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December 18, 1998

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Division of Corporations
P. O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

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122.50 **78.75

Re: THE VILLAGES FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find the original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation for THE VILLAGES FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. Also enclosed please find our check in the amount of \$122.50.

Please return a certified copy of the Articles to my office. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

BRANNEN, STILLWELL & PERRIN, P.A.



Denise A. Lyn

DAL/ss

Enclosures

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
THE VILLAGES FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.**

A FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION

The undersigned, acting as incorporators of a corporation pursuant to Chapter 617 of the Florida Statutes, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation for the corporation:

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this corporation is THE VILLAGES FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. with its principal office address being located at 3905 C. R. 214, Oxford, Florida 34484.

ARTICLE II: DURATION

This corporation shall have perpetual existence unless dissolved according to law.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

This corporation is organized for the following purposes:

- a. To prevent and to control fires and to preserve and protect lives and property from loss or damage by fire or all other emergencies; and to acquire and own fire equipment for use by the corporation for these purposes.
- b. To own and acquire land and to construct, erect, and maintain buildings and units for corporate purposes and for the use and efforts of the members of the corporation in connection with the housing of and headquarters for fire equipment and for providing a meeting place for the members of the corporation.
- c. To encourage membership in the company; to provide training for members of the corporation and the public in fire fighting, fire prevention and first aid.
- d. This corporation is formed and shall be operated exclusively for pleasure, recreation, and other nonprofit purposes. No part of any net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member or officer of the corporation except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation effecting one or more of its purposes.
- e. This corporation shall have and exercise all powers conferred upon not for profit corporations under the laws of the State of Florida generally, and specifically as provided in Section 617.0302 of the Florida Not for Profit Corporation Act.

ARTICLE IV: INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of the initial registered office of this corporation is 4147 State Road 466, Oxford, Florida 34484 and the name of the initial registered agent of this corporation is Ronald D. Sumner.

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ARTICLE V: BASIS UNDER WHICH CORPORATION ORGANIZED

The corporation is a not for profit corporation as defined by the Not for Profit Corporation Act in Section 617.01401 of the Florida Statutes. As such, it is not organized for the pecuniary gain or profit of, and its net earnings nor any part thereof is distributable to, its members, managers or other private persons except as specifically permitted under the provisions of the Florida Not for Profit Corporation Act.

ARTICLE VI: MANAGEMENT OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

- a. Board of Directors. The powers of this corporation shall be exercised, its properties controlled, and its affairs conducted by a board of three directors. The number of directors provided for in these Articles of Incorporation may be changed by a bylaw adopted by the board of directors or members entitled to vote.
- b. Election of Directors. The method of electing directors shall be as set forth in the bylaws.
- c. Elective Officers. The initial officers of this corporation shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Other offices and officers may be established or appointed by the members of this corporation at any regular annual meeting or any special meeting of members called for such purpose. The qualifications, the time and manner of electing or appointing, the duties of, the terms of office, and the manner of removing officers shall be as set forth in the bylaws.

ARTICLE VII: INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the person signing these Articles is: Ronald D. Sumner, 3905 C.R. 214, Oxford, Florida 34448.

ARTICLE VIII: BYLAWS

The power to adopt, alter, amend or repeal bylaws shall be vested in the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENT

This corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provisions contained in these Articles of Incorporation, or any amendment hereto, and any right conferred upon the members is subject to this reservation. Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation may be adopted at any meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority vote of the directors then in office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned subscriber has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 18 day of Dec, 1998.

Ronald D. Sumner
RONALD D. SUMNER

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF CITRUS

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 18th day of December, 1998, by RONALD D. SUMNER who is personally known by me _____ or produced FL Driver License as identification.

Susan L Shaw
Notary Public



ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for THE VILLAGES FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. at the place designated in these Articles, I agree to act in this capacity and I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties.

DATED: 18 Dec 98



RONALD D. SUMNER

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