

LAW OFFICES OF

*Fredrick L. Rice, P.A.*

*Fredrick L. Rice*

CERTIFIED CIRCUIT COURT MEDIATOR  
CERTIFIED FAMILY COURT MEDIATOR

OF COUNSEL:

C. HUGH BLANTON, JR.  
CERTIFIED FAMILY COURT MEDIATOR

1000 BT. AUGUSTINE ROAD  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32206  
(904) 739-0000  
AND PLACE  
BT. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA 32084  
(904) 824-4388

REPLY TO Jacksonville

March 6, 1997

Office of the Secretary of State  
Corporations Division  
Capitol Building  
P. O. Box 6327  
Tallahassee, Florida 32314

500002108345--1  
-03/10/97--01069--019  
\*\*\*\*122.50 \*\*\*\*122.50

Re: SouthFirst Financial Network, Inc.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed are the original and duplicate copy of the Articles of Incorporation for the above named proposed corporation to be filed with your office under the provisions of Chapter 607, Florida Statutes. Kindly endorse your approval on these Articles on the enclosed copy, certifying and returning the same to my Jacksonville office. My firm check in the amount of \$122.50 is enclosed to cover the \$35.00 filing fee, the \$35.00 registered agent designation fee, and the \$52.50 fee for certifying the enclosed copy of the Articles of Incorporation.

Thanking you for your usual prompt cooperation and assistance,  
I am,

Very truly yours,

*Fredrick L. Rice*  
Fredrick L. Rice

FLR/mnr

✓Enclosures

cc: Thomas C. Collins, Jr.

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
3/18/97  
LB

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

SOUTHFIRST FINANCIAL NETWORK, INC.

The undersigned subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation, each a natural person, competent to contract, hereby associate themselves together to form a corporation under the Florida General Corporation Act.

### ARTICLE I - Corporate Name

The name of this corporation is SouthFirst Financial Network, Inc.

### ARTICLE II - Nature of Business

The general nature of the business to be transacted by this corporation is: To invest in, buy, sell, and otherwise generally deal with all forms of real and personal property, both tangible and intangible, at retail or wholesale prices, and to generally engage in or render all counselling services or brokerage services incidental thereto; and to otherwise do any and all things not prohibited by the laws of the United States of America or the laws of the State of Florida.

To manufacture, purchase or otherwise acquire, and to own, mortgage, pledge, sell, assign, transfer or otherwise dispose of, and to invest in, trade in, deal in and with goods, wares, merchandise, real and personal property, and services of every class, kind and description; except that it is not to conduct a banking, safe deposit, trust, insurance, surety, express, railroad, canal, telegraph, telephone or cemetery company, a building and loan association, mutual fire insurance association, cooperative association, fraternal benefit society, state fair or exposition.

To conduct business in, have one or more offices in, and buy, hold, mortgage, sell, convey, lease or otherwise dispose of real and personal property,

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To contract debts and borrow money, issue and sell or pledge bonds, debentures, notes and other evidences of indebtedness, and execute such mortgages, transfers of corporate property, or other instruments to secure the payment of corporate indebtedness as required.

To purchase the corporate assets of any other corporation and engage in the same or other character of business.

To endorse, purchase, hold, sell, transfer, mortgage, pledge, or otherwise acquire or dispose of the shares of the capital stock of, or any bonds, securities, or other evidences of indebtedness created by any other corporation of the State of Florida or any other state or government, and while owner of such stock to exercise all the rights, powers and privileges of ownership, including the right to vote such stock.

To become guarantor or surety for any other person, firm or corporation for any purpose or transaction whatsoever.

To make gifts of its property or cash, either to charitable organizations or otherwise, when deemed in the interest of the company.

To adopt such pension, profit sharing, stock option, and deferred compensation plans for officers, employees and directors and to grant such stock options to officers, employees, directors and others as the directors may deem to be in the interest of the company.

To enjoy all of the powers now or hereafter conferred upon corporations by the statutes and laws of the State of Florida.

The foregoing clauses shall be construed both as objects and powers, the enumeration of which shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers or activities of this corporation which shall have the power to engage in any activity which may be necessary or profitable and generally shall have and enjoy all powers, privileges and immunities of businesses incorporated under the laws

### ARTICLE III - Capital Stock

The maximum number of shares of stock which this corporation is authorized to have outstanding at any one time is 5,000 shares. Such shares shall consist of a single class of common stock and shall have a par value of \$1.00 per share.

### ARTICLE IV - Initial Capital

The amount of capital with which this corporation will begin business is \$500.00.

### ARTICLE V - Term

This corporation shall exist perpetually unless sooner dissolved according to law.

### ARTICLE VI - Address

The street address of the initial registered or principal office of this corporation in the State of Florida is:

3772 Wexford Hollow Road, East  
Jacksonville, Florida 32224

and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is:

Thomas C. Collins, jr.

The Board of Directors may from time to time move or redesignate this office to any place in Florida.

### ARTICLE VII - Directors

This corporation shall have two (2) directors initially. The number of directors may be either increased or diminished from time to time by the by-laws, but shall never be less than one (1).

### ARTICLE VIII - Initial Directors

### ARTICLE IX - Incorporators

The names and addresses of the incorporators of this corporation or subscribers of these Articles of Incorporation are:

Thomas C. Collins, Jr., 3772 Wexford Hollow Road, East,  
Jacksonville, Florida 32224

### ARTICLE X

This corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provision contained in these Articles of Incorporation, and any right conferred upon the stockholders is subject to this reservation.

The initial by-laws of this corporation shall be adopted by the directors. The by-laws may be amended from time to time by either the stockholders or the directors, but the directors may not alter or amend any by-law adopted by the stockholders.

Ownership of stock shall not be required to make any person eligible to hold office either as an officer or director of this corporation.

The stockholders may, by by-law provision or by stockholders' agreement, recorded in the minute book, impose such restrictions on the sale, transfer or encumbrance of the stock of this corporation as they may see fit.

Any subscriber or stockholder present at any meeting, either in person or by proxy, and any director present in person at any meeting of the Board of Directors shall conclusively be deemed to have received proper notice of such meeting unless he shall make objection at such meeting to any defect or insufficiency of notice.

Any contract or other transaction between the corporation and one or more of its directors, or between the corporation and any firm of which one or more of its directors are members or employees, or in which they are interested, or between the corporation and any corporation or association of which one or more

transaction, and notwithstanding his or their participation in such action, if the fact of such interest shall be disclosed or known to the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors shall, nevertheless, authorize, approve and ratify such contract or transactions by a vote of a majority of the directors present, such interested director or directors to be counted in determining whether a quorum is present, but not to be counted in calculating the majority necessary to carry such vote. This section shall not be construed to invalidate any contract or other transaction which would otherwise be valid under the common and statutory law applicable thereto.

The Board of Directors is hereby specifically authorized to make provision for reasonable compensation to its members for their services as Directors, and to fix the basis and conditions upon which such compensation shall be paid. Any director of the corporation may also serve the corporation in any other capacity and receive compensation therefor in any form.

#### ARTICLE XI

The corporation shall indemnify any director, officer, or employee, or former director, officer, or employee of the corporation, or any person who may have served at its request as a director, officer, or employee of another corporation in which it owns shares of capital stock, or of which it is a creditor, against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding in which he is made a party by reason of being or having been such director, officer, or employees, except in relation to matters as to which he shall be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty. The corporation may also reimburse to any director, officer, or employee the reasonable costs of settlement of any such action, suit, or proceeding, if it shall be found by a majority

shall not be deemed exclusive to any other rights to which such director, officer, or employee may be entitled under any by-law, agreement, vote or shareholders, or otherwise.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Incorporators or subscribers have executed these Articles of Incorporation this 6th day of March, 1997.

Thomas C. Collins, Jr. (SEAL)  
THOMAS C. COLLINS, JR.

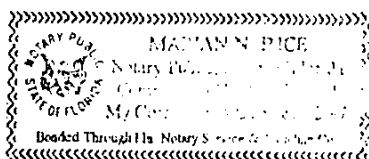
\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)

\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)

STATE OF FLORIDA )  
COUNTY OF DUVAL )

Before me personally appeared THOMAS C. COLLINS, JR., who is personally known to me, and, well known by me to be the persons named in and who executed the foregoing Articles of Incorporation and they acknowledged to me that they executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal this 6th day of March, 1997.



Marian N. Rice MARIAN N. RICE  
Notary Public, State of Florida at Large

My commission expires:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Having been named as the initial registered agent for this corporation at the initial registered or principal office designated in Article VI in these Articles of Incorporation, I hereby accept and agree to act in this capacity,

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STATE OF FLORIDA  
TALLAHASSEE