

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR A STOCK CORPORATION**

**FIRST:** The undersigned \_\_\_\_\_

whose address is \_\_\_\_\_, being at least eighteen years of age, do(es) hereby form a corporation under the laws of the State of Maryland.

**SECOND:** The name of the corporation is

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THIRD:** The purposes for which the corporation is formed are as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FOURTH:** The street address of the principal office of the corporation in Maryland is

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FIFTH:** The name of the resident agent of the corporation in Maryland is

\_\_\_\_\_

whose address is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIXTH:** The corporation has authority to issue \_\_\_\_\_ shares at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ par value per share.

**SEVENTH:** The number of directors of the corporation shall be \_\_\_\_\_ which number may be increased or decreased pursuant to the bylaws of the corporation. The name(s) of the director(s) who shall act until the first meeting or until their successors are duly chosen and qualified is/are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have signed these articles and acknowledge the same to be my act.

I hereby consent to my designation in this document as resident agent for this corporation.

**SIGNATURE(S) OF INCORPORATOR(S):**

**SIGNATURE OF RESIDENT AGENT LISTED IN FIFTH:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Filing Party's Name and Return Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **GUIDELINES FOR DRAFTING ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR A "STOCK" CORPORATION**

This type of corporation would be most appropriate for two or more individuals engaged in an enterprise with the intention of making a profit. The guide is to be used with the "Articles of Incorporation for a STOCK Corporation". Each item describes how to complete a blank in the sample. The sample is the minimum necessary to incorporate. If you wish to expand on any item consult with your lawyer, accountant or financial advisor. Legal questions of a general nature cannot be answered by the staff of this Department.

**FIRST:** Insert the name and address of the individual(s) who are incorporating. One or more individuals can act as incorporators. The only requirement is that they be at least 18 years old. The address should be one where mail can be received. It can be anywhere, even a foreign country.

**SECOND:** Insert the corporate name. The corporate name must contain "Corporation", "Incorporated", "Limited", "Inc.", "Corp.", or "Ltd." The name must be distinguishable from all other entities on record in Maryland. You may conduct a name search at: [www.dat.maryland.gov](http://www.dat.maryland.gov) or call the department at (410) 767-1330 for a non-binding check for name availability. Acceptance of a name guarantees only that the corporation will have that name. It does not mean you cannot be sued for trade name or trade mark infringement. For more information on this consult your attorney.

**THIRD:** Give a one or two sentence description of the business of the corporation.

**FOURTH:** Insert the address of the principal place of business. It must be a specific address in Maryland and must include street, city and zip code. It cannot be a post office box.

**FIFTH:** This is the name and address of an agent designated to accept service of process if the corporation is summoned to court for any reason. The agent must be either an adult citizen of Maryland or another existing Maryland corporation. The address must include the street, city and zip code. The address must be in Maryland and cannot be a post office box. A corporation cannot act as its own resident agent. That person must also sign below.

**SIXTH:** Insert the number of shares of stock the corporation will have the authority to issue as well as the par value of each share. If the aggregate par value (number of shares multiplied by the par value) exceeds \$100,000, or if over 5,000 shares of stock without par value are authorized, the filing fee will increase. If stock without par value is used, insert "\$0" as the par value per share. Stock is the means by which ownership of the corporation is divided and assigned. Generally, the owner of 20% of the outstanding stock of the corporation "owns" 20% of the corporation and exercises 20% control. Additionally, stock is required to take advantage of certain tax options. Questions about stock should be directed to your attorney, accountant or financial advisor.

**SEVENTH:** Insert the number of directors and the names of those adult individuals who will be directors. These individuals do not have to be residents of Maryland.

**SIGNATURE(S) OF INCORPORATOR(S):** Have all the individuals named in FIRST sign here. No one else may sign here. No witness or notary is required.

**SIGNATURE OF RESIDENT AGENT:** The person listed as resident agent in Fifth must sign here.

**RETURN TO:** State where the receipt, certified copies, certificates of status and the original articles are to be sent.

**FEES:** The fee to file Articles of Incorporation is \$100.00 plus a \$20.00 organization and capitalization fee for a total of \$120.00, unless the aggregate par value of the stock exceeds \$100,000 or, if no par value stock is used, the corporation has authority to issue more than 5,000 shares. If stock exceeds these amounts, call 410-767-1340 for the fee. Your original document will be destroyed after our process unless you include \$5.00 for the return of the document to you.

## Maryland State Department of Assessments & Taxation

**NOTES:** Due to the fact that the laws governing the formation and operation of business entities and the effectiveness of a UCC Financing Statement involves more than filing documents with our office, we suggest you consult an attorney, accountant or other professional. State Department of Assessments & Taxation staff cannot offer business counseling or legal advice.

Regarding annual documents to be filed with the Department of Assessments & Taxation: All domestic and foreign legal entities must submit a Personal Property Return to the Department. Failure to file a Personal Property Return will result in forfeiture of your right to conduct business in Maryland

### **Where and how do I file my documents?**

By mail or in-person submissions should directed to:  
State Department of Assessments and Taxation, Charter Division  
301 W. Preston Street; 8th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201-2395

All checks must be made out to State Department of Assessments and Taxation. The cost to file documents should be included with the form. Also a schedule of filing fees is available online at <http://dat.maryland.gov/businesses/Documents/FEES.pdf>

Online business registration and document filing via the Maryland EGov Business portal. See the Maryland Business Express link on the homepage at [www.dat.maryland.gov](http://www.dat.maryland.gov)

**The Department of Assessments and Taxation no longer accepts via facsimile (fax) corporate documents for filing or document copy request.**

### **How long will it take to process my documents?**

Regular document processing time is 4- 6 weeks.

Expedited processing request will be handled within 7 business days. The expedited service fee is an additional \$50.00 for each document; other fees may also apply.

Hand-delivered documents in limited quantities receive same day expedited service between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You must be in line no later than 4:15 p.m. in order to receive service that same day.

Online filed document are considered expedited will be processed within 7 business days. This electronic government service includes a 3% service/convenience fee for payments processed through the EGov portal.

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