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SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REFERENCE:

0163. 5027

DATE:

12-31-98

CONTACT:

CINDY HICKS

FROM:

CORPORATE & CRIMINAL RESEARCH SERVICES

103 N. MERIDIAN STREET

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

EFFECTIVE DATE  
1-1-99

TELEPHONE:

222-1173

SUBJECT:

NHC Healthcare/Merriitt  
Island, Inc

STATE FEES PREPAID WITH CHECK #

4042

FOR \$

78.75

PLEASE FILE:

☒ ARTICLES OF INC.

☐ AMENDMENT

☐ DISSOLUTION

☐ ANNUAL REPORT

☐ MERGER

☐ WITHDRAWAL

☐ QUALIFICATION

☐ LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

☐ ANNUAL REPORT

☐ FICTITIOUS NAME

☐ LIMITED LIABILITY

☐ REINSTATEMENT

☐ TRADEMARK/SERVICE

☐ UCC-1

☐ UCC-3

PROVIDE US WITH:

☐ CERTIFIED COPY

☒ CERTIFICATE OF STATUS

☒ STAMPED COPY

Examiner's Initials

P. Hall

DEC 31 1998

RECEIVED  
DEC 31 AM 11:47  
DIVISION OF CORPORATION

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-12/31/98--01037--016  
\*\*\*\*\*78.75 \*\*\*\*\*78.75

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
NHC HEALTHCARE/MERRITT ISLAND, INC.**

**FILED**  
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SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation hereby forms a corporation under the laws of the State of Florida as follows:

**ARTICLE I**  
Name and Address

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

1-1-99

The name of this Corporation is **NHC HEALTHCARE/MERRITT ISLAND, INC.**  
The mailing address and street address of the Corporation is 500 Crockett Boulevard, Merritt Island, Florida 32953.

**ARTICLE II**  
Term of Existence

The existence of this Corporation shall commence on January 1, 1999, and shall thereafter be perpetual.

**ARTICLE III**  
Purpose

This Corporation is organized for the purpose of transacting any and all lawful business.

**ARTICLE IV**  
Powers

This Corporation shall have the power:

- (a) To have perpetual succession by its corporate name.
- (b) To sue and be sued, complain, and defend in its corporate name in all actions or proceedings.
- (c) To have a corporate seal, which may be altered at pleasure, and to use the same by causing it, or a facsimile thereof, to be impressed, affixed, or in any other manner reproduced.
- (d) To purchase, take, receive, lease, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use, and otherwise deal in and with real or personal property or any interest therein, wherever situated.
- (e) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, create a security interest in, lease, exchange, transfer, and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property and assets.

- (f) To lend money to and use its credit to assist its officers and employees to the full extent permitted by law.
- (g) To purchase, take, receive, subscribe for, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, employ, sell, mortgage, lend, pledge, or otherwise dispose of, and otherwise use and deal in and with, shares or other interests in, or obligations of, other domestic or foreign corporations, associations, partnerships or individuals, or direct or indirect obligations of the United States or any other government, state, territory, governmental district, or municipality or of any instrumentality thereof.
- (h) To make contracts and guaranties and incur liabilities, borrow money at such rates of interest as this Corporation may determine, issue its notes, bonds, and other obligations, and secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of all or any of its property, franchises, and income.
- (i) To lend money for its corporate purposes, invest and reinvest its funds, and take and hold real and personal property as security for the payment of funds so loaned or invested.
- (j) To conduct its business, carry on its operations, and have offices and exercise the powers granted by the Florida Business Corporation Act within or without the State of Florida.
- (k) To elect or appoint officers and agents of this Corporation and define their duties and fix their compensation.
- (l) To make and alter bylaws, not inconsistent with these Articles of Incorporation and the laws of this state, for the administration and regulation of the affairs of this Corporation.
- (m) To make donations for the public welfare or for charitable, scientific or educational purposes.
- (n) To transact any lawful business which the Board of Directors shall find will be in aid of governmental policy.
- (o) To pay pensions and establish and carry out pension plans, profit sharing plans, stock bonus plans, stock option plans, retirement plans, benefit plans and other incentive and compensation plans for any or all of its directors, officers, and employees and for any or all of the directors, officers, and employees of its subsidiaries.
- (p) To provide insurance for its benefit on the life of any of its directors, officers, or employees, or on the life of any shareholder for the purpose of acquiring at his death shares of its stock owned by the shareholder or by the spouse or children of the shareholder.
- (q) To be a promoter, incorporator, general partner, limited partner, member, associate, or manager of any corporation, partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise.
- (r) To have and exercise all powers necessary or convenient to effect its purposes.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Capital Stock**

This Corporation is authorized to issue 1,000 shares of \$.01 par value common stock, which shall be designated Common Shares.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Initial Registered Office and Agent**

The street address of the initial registered office of this Corporation is 201 N. Franklin Street, Suite 2100, Tampa, Florida 33602, and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is John H. Rains, III.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Initial Board of Directors**

This Corporation shall have three (3) directors initially. The number of directors may be either increased or diminished from time to time by the Bylaws, but shall never be less than one (1). The names and addresses of the initial directors of this Corporation are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
W. Andrew Adams	100 Vine Street Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130
Robert G. Adams	100 Vine Street Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130
Richard F. LaRoche, Jr.	100 Vine Street Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Incorporator**

The name and address of the person signing these Articles are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
John H. Rains, III	201 N. Franklin Street, Suite 2100 Tampa, Florida 33602

**ARTICLE IX**

Bylaws

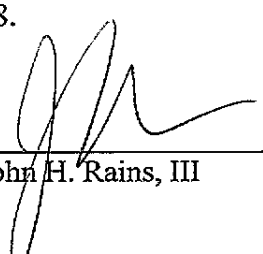
The power to adopt, alter, amend or repeal Bylaws shall be vested in the stockholders of this Corporation.

**ARTICLE X**

Amendment

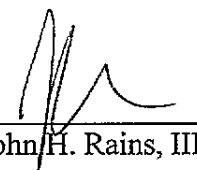
These Articles of Incorporation may be amended in the manner provided by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned subscriber has executed these Articles of Incorporation, this 30th day of December, 1998.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John H. Rains, III

**ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT**

Having been named Registered Agent and designated to accept service of process for the within-named Corporation, at the place designated herein, I hereby agree to act in this capacity, and I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John H. Rains, III

Dated: December 30, 1998

3405-003-626910

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA