

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF POLK COUNTY, INC.**

The undersigned hereby forms a corporation not for profit under Chapter 617 of the Florida Statutes, and, for these purposes, does hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the corporation shall be LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF POLK COUNTY, INC.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The corporation is being formed to improve our systems of government, and impact public policies through citizen education and advocacy for the benefit of the public and the community. It is a non-partisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The corporation shall be operated as a social welfare organization within the meaning of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

In no event shall the corporation engage in any activity which would be contrary to the purposes and activities permitted to be engaged in by any organization the activities of which are exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as hereafter amended, and the applicable rules and regulations thereunder (the "Code").

The corporation shall not be operated for the primary purpose of carrying on an unrelated trade or business as defined in Section 513 of the Code.

No compensation shall be paid to any member, officer, director, trustee, creator or organizer of the corporation or substantial contributor to it except as a reasonable allowance for services actually rendered to or for the corporation.

The corporation shall not conduct its business or affairs in such a manner as to discriminate

against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or age. It is the specific intention of the incorporator that the purposes and application of the corporation be as broad as permitted by Section 617.0301 of the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, but only to the extent that the corporation qualifies as a tax exempt organization within the meaning of Section 501(c)(4) of the Code.

The corporation is organized to serve public interests. Accordingly, it shall not be operated for the benefit of private interests.

### ARTICLE III - POWERS

The corporation shall have all the powers granted to not for profit corporations under the laws of the State of Florida which are necessary or convenient to effect any and all purposes for which the corporation is organized. In no event, however, shall the corporation have or exercise any power which would cause it not to qualify as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(4) of the Code; nor shall the corporation engage directly or indirectly in any activity which would cause the loss of such qualification. No part of the assets or the net earnings, current or accumulated, of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private individual.

### ARTICLE IV- MEMBERS

The corporation shall have members, with membership requirements as determined by the Bylaws. The manner by which the members may act shall be included in the Bylaws.

### ARTICLE V - TERM OF EXISTENCE

The corporation shall have perpetual existence.

### ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The affairs of the corporation shall be managed on a day-to-day basis by officers elected by a majority vote of the members. The officers of the corporation shall consist of a President, Secretary and Treasurer. Such other officers and assistant officers and agents (including but not

limited to Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers) as may be deemed necessary may be elected or appointed by the members from time to time. The length of terms to be served, qualifications, manner of election and removal of officers shall be set forth in the Bylaws of this corporation.

ARTICLE VII - FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The number of persons constituting the first Board of Directors shall be set by the Bylaws; provided, however, that the number of directors shall never be less than three (3). The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as the initial Board of Directors until their successors are duly elected and qualified in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

The length of terms to be served, qualifications, number of Directors and the manner of their election and removal shall be set forth in the Bylaws of this Corporation.

ARTICLE VIII – INITIAL OFFICERS

The names of the initial officers who are to serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>
_____	President
_____	Secretary

ARTICLE IX - BYLAWS

The Bylaws of the corporation shall be initially approved by a majority vote of the members, and thereafter may be altered or rescinded by a majority vote of the members at a duly called meeting of the members in accordance with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

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

ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

Upon the liquidation or dissolution of the corporation, its assets, if any, remaining after payment (or provision for payment) of all liabilities of the corporation, shall be distributed to, and only to, any one or more organizations qualified as exempt under Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Code as determined by the Board of Directors. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be distributed by the Circuit Court of the County in which the principal office of the corporation is located, exclusively for the purposes described herein, to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine. No part of the assets or the net earnings, current or accumulated, of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of a private individual.

ARTICLE XII - INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of the initial registered office of the corporation shall be:

GrayRobinson, P.A.  
One Lake Morton Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33801

The name of the initial registered agent of the corporation shall be:

Sandra G. Sheets, Esq.

ARTICLE XIII - CORPORATION'S PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS

The corporation's principal office and mailing address shall be:

PO Box 934  
Lakeland, Florida 33802

ARTICLE XIV - INCORPORATOR

The following is the name and street address of the incorporator signing these Articles:

Sandra G. Sheets, Esq.  
One Lake Morton Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33801

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I submit these Articles of Incorporation and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Florida Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in Section 817.155 of the Florida Statutes. I have set my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE AS REGISTERED AGENT**

Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF POLK COUNTY, INC. at the place designated in Article XII of these Articles of Incorporation, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Dated: March \_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Sheets, Esq.