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CRIDITION 953

Examiner's Initials

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE BIG BEND JOBS AND EDUCATION

COUNCIL, INC. A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

In compliance with the requirements of Florida Statues, Chapter 61, the undersigned, desiring to be incorporated as a corporation not-for-profit under Florida law, hereby certify that:

ARTICLE 1

NAME

The name of the corporation shall be the Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc.

ARTICLE II

DURATION

The period of time or duration of this corporation, not-for-profit, shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE III

DEFINITIONS

- A. COUNCIL Refers to the Big Bend Jobs and Education Council. Inc.
- B. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Refers to the Board of Directors of the Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc.
- C. REGION Refers to the three Florida counties comprising the geographic area served by the Council: Leon, Wakulla, and Gadsden.
- D. MEMBER Refers to an individual member of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

ARTICLE IV

PURPOSE

- 1. Said corporation is organized exclusively:
- a) to operate exclusively in any manner for such educational purposes as will quality it as an

exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, or under any corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws covering the distributions to organizations qualified as tax exempt.

b) to engage in any lawful activity not for pecuniary profit permitted under the laws of the United States and the State of Florida including the making of distributions to public and private organizations as necessary to further the purposes of the corporation. Provided, however, and notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, the corporation shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended (the "Code") or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law and, the corporation shall not carry on any activity not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law. More particularly, the corporation is organized to provide for enhanced coordination, cooperation, collaboration, and outcomes by and between the several entities, both public and private, which are involved at the local level in providing youth and adults with opportunities to develop and continuously upgrade their knowledge and skills in order to advance economically and socially throughout their lifetime, and, in providing employers with the skilled workforce necessary to be competitive in local, state, national, and/or international markets.

ARTICLE V

QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The membership of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this corporation shall consist of

representatives of those entities, public or private, which are engaged in consuming or providing services related to workforce development or labor market exchange. Appointment to the BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall be by nomination and approval as set forth at length in the bylaws. The membership of the Board shall be consistent with Public Law No. 97-300, as amended.

ARTICLE VI

INCORPORATIONS

The name and address of the incorporators to this corporation, not-for-profit is:

Janey DuPont
Private Sector/Gadsden
President - DuPont Trucking, Inc.
P. O. Box 60
Quincy, Florida 32353

Robert Barkley
Private Sector/Gadsden
Owner - Barkley Security Agency, Inc.
P. O. Box 1726
Quincy, Florida 32353

Nick Bert Private Sector/Gadsden President - Priority News, Inc. 103 West 7th Avenue Havana, Florida 32333

Bruce Thomas'
Private Sector/Gadsden
Owner/President - Thomas Motor Cars, Inc.
P. O. Box 350
Quincy, Florida 32353

Bob Weatherford Private Sector/Gadsden CFO/Secretary/Treasurer - Quincy Farms Route 4, Box 245 Quincy, Florida 32351

Dubose Ausley
Private Sector/Leon
President - Ausley & McMullen
P. O. Box 391
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-0391

Early Dugger
Private Sector/Leon
The Wharf Restaurant
4141 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, Florida 32311

Dr. Jane A. Marks
Private Sector/Leon
Marks and Associates
3325 C Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

Mario Neal Private Sector/Leon First Union National Bank of Florida 1201 North Monroe Street Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Glenda Thornton Private Sector/Leon Attorney-Bateman Graham, P. A. P. O. Box 1454 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1454

Dr. Joseph L. Camps, Jr.
Private Sector/Leon
Physician - Southeastern Urological Center
1313 B Hodges Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Russ Ellison
Private Sector/Leon
Plant Manager - General Dynamics
2930 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Dr. Barbara Greadington
Private Sector/Leon
President and CEO - Barbara Greadington and Associates
231 E. Virginia Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Freddie Franklin Private Sector/Wakulla 43 Greenlin Villa Road Crawfordville, Florida 32327

Kelly Dugger
Private Sector/Wakulla
Curley's Construction
P. O. Box 475
Crawfordville, Florida 32326

Rod Bennett
Private Sector/Wakulla
Wakulla C. Chamber of Commerce
P. O. Box 598
Crawfordville, Florid 32326

Len Taliaferro
Private Sector/Wakulla
Sprint
P. O. Box 2214 MC 2562
Tallahassee, Florida 32316-2214

Dr. T. K. Wetherell
Tallahassee Community College President
444 Appleyard Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Harold Henderson
Gadsden Co. School Superintendent
35 Experiment Station Road
Quincy, Florida 32351

Richard Merrick Leon Co. School Superintendent 2757 West Pensacola Street Tallahassee, Florida 32304

David Miller Wakulla Co. School Superintendent P. O. Box 100 Crawfordville, Florida 32326

Joe Kelley
Economic Development Council/Leon
P.O. Box 1639
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

James R. Bass Vocational Rehabilitation District Supervisor 325 John Knox Road Building E. Suite 103 Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Martin B. Cox Health & Rehabilitative Services Deputy District Administrators HRS 2005 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2929

Tom Clendenning
Jobs and Benefits
Regional Administrator/Div. Of Jobs and Benefits
1264 Timberland Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32312-1710

Maura Freeberg
Private Postsecondary Schools
Keiser College
1605 E. Plaza Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Private Postsecondary Seat - Vacant

Jesse Furlow
CBO Seat/Gadsden
Vice Chair - CEDO of Gadsden County, Inc.
215 West Jefferson Street
Quincy, Florida 32351

Charles Powell
Organized Labor Seat/Gadsden
United Steel Workers of America
1101 North Madison Street
Quincy, Florida 32351

Dr. Patricia K. Hardman CBO Seat/Leon CEO - Dyslexia Research Institute 4745 Centerville Road Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Irvine Leonard
Organized Labor Seat/Leon
Plumbers and Pipefitters Local
1819 West Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Dr. Wyatt Pope CBO Seat/Wakulla Council on Aging P. O. Box 1444 Crawfordville, Florida 32326

James Smith Organized Labor Seat/Wakulla 476 East Ivan Road Crawfordville, Florida 32327

ARTICLE VII

BYLAWS

The BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this corporation shall provide such Bylaws for the conduct of its business and the carrying out of its purposes as they may deem necessary from time to time consistent with Florida Statutes, Chapter, and other law applicable to not-for-profit tax exempt

corporations. The BOARD OF DIRECTORS may amend, revise, add to, repeal, or rescind the BYLAWS and/or adopt the new BYLAWS at any meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS, provided that written notice of alternation, amendment, revision, addition, repeal, or recision of these BYLAWS or adoptions of new BYLAWS shall have been published and given to the members at least thirty (30) days preceding the meeting. Said BYLAWS are attached hereto and made a part hereto by reference.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation may be proposed by any member of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The BOARD OF DIRECTORS may amend, revise, add to, repeal, or rescind the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION and/or adopt the new ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION at any meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS, provided that written notice of alteration, amendment, revision, addition repeal, or recision of these ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION or adoption of new ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION shall have been published and given to the BOARD OF DIRECTORS at least thirty (30) days preceding the date of the meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS at which such action is to be considered. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum of 51% of the members shall be required to amend the Articles.

ARTICLE IX

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The initial BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall consist of these persons named herein as incorporators.

ARTICLE X

CORPORATE OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

The affairs of the corporation shall be run by the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary,

Treasurer, and the BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Election of officers and members shall be at
annual meetings, as set forth in the BYLAWS. The names of the officers who are to serve until
election or appointment under the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION are:

Chairman Rod Bennett

First Vice Chair Janie DuPont

Secretary/Treasurer Irvine Leonard

ARTICLE XI

REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

The street address of the initial registered office of this corporation is: 23 High Drive, Crawfordville, Florida, 32327. And the name of the registered agent of this corporation, at that address is: Rod Bennett.

ARTICLE XII

LOCATION

The location of this corporation shall be at: 23 High Drive, Crawfordville, Florida, 32327.

ARTICLE XIII

DISPOSITION OF ASSETS

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation dispose of its assets exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or

organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literacy and/or educational purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), distribute all remaining assets in such manner as the BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall determine, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of common pleas 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.

ARTICLE XIV

INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES

Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc. shall indemnify any past or present Director, officer, or employee of Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc. Against judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement, and reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and necessarily incurred by such person as a result of any actual or threatened action or proceeding to which such person is made or t' eatened to be made a party by reason of the fact that such person is or was a Director, officer, or employee of Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc. To the full extent allowed by the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. This agreement of indemnification by Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc., its successors and assigns, and shall enure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of any such Director, officer, or employee. No indemnification shall be provided

to any Director, officer, or employee in relation to matters as to which such Director, officer, or employed shall be finally adjudged to have breached his or her duty to Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc. No indemnification shall be provided unless it is determined that the individual to be indemnified acted in good faith for a purpose which he or she reasonable believed to be in the best interests in Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc., and, in criminal actions or proceedings, in addition, that such individual had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

ARTICLE XV

PRIVATE ASSETS EXEMPT

The private assets of the members of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this corporation and the officers and directors of this corporation shall be forever exempt from corporate debts and obligations of any kind whatsoever.

ARTICLE XVI

NONPROFIT STATUS

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 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 III hereof. No substantial part of activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attenanting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing of distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. 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 of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(2)(c) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE XVII

POWERS

To the end that the foregoing purposes and any other related charitable purposes and objects may be carried out, performed, and accomplished, and to obtain funds or income for said charitable purposes, this corporation shall have power to: Section 1: Acquire either by gift, purchase, or bequest, and to hold, own, manage, sell, grant, convey, mortgage, pledge, or otherwise encumber, lease, improve and dispose of real, personal or mixed property whatsoever situation; to operate said properties, or any part thereof, or any business it may acquire in any location, in the name of the corporation of in any other manner, and for its benefit and in its benefit and in its behalf, through such persons or agents as it may determine or select from time to time by a majority action of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS, to receive donations, gifts, and endowments, and to administer the same, all such real, personal, and mixed property to acquire or receive by gift, grant, purchase, bequest, or donation shall be used or employed, however, for educational, charitable, social and benevolent purposes and not for pecuniary profit of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Section 2: And in general, to possess and exercise all the rights, privileges, immunities, and

prerequisites now or hereafter authorized by or under the provisions of the laws of the State of Florida and designated by the Bylaws of the Corporation.

ARTICLE XVIII

CORPORATE SEAL

The BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Big Bend Jobs and Education Council, Inc. may provide a corporate seal which shall be in the form of a circle and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the corporation and the words, "Corporate Seal, State of Florida."

ARTICLE XIX

The fiscal year of the corporation shall be July 1 through June 30.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the undersigned, being the sole subscriber to these Articles of
Incorporation, declare and certify that the facts herein stated are true, and accordingly, I have
hereunder set my hand and scal at
the County of Wplcull A and State of Florida, this 8 day of
James Rodney Bernett, Chairman
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8 day of August.
1996. Skerida & Crun
NOTARY PUBLIC My Commission Expires SHERIDA 5: ORUM MY COMMISSION # CC 315259 EXPIRES: October 26, 1997 Bonded Thru Notary Public Underwriters

DESIGNATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTERED AGENT

Pursuant to the provisions of F.S. 607.0501, the undersigned corporation organized under the following statement in designating the the laws of the State of Florida, submits the following statement in designating the 'C registered office registered agent in the State of Florida

- 1. The name of the corporation is Big Bend Jobs and Education Council Inc.
- 2. The name of the registered agent is Mr. James Rodney Bennett.
- 3 The address of the registered agent/registered office is 23 High Drive. Crawfordville Florida 32326.

ACCEPTANCE

Having been named as registered agent and designated to accept service of process for the above corporation. I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

Bennett Chairman