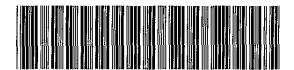
# P04000155776

(Requestor's Name)
(Address)
(Address)
(City/State/Zip/Phone #)
PICK-UP WAIT MAIL
(Business Entity Name)
(Document Number)
Certified Copies Certificates of Status
Special Instructions to Filing Officer:

Office Use Only



300042233733

11/15/04--01016--023 \*\*70.00

BR 11/16

### INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION



#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL REGULATION

Don B. Saxon Commissioner

DATE: Novemebr 15, 2004

TO: Karon Beyer, Department of State

Division of Corporations - Bureau of Commercial Recordings

FROM: Bruce Ricca, Licensing and Chartering

SUBJ: Liberty Bank

Clearwater, Pinellas County (Proposed New Bank)

Please file the attached Articles of Incorporation for the above-referenced institution, using <u>TODAY'S DATE</u> as the effective date.

Please make the following distribution of certified copies:

(1) One copy to: Bruce Ricca

Office of Financial Regulation Licensing & Chartering 200 East Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0371

(2) Two copies to:

Mr. Richard P. Hunt

Kendrick Pierce & Company

324 South Hyde Park Avenue, Suite 202

Tampa, Florida 33606

(3) One copy to:

Mr. Steve King

(uncertified)

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

10 Tenth Street, N. E.

Suite 800

Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3906

Also attached is a check that represents payment of the filing fees, charter tax and certified copies. If you have any questions, please call 410-9528.

#### FILED SECRETARY OF STATE TALLAMASSEE, FLORIDA

### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF LIBERTY BANK

O4 HOV 15 AH 10: 36

The undersigned, acting as the incorporators of LIBERTY BANK (the "Corporation") under the Florida Business Corporation Act, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation.

#### ARTICLE I CORPORATE NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The name of the Corporation shall be LIBERTY BANK and its initial place of business shall be 1617 Gulf to Bay Boulevard, Clearwater, Florida 33755.

#### ARTICLE II General Nature of Business

The general nature of the business to be transacted by the Corporation shall be that of a commercial banking business with all rights, powers and privileges granted and conferred by the Florida Financial Institutions Codes, relating to the organization, powers and management of banking corporations.

#### ARTICLE III Capital Stock

The number of shares authorized to be issued by the Corporation shall be 4,000,000. Such shares shall be of a single class and each shall have a par value of \$5.00. The Corporation shall begin business with at least \$6,000,000 of paid-in capital, to be derived from the issuance of at least 1,200,000 shares, as well as initial paid-in capital surplus of not less than \$5,500,000, all of which (paid-in capital and paid-in capital surplus) shall be paid in cash.

#### ARTICLE IV Term of Existence

The term for which the Corporation shall exist shall be perpetual unless terminated pursuant to the Florida Financial Institutions Codes.

#### ARTICLE V Incorporators and Initial Directors

The names and street addresses of the incorporators of the Corporation, who shall also serve as the Corporation's initial directors, are set forth below:

Name
Street Address

Richard W. Cope
1188 Mandalay Point
Clearwater, FL 33767

Philip Doganiero
224 Ponce De Leon Blvd.
Belleair, FL 33756

Daniel M. Doyle

7 Stonegate Drive

Belleair, FL 33756

Frederick E. Fisher

1166 Lindenwood Drive

Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Larry C. Morgan

5 Stonegate Drive

Belleair, FL 33756

Raymond E. Murray

3413 Braeside Place

Clearwater, FL 33759

Ronald M. Ricardo

13923 Egret Lane

Clearwater, FL 33762

Patricia S. Ryan

437 Saint Andrews Drive

Belleair, FL 33756

David M. Vosen

4228 Preserve Place Palm Harbor, FL 34685

The number of directors of the Corporation shall not be fewer than five. A majority of the full board of directors may, at any time during the year following any annual meeting of shareholders, increase the number of directors by not more than two and appoint persons to fill the resulting vacancies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 2nd day of November 2004.

David M. Vosen, an Incorporator

## APPROVAL OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION BY THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND SECURITIES REGULATION

The foregoing Articles of Incorporation of LIBERTY BANK are approved by the Office of Financial Institutions and Securities Regulation of the Florida Department of Financial Services this 1274 day of November 2004 at Tallahassee, Florida.

Linda B. Charity, Deputy Director Office of Financial Regulation

318573.2