2841 EXECUTIVE DRIVE • SUITE 120 • CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33762

VOICE (727) 540-0001 FAX (727) 540-0027

August 2, 1999

Florida Secretary of State Division of Corporations 409 East Gaines Street P. O. Box 6327 Tallahassee, FL 32314

RE: Articles of Incorporation of First Financial Associates, Inc.

Dear Sirs/Madam:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the Articles of Incorporation for the above-referenced corporation, together with the filing fee for same. Please file these Articles and return one file stamped copy to this office by regular mail.

Should you have any questions, please call.

Denis A. Cohrs

DAC/bd Enclosure

Sincerel

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF

FIRST FINANCIAL ASSOCIATES, INC.



I, the undersigned, hereby make, subscribe, acknowledge, and file with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a corporation for profit in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE I

Name and Mailing Address

The name of this corporation shall be:

First Financial Associates, Inc.

The address of the principal office and the mailing address of this corporation is:

115 Almedo Way N.E. St. Petersburg, Florida 33704

ARTICLE II

Existence of Corporation

This corporation shall begin existence on the date of filing of these Articles of Incorporation and shall have perpetual existence.

ARTICLE III

Purposes

This corporation may engage in the transaction of any or all lawful business for which corporations may be incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE IV

Powers Powers

The corporation shall have all such powers as may be necessary or desirable to carry out the business of the Corporation, including, but not limited to all those powers enumerated by §607.0302, Florida Statutes (1997), as may be amended from time-to-time.

ARTICLE V

Capital Stock

- (a) The corporation shall have a single class of common stock, all having the same rights and privileges.
- (b) The total number of shares of stock authorized to be issued by the corporation shall be 10,000 shares having a par value of \$1.00 per share. Each of the said shares of stock shall entitle the holder thereof to one (1) vote at any meeting of the stockholders. All or any part of said capital stock may be paid for in cash, by promissory note, in property, in labor or services actually performed for the Corporation or promised to be performed as evidenced by a written contract, valued at a fair valuation to be fixed by the Board of Directors at a meeting called for such purpose. All stock when issued shall

be paid for and shall be nonassessable.

- (c) In the election of directors of this corporation there shall be no cumulative voting of the stock entitled to vote at such election.
- (d) There shall be no preemptive rights granted to the holders of any stock in the corporation.

ARTICLE VI

Registered Office and Registered Agent

The street address of the corporation's initial registered office is:

2841 Executive Drive, Suite 120 Clearwater, Florida 33762

and the name of the corporation's initial registered agent at such address is:

Denis A. Cohrs.

The corporation may change its registered office or its registered agent or both by filing with the Department of State of the State of Florida a statement complying with Section 607.0502, Florida Statutes (1997), as may be amended from time-to-time.

ARTICLE VII

Initial Board of Directors

The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors shall be one (1), and the name and address of each person who is to serve as a member thereof is as

follows:

Name

<u>Address</u>

Valarie K. Nussbaum

115 Almedo Way N.E. St. Petersburg, Florida 33704

The number of directors constituting any subsequent Board of Directors shall be determined in accordance with the Bylaws of the corporation and without amendment to these Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE VIII

Incorporators

The name and address of each incorporator of this corporation is as follows:

Name

<u>Address</u>

Valarie K. Nussbaum

115 Almedo Way N.E. St. Petersburg, Florida 33704

ARTICLE IX

<u>Indemnification</u>

The corporation shall indemnify any officer or director, or former officer or director, to the full extent permitted by Section 607.0850, Florida Statutes (1997), as amended from time-to-time.

ARTICLE X

Control Share Acquisitions

The corporation does hereby elect, pursuant to Subsection 607.0902(5), Florida Statutes (1997), to exempt itself from the provisions pertaining to control share acquisitions as contained in Sections 607.0902, 607.1301, 607.1302, and 607.1320, Florida Statutes (1997).

ARTICLE XI

Amendment of Articles of Incorporation

The corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in these Articles of Incorporation in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by statute, and all rights conferred upon the stockholders herein are subject to this reservation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the undersigned, have executed these Articles for the uses and purposes therein stated.

Valarie K. Nussbaum

Incorporator

Acceptance of Registered Agent

Having been named to accept service of process for the above-named corporation at a place designated in these Articles of Incorporation, I hereby accept to act in this

capacity, and agree to comply with the provisions of Section 607.0505, Florida Statutes (1997).

DATED this day of August, 1999.

Denis A. Cohrs, Registered Agent

DATED this day of August, 1999.

Registered Agent

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF PINELLAS)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this A day of August, 1999, personally appeared Valarie K. Nussbaum and Denis A. Cohrs, to me well known to be the persons described in and who signed the foregoing Articles of Incorporation and Acceptance of Registered Agent, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein expressed and who () are personally known to me or () produced a Florida Driver's License as identification.

WITNESS my hand and official seal the date aforesaid.

Repecca S. Dillahunt

Notary Public for State of Florida

My Commission Expires:

(SEAL)

