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December 30, 1998

Via Federal Express

Department of State Division of Corporations 409 East Gaines Street George Firestone Building Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Incorporation of Cooper, Ridge & Beale, P.A.

A Florida Corporation

Dear Madam/Sir:

Enclosed for filing are an original and one copy of Articles of Incorporation of Cooper, Ridge & Beale, P.A., a Florida corporation. Also enclosed is our firm's check for \$78.75 to cover the following fees:

Filing Fees	35.00	- FERTUIE
Certified Copy	8.75	EFFECTIVE
Registered Agent Designation	<u>35.00</u>	12-3
		· married and a second

\$ 78.75

Please file the original Articles of Incorporation and forward a certified copy to our offices.

Total Fees

DHP/bkb Enclosure 760802/94810

cc: George E. Ridge, Esquire

ery truly yours.

David H. Peek

98 DEC 31 PH I2: 33 Secretary of State No amassee, florid

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SECKETARY OF STATE TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF .

# COOPER, RIDGE & BEALE, P.A.

The undersigned, an attorney duly licensed to render professional services in the state of Florida, for the purpose of forming a professional corporation under the Florida Professional Service Corporation Act, adopts the following Articles of Incorporation.

## ARTICLE I

NAME AND PLACE OF BUSINESS

EFFECTIVE DATE

Name and Place of Business. The name of this corporation is COOPER, RIDGE & BEALE, P.A., with its principal place of business at 200 West Forsyth Street, Suite 1200, Jacksonville, Florida, 32202.

#### ARTICLE II

#### **DURATION**

This corporation shall exist perpetually. Corporate existence shall commence on the date these Articles are executed and acknowledged, except that if these Articles are not filed by the Department of State of the State of Florida within five days, exclusive of legal holidays, after they are executed and acknowledged, corporate existence shall commence upon filing by the Department of State.

#### ARTICLE III

# PURPOSE AND NATURE OF BUSINESS

The purpose for which this corporation is organized and the general nature of the business to be transacted by this corporation is to engage in every phase and aspect of the business of rendering to the public through this corporation's officers, employees and agents who are duly licensed or otherwise legally authorized under the laws of the State of Florida to practice law, the same professional services that an attorney duly licensed under the laws of the State of Florida is authorized to render; provided, however, nothing in these Articles of Incorporation shall be interpreted to prohibit this corporation from investing its funds in real estate, mortgages, stocks, bonds or any other type of investments, or from owning real and personal property necessary for the rendering of such professional services.

#### ARTICLE IV

#### CAPITAL STOCK

- (a) <u>Authorized Capital</u>. The authorized capital stock of this corporation shall consist of 100,000 shares of common stock having a par value of \$.01 per share.
- (b) <u>Limitation on Issuance</u>. None of the shares of capital stock of this corporation may be issued to anyone other than an individual duly licensed or otherwise legally authorized to practice law in the State of Florida.

#### ARTICLE V

#### INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of the initial registered office of this corporation is 1301 Riverplace Boulevard, Suite 1609, Jacksonville, Florida, 32207, and the name of the initial registered agent of this corporation at that address is David H. Peek.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### DIRECTORS

- (a) <u>Number</u>. This corporation shall have two directors initially. The number of directors may be increased or diminished from time to time by the bylaws, but shall never be less than one.
- (b) <u>Initial Director</u>. The name and street address of the member of the first Board of Directors of this corporation are:

Name	Address
William G. Cooper	200 West Forsyth Street, Suite 1200 Jacksonville, Florida 32202
George E. Ridge	200 West Forsyth Street, Suite 1200

(c) <u>Compensation</u>. 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 this corporation may also serve this corporation in any other capacity and receive compensation therefor in any form.

(d) <u>Indemnification</u>. The Board of Directors is hereby specifically authorized to make provision for indemnification of directors, officers, employees and agents to the full extent permitted by law.

#### ARTICLE VII

#### RESTRAINT ON ALIENATION OF SHARES

No shareholder of this corporation may sell, hypothecate or otherwise transfer his shares except to another individual who is eligible to be a shareholder of this corporation.

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### **BYLAWS**

The initial bylaws of this corporation shall be adopted by the directors. Bylaws shall thereafter be adopted, altered, amended or repealed from time to time by either the shareholders or the directors, but the directors shall not alter, amend or repeal any bylaw adopted by the shareholders if the shareholders specifically provide that such bylaw is not subject to amendment or repeal by the directors.

#### ARTICLE IX

# INCORPORATOR

The street address of the incorporator of this corporation is 1301 Riverplace Boulevard, Suite 1609, Jacksonville, Florida, 32207, and the name of the incorporator of this corporation is David H. Peek.

#### ARTICLE X

# **AMENDMENT**

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the incorporator has executed these Articles the 30 day of December, 1998.

David H. Peek

# STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF DUVAL

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	The foregoin	g instrument	was ack	nowledged	before me	this 30	day	of
	Decameer,	1998, by DA	VID H. P	EEK, who i	is either pe	rsonally known	to me	or
	produced the identific	cation describe	ed below a	nd who did	not take an	oath.		

(SEAL)

My Commission Expires:



B KAYE BARNAUSKAS My Commission CC433270 Expires Jan 12, 1999 Bonded by HAI 800-422 1555 Print: B. KAYE BARNAUSKAS

Notary Public, State and County

Aforesaid.

Commission No.\_\_\_\_

PERSONALLY KNOWN

Type of Identification

## ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT

FILED
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Having been named to accept service of process for the above stated corporation, at the place designated in these Articles of Incorporation, 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.

David H. Peek

Dated: December 30, 1998

760802/94806