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FLORIDA PROFIT CORPORATION OR P.A.

Ave Maria Financial Corporation

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J. Shivers NOV 0 8 2005

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ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF AVE MARIA FINANCIAL CORPORATION

The undersigned, acting as incorporator of Ave Maria Financial Corporation under the Florida Business Corporation Act, adopts the following Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the corporation is Ave Maria Financial Corporation.

ARTICLE II. ADDRESS

The mailing address of the corporation is:

100 North Tampa Street
Suite 4100
Tampa, Florida

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ARTICLE III. COMMENCEMENT OF EXISTENCE

The existence of the corporation will commence upon filing these articles of incorporation.

ARTICLE IV. PURPOSE

The corporation is organized to engage in any activity or business permitted under the laws of the United States and Florida.

ARTICLE V. AUTHORIZED SHARES

The maximum number of shares that the corporation is authorized to have outstanding at any time is 10,000 shares of common stock having a par value of \$.01 per share.

ARTICLE VI. INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of the initial registered office of the corporation is 1201 Hays Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, and the name of the corporation's initial registered agent at that address is Corporation Service Company.

ARTICLE VIL INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The corporation shall have one director initially. The number of directors may be either increased or diminished from time to time, as provided in the bylaws, but shall never be less than one. The name and street address of the initial director is Joseph C. Canizaro, 909 Poydras Street, Suite 1700, New Orleans, LA

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ARTICLE VIII. INCORPORATOR

The name and street address of the incorporator is:

Name

<u>Address</u>

Charles L. Stutts

100 North Tampa Street, Suite 4100

Tampa, FL 33602

The incorporator of the corporation assigns to this corporation his rights under Section 607.0201. Florida Statutes, to constitute a corporation, and he assigns to those persons designated by the board of directors any rights he may have as incorporator to acquire any of the capital stock of this corporation, this assignment becoming effective on the date corporate existence begins.

ARTICLE IX. BYLAWS

The power to adopt, after, amend, or repeal bylaws shall be vested in the board of directors and the shareholders, except that the board of directors may not amend or repeal any bylaw adopted by the shareholders if the shareholders specifically provide that the bylaw is not subject to amendment or repeal by the directors.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

The corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change, or repeal any provision in these Articles of Incorporation in the manner prescribed by law, and all rights conferred on shareholders are subject to this reservation.

Charles L. Stutts, Incorporator

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation, at the place designated in this document, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Dated this 17^{19} day of November, 2005.

CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY

Registered Agent .

Joanine Reynolds as its agent

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