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NAME: RICHARD D. AWE, P.A. AUDIT NUMBER..... H98000004568

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#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

#### RICHARD D. AWE, P.A.

The undersigned Incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation, being a natural person competent to contract and a certified public accountant, duly licensed to render services as such under the laws of the State of Florida, hereby forms a professional service corporation pursuant to the provisions of Florida Statutes Section 621 in conjunction with Florida Statutes Section 607.

#### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this corporation is RICHARD D. AWE, P.A.

# ARTICLE II - NATURE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

The general nature of the business to be transacted by the corporation is:

- A. To engage in every phase and aspect of the business of rendering professional services to the public that any certified public accountant duly licensed under the laws of the State of Florida is authorized to render, but such professional services shall be rendered only through officers, employees and agents who are duly licensed under the laws of the State of Florida to practice accounting.
- B. To invest the funds of the corporation in real estate, mortgages, stocks, bonds or any other type of investment and to own real and personal property necessary for the rendering of professional services.
- C. To enter into, for the benefit of its employees, one (1) or more of the following: (1) a pension plan; (2) a profit sharing plan; (3) a stock bonus plan; (4) a thrift and savings plan; (5) a restricted stock option plan; and (6) other retirement or incentive compensation plans whether non-qualified or qualified by the Internal Revenue Service.
- D. At its option, to purchase and acquire the shares owned and held by any shareholder who dies in accordance with the bylaws adopted by the shareholders of the corporation setting forth the terms and conditions of such purchases; provided, however, that the capital of the corporation is not impaired.

Florida Bar No. 0381195/516589 O'Brien, Riemenschneider, Kancilia & Lemonidis, P.A. 1686 West Hibiscus Blvd. Melbourne, FL 32901 (407)728-2800 (407)728-0002 (FAX)

E. At its option, to enter into a partnership with other qualified professional associations and/or individuals duly qualified to practice accounting in the State of Florida.

The foregoing paragraphs shall be construed as enumerating both powers and purposes of the corporation; and it is hereby expressly provided that the foregoing enumeration of specific purposes and powers shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the purposes or powers of the professional service corporation otherwise permitted by law and includes the powers and purposes to manufacture, design, construct, own, use, buy, sell, lease, hire and deal in and with articles and property of all kinds and render services of all kinds and to engage in any legal and lawful act or activity for which professional service corporations may be organized under the laws of the State of Florida.

#### ARTICLE III - CAPITAL STOCK

The maximum number of shares of stock that this corporation is authorized to have outstanding at any one (1) time is ten thousand (10,000) shares of common stock, having a nominal or par value of one cent (\$0.01) per share. None of the shares of the corporation may be issued to anyone other than an individual duly licensed as a certified public accountant in the State of Florida, nor may any shareholder sell or transfer his shares in this corporation except to another individual who is duly licensed or otherwise legally authorized to practice accounting as aforesaid.

#### ARTICLE IV - TERM OF EXISTENCE

This corporation is to exist perpetually and shall commence existence upon the date of filing these Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State of Florida.

# ARTICLE V - PRINCIPAL ADDRESS OF INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The initial street address of the principal place of business of the corporation is 1601 Airport Blvd., Suite 2, Melbourne, FL 32901 and the street address of the initial registered office of this corporation is 1686 West Hibiscus Boulevard, Melbourne, Florida 32901. The name of the initial registered agent of this corporation at that address is James M. O'Brien, Esq.

#### ARTICLE VI - DIRECTORS

The business of the corporation shall be managed by its board of directors. The number of directors may be increased or diminished from time to time by bylaws adopted by the shareholders, but shall never be less than one (1). This corporation shall have one (1) director initially. The name and address of the initial director of this corporation is:

NAME

#### **ADDRESS**

Richard D. Awe

1601 Airport Blvd., Suite 2 Melbourne, FL 32901

#### ARTICLE VII - INCORPORATOR

The name and street address of the person signing these Articles of Incorporation as Incorporator, same being a certified public accountant, duly licensed under the laws of the State of Florida to render services as such is:

NAME

**ADDRESS** 

Richard D. Awe

1601 Airport Blvd., Suite 2 Melbourne, FL 32901

#### **ARTICLE VIII INDEMNIFICATION**

Each director and officer, in consideration of his services, shall be indemnified, whether then in office or not, for the reasonable costs and expenses incurred by him in connection with the defense of or for advice concerning any claim asserted or proceeding brought against him by reason of his being or having been a director or officer of the corporation or of any subsidiary of the corporation, whether or not wholly owned; or by any reason of any act or omission to act as such director or officer; provided that he shall not have been derelict in the performance of his duty as to the matter or matters in respect of which such claim is asserted or proceeding brought. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights of which any director or officer may be entitled as a matter of law.

#### ARTICLE IX - INTERLOCKING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

No contract or other transaction between the corporation and any other firm or corporation shall be affected or invalidated by reason of the fact that any one (1) or more of the directors or officers of this corporation is or are interested in, or is a member, shareholder, director or officer, or are members, shareholders, directors or officers of such other firm or corporation; and any director or officer, individually or jointly, may be a party or parties to, or may be interested in, any contract or transaction of this corporation or in which this corporation is interested; and no contract, act or transaction of this corporation with any person or persons, firm, association or corporation, shall be affected or invalidated by reason of the fact that any director or directors or officer or officers of this corporation is a party or are parties to, or interested in such contract, act or association or corporation; and each and every person who may become a director or officer of this corporation is

hereby relieved from any liability that might otherwise exist from thus contracting with this corporation for the benefit of himself or any firm, association or corporation in which he may be in anywise interested.

# ARTICLE X - STOCK RESTRICTIONS

None of the capital stock of this corporation shall be issued to any person who is not a duly licensed certified public accountant in the State of Florida; nor may any shareholder of this corporation enter into a voting trust agreement or any other type agreement vesting another person with the authority to exercise the voting power of any or all of his stock. Any shareholder of this corporation who is legally disqualified to render professional services incident to practice accounting within this state shall become obligated to divest himself of such stock in the corporation in the manner provided by the bylaws of this corporation. The shareholders of this corporation shall have the power to include in the bylaws any regulatory or restrictive provisions regarding the sale, transfer or other disposition of any of the outstanding shares of the corporation by any of its shareholders or in the event of the death of any of its shareholders. No shareholder of this corporation may sell or transfer his shares therein except to another individual who is eligible to be a shareholder of the corporation and such sale or transfer may be made only after the same shall be approved at a shareholders' meeting, especially called for such purpose. If any shareholder shall become legally disqualified to practice accounting in the State of Florida, or be elected or appointed to a public office or accept other employment that places restrictions or limitations upon his continuous rendering of such professional services, such shareholder's shares of stock shall immediately become subject to purchase by the corporation in accordance with the bylaws adopted by the shareholders.

### **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENT**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended in the manner provided by law, including but not limited to those provisions in Florida Statutes Section 621.13. All rights of shareholders are subject to this reservation.

#### ARTICLE XII - BYLAWS

The power to adopt, alter, amend or repeal bylaws shall be vested in the board of directors and the shareholders.

# ARTICLE XIII - APPROVAL OF SHAREHOLDERS REQUIRED FOR MERGER OR CONSOLIDATION

Approval of the shareholders of this corporation to any plan of merger or consolidation shall be required in every case, whether or not such approval be required by law and same shall only, in

any event, be with another domestic professional service corporation organized under Florida Statutes Section 621 to render the professional services to be rendered hereunder; merger or consolidation with a foreign corporation is strictly prohibited.

# ARTICLE XIV - I.R.C. SECTION 1244 STOCK

It is the intent of the Incorporator to qualify the shares issued hereunder as "Section 1244 Stock" pursuant to Section 1244 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Richard D. Awe, the Incorporator, has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 9th day of March, 1998.

RICHARDD AWE

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

Pursuant to Chapter 48.091, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted in compliance with said Act:

FIRST, that RICHARD D. AWE, P.A., desiring to organize under the laws of the State of Florida, with its principal office as indicated by the Articles of Incorporation in the City of Melbourne, County of Brevard, State of Florida, has named JAMES M. O'BRIEN, ESQ. located at 1686 West Hibiscus Boulevard, Melbourne, Florida 32901 as its agent to accept service of process within this State.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this Certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to comply with the provisions of said Act relative to keeping open said office.

JAMES M. O'BRIEN, ESO.

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