpoints on matters integral to the development of the profession, including the publications of a member newsletter,
 8. To develop and maintain an employment resource for the benefit of its members, including a job bank;
 9. To organize, advance and advocate the efforts and desire of Florida paralegals in order that they may play a greater role in the delivery of legal services to the public, including the establishment and utilization of paralegals as a second-tier of legal service providers in limited and specifically identified practice areas.
- B. To exercise all rights and powers conferred by the laws and/or constitution of the State of Florida and/or the laws and constitution of the United States of America.
- C. The Corporation will not engage in any action which is not permitted to be carried on by nonprofit corporations under the Internal Revenue Code and no part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, directors, or officers. The Corporation will be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation to these people for services rendered, and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of its stated purposes.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERS

A. As set forth in this Article, the Corporation will have both voting and non-voting members. The voting members will be elected (and may be removed) by the voting members, and who will have all the rights and privileges of members of the Corporation. The non-voting members will also be elected (and may be removed) by the voting members, and will have those rights enumerated in this Article and/or in the Bylaws.

B. There will be four (4) classes of membership of the Corporation; regular sustaining, student, contributing, and institutional. The qualifications and rights of each membership class are:

1. Regular Sustaining Membership (voting). All persons who are engaged in the practice of performing the function of a paralegal or legal assistant in the State of Florida are eligible for Regular Sustaining Membership in the Florida Association of Paralegals, Inc. The terms "paralegal" and "legal assistant" are defined as an individual who, by education, training or work experience, has developed the skills necessary to assist in the delivery of legal services to the public, either in a traditional, freelance or independent manner. The term "practicing" is defined as actively employed by another person, organization or other entity in the capacity as a paralegal or legal assistant, or being self-employed in such a capacity.
2. Student Membership (non-voting). All persons residing, either permanently or temporarily, in the State of Florida who are attending or are otherwise enrolled in an educational or vocational institution for the purpose of receiving training, certification, or a degree in paralegal studies, is eligible for Student Membership in the Florida Association of Paralegals, Inc.
3. Contributing Membership (non-voting). All persons who are interested in Supporting the Corporation in pursuit of its stated purposes and goals are eligible for Contributing Membership.
4. Institutional Membership (non-voting). Any business, educational institution, agency, law firm, or other organization interested in the professional development of paralegals in the State of Florida is eligible for Institutional membership. This category of membership however, is not intended to be a group membership, thus, individual members of an institutional member do not receive membership benefits.

C. Each member will be required to pay to the Corporation an annual membership fee in the amount and manner set forth in the Bylaws.

D. The name and address of the initial members of the Corporation, in the category of their membership, are as follows:

Regular Sustaining Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Stacey Burnworth	211 McCleod Street, Merritt Island, Florida 32953
Peter B. Dolinger	5439 Reef Drive, New Port Richey, Florida 34652
Ron Eubanks	3 Maple Street N.W., Fort Walton Beach, Fla. 32548
Ian Gardner	1802 N. University Dr, Ste. 100, Plantation, Fla. 33322

Student Members

None.

Contributing Members

None.

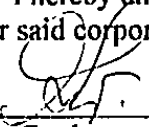
Institutional Members

None.

ARTICLE VI - INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

The initial registered agent is Ian Gardner, and the initial registered office is located at 1802 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Plantation, Florida 33322.

I hereby am familiar with and accept the duties and responsibilities as registered agent for said corporation.



Ian Gardner

ARTICLE VII - INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The initial Board of Directors will have four (4) members, whose names and addresses are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Ian Gardner	1802 N. University Drive, Suite 100, Plantation, Fla. 33322
Stacy Burnworth	211 McCleod Street, Merritt Island, Florida 32953
Peter B. Dolinger	5439 Reef Drive, New Port Richey, Florida 34652
Ron Eubanks	3 Maple Street N.W., Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32548

The Bylaws will provide the method of election of all Directors, and the number of Directors may be raised or lowered by amendment of the Bylaws, but will in no case be less than three (3) directors.

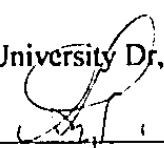
ARTICLE VIII - NONSTOCK BASIS

The Corporation is organized, and will be operated, on a nonstock basis within the meaning of the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, and will not have the power to issue shares of any type of class of stock, but will issue membership certificates in the manner provided for in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX - INCORPORATORS

The name and address of the incorporators of the Corporation is:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Ian Gardner	1802 N. University Dr, Ste. 100, Plantation, Fla. 33322



Incorporator

The powers of the incorporators cease upon filing of the Articles of Incorporation.

The incorporators of the Corporation agree that they may independently execute these Articles, and that such execution will not affect the validity of the Articles.