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**networks**

PRESTICE HALL  
LEGAL & FINANCIAL SERVICES

ACCOUNT NO. : 072100000032

REFERENCE : 172390 82361A

AUTHORIZATION :

COST LIMIT : \$ PREPAID

ORDER DATE : December 2, 1996

ORDER TIME : 3:33 PM

ORDER NO. : 172390-005

CUSTOMER NO: 82361A

100002017471--9  
-12/03/96--01032--002  
\*\*\*\*122.50 \*\*\*\*122.50

CUSTOMER: Barry Carothers, Esq  
KRAMER, ALI, LAMBERT, FLECK &  
CAROTHERS  
Suite 200  
6650 West Indiantown Road  
Jupiter, FL 33458

DOMESTIC FILING

NAME: BARIATRICS, INC.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

XX ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
       CERTIFICATE OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

PLEASE RETURN THE FOLLOWING AS PROOF OF FILING:

XX CERTIFIED COPY  
       PLAIN STAMPED COPY  
       CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

CONTACT PERSON: Debbie Skipper

EXAMINER'S INITIALS:

FILED  
96 DEC -3 AM 9:32  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

RECEIVED  
96 DEC -3 AM 8:26  
DIVISION OF CORPORATION

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
BARIATRICS, INC.

**FILED**  
96 DEC -3 AM 9:33  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

THE UNDERSIGNED, acting as incorporators of a corporation under the Florida General Corporation Act, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation for such corporation:

ARTICLE I

The name of this Corporation is: BARIATRICS, INC.

ARTICLE II

The duration of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE III

The purpose or purposes for which this corporation is organized are:

A. To manage and perform management services, the employment of employees and all acts necessary to carry out the same.

B. To acquire by purchase, exchange, gift, bequest and subscription or otherwise, and to hold, own, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate, sell, assign, transfer, exchange, or otherwise dispose of or deal in or with its own corporate securities or stock or other securities, including without limitations, any shares of stock, bonds, debentures, notes, mortgages, or other instruments representing rights or interests therein or any property or assets created or issued by any person, firm, association or corporation, or any government or subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities thereof; to make payment therefore in any lawful manner or to issue in exchange therefore its own securities or to use its unrestricted or unreserved earned surplus

for the purchase of its own shares, and to exercise as owner or holder of any securities, any and all rights, powers and privileges in respect thereof.

C. To do each and every thing necessary, suitable or proper for the accomplishment of any of the purposes or the attainment of any one or more of the subjects herein enumerated, or which may at any time appear conducive to or expedient for the protection or benefit of this corporation, and to do said acts as fully and to the same extent as natural persons might, or could do, in any part of the world as principals, agents, partners, trustees or otherwise, either alone or in conjunction with any other person, association or corporation, specifically including the right to register and do business under fictitious names.

D. The foregoing clauses shall be construed both as purposes and powers, and shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the general powers of the corporation, and the enjoyment and exercise thereof, as conferred by the Laws of the State of Florida; and it is the intention that the purposes and powers specified in each of the paragraphs of this Article III shall be regarded as independent purposes and powers.

#### ARTICLE IV - STOCK

The aggregate number of shares which this corporation shall have authority to issue is 7500 shares of Class A common voting stock at \$1.00 par value per share. Fully-paid stock of this corporation shall not be liable to any further call or assessment. The sum of the par value of all shares of capital stock of the corporation that have been issued shall be the stated capital of the corporation at any particular time. To the extent of the par value of such shares, and the excess, if any, of consideration received for such shares, same shall constitute capital surplus.

#### ARTICLE V - AMENDMENT

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended, altered, changed, or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the stock issued and outstanding, at a Shareholders meeting called for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE VI - SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS

Shareholders of the corporation shall have pre-emptive rights to acquire their pro rata share of stock of the corporation for all issues of any class of stock of the corporation, no matter when authorized, and for whatever consideration is contemplated to be received by the corporation, including but not limited to cash, other property, services, the acquisition of other corporations' shares or property through merger or the extinguishment of debts. Pre-emptive rights shall also apply to the reissuance of all redeemed or otherwise acquired shares, including the reissuance of treasury shares.

This article pertaining to pre-emptive rights may not be amended or deleted without the unanimous vote of the Shareholders of each affected class, and no issuance of stock of the corporation shall take place unless the price at which the stock is to be issued shall be approved by a majority of the Shareholders of the corporation.

#### ARTICLE VII - INITIAL OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of this corporation's principal place of business and mailing address is 38 St. George Place, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418, and its initial Registered Agent is BARRY CAROTHERS, ESQUIRE, at 6650 West Indiantown Road, Suite 200, Jupiter, Florida, 33458.

### ARTICLE VIII - DIRECTORS

The number of directors constituting the initial board of Directors of this corporation is one (1). The name and address of the person to serve as Directors until the first annual meeting of shareholders, or until their successors are elected and qualify, are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
W. REX DUFF, M.D.	38 St. George Place Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

### ARTICLE IX - INCORPORATORS

The names and addresses of the incorporator is:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
BARRY CAROTHERS	6650 West Indiantown Road Suite 200 Jupiter, Florida 33458

### ARTICLE X - COMMON DIRECTORS - TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN CORPORATIONS

No contract or other transaction between this corporation and one or more of its Directors or any other corporation, firm, association or entity in which one or more of its Directors are directors or officers or are financially interested, shall either be void or voidable because of such relationship or interest if: (a) the fact of such relationship or interest is disclosed or known to the Board of Directors or committee which authorizes, approves or ratifies the contract or transaction by vote or consent sufficient for the purpose without counting the votes or consents of such interested Director; or (b) the fact of such relationship or interest is disclosed or known to the Shareholders entitled to vote and they authorize, approve or ratify such contract or transaction by vote or written consent; or (c) the contract is fair and reasonable to the corporation.

Common or interested Directors may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors or committee thereof which authorizes, approves or ratifies such contract or transactions.

ARTICLE XI - BY-LAWS

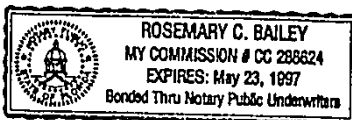
The By-Laws of the corporation shall be initially adopted by the Board of Directors, and may be changed or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Shareholders at any meeting thereof.


  
BARRY CAROTHERS  
INCORPORATOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF PALM BEACH

The foregoing, Articles of Incorporation were acknowledged before me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1996, by BARRY CAROTHERS who produced personally known identification.



  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Commission No: CC 288624

CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF  
BUSINESS OR DOMICILE FOR THE SERVICE  
OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE NAMING  
AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED

FILED

96 DEC -3 AM 9:33

SEAL ANY STATE  
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

The following is submitted pursuant to Section 48.091(1) and Section 607.034,  
Florida Statutes:

BARIATRICS, INC. desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida being  
in the County of Palm Beach, has named BARRY CAROTHERS, at Suite 200, 6650  
Indiantown Road, Jupiter, Florida 33458, as its initial registered agent to accept service of  
process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

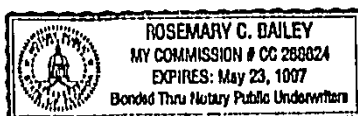
Having been named to accept service of process for the above-stated corporation, at  
the above stated office within this State, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to  
comply with the provisions of said statute relative to keeping the registered office of the  
corporation open from 10:00 a.m. to noon each day, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal  
holidays, and to post therein a sign designating the name of the corporation and the name of  
its registered agent.


Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1996.

  
BARRY CAROTHERS

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH

The foregoing Articles of Incorporation were acknowledged before me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
December, 1996, by BARRY CAROTHERS who produced personally known  
\_\_\_\_\_ as identification.



  
Notary Public  
Commission No: CC 288824