

State of Florida



Department of State

I certify the attached is a true and correct copy of the Articles of Incorporation of EL MAR OF NORTH REDINGTON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida corporation, filed on March 4, 2020, as shown by the records of this office.

The document number of this corporation is N20000003202.

Given under my hand and the
Great Seal of the State of Florida
at Tallahassee, the Capital, this the
Nineteenth day of March, 2020



Laurel M. Lee

Laurel M. Lee

Secretary of State

2021 MAR -4 PM 12:26

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
EL MAR OF NORTH REDINGTON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION , INC.**

The undersigned subscribers by these Articles do hereby associate themselves for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, and hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of the corporation is **El Mar of North Redington Condominium Association , Inc.** For convenience, the corporation shall be referred to in this instrument as the "Association", these Articles of Incorporation as the "Articles", and the Bylaws of the Association as the "Bylaws".

**ARTICLE II
ADDRESS**

The principal place of business of the corporation shall be located at 17035 Gulf Blvd, N. Redington Beach, FL 33708, but the corporation may maintain offices and transact business in such other places within or without the State of Florida as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE III
PURPOSE**

The purpose for which the Association is organized is to provide an entity pursuant to the Florida Condominium Act (the "Act") for the operation of **El Mar, A Condominium**, which condominium is being created on the land described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto or so much thereof as shall be submitted to condominium ownership from time to time (the "Condominium"). The Developer of said Condominium is **Benchmark El Mar Apartments, LLC**, a Florida limited liability company (the "Developer").

ARTICLE IV
DEFINITIONS

The terms used in these Articles shall have the same definitions and meaning as those set forth in the Act, the Declaration of Condominium of the Condominium, and the Bylaws of the Association, unless the context otherwise requires.

ARTICLE V
POWERS

The powers of the Association shall include and be governed by the following:

5.01 **General.** The Association shall have all of the common law and statutory powers of a corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida that are not in conflict with the provisions of these Articles or of the Act.

5.02 **Enumeration.** The Association shall have all the powers and duties set forth in the Act and all of the powers and duties not inconsistent with the Act reasonably necessary to operate the Condominium pursuant to the Declaration of Condominium therefor, and as it may be amended from time to time, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) To make and collect assessments and other charges against members as unit owners, to enforce such assessments in the manner provided for by law and the Declaration of Condominium and to use the proceeds thereof in the exercise of its powers and duties.

(b) To buy, own, operate, lease, sell and trade both real and personal property as may be necessary or convenient in the administration of the condominium.

(c) To maintain, repair, replace, reconstruct, add to, and operate the condominium and other property acquired or leased by the Association for use by unit owners, including specifically the surface water management system as permitted by Pinellas County.

(d) To purchase insurance upon the condominium and insurance for the protection of the Association, its officers, directors, and members as unit owners, and such other parties as the Association may determine in the best interest of the Association.

(e) To make and amend reasonable rules and regulations for the maintenance, conservation and use of the condominium and for the health, comfort, safety and welfare of the unit owners.

(f) To approve or disapprove the leasing, transfer, mortgaging, ownership and possession of units as may be provided by the Declaration of Condominium.

(g) To enforce by legal means the provisions of the Act, the Declaration, these articles, the Bylaws, and the rules and regulations for the use of the condominium property, and to sue or be sued as described in the Act.

(h) To contract for the management of the condominium, and to delegate to the party with whom such contract has been entered into of all the powers and duties of the Association, except (i) those which require specific approval of the Board of Directors or the membership of the Association; (ii) those which are incapable of being delegated as same may be contrary to the Declaration of Condominium or the Bylaws; (iii) those which are contrary to the Statutes of the State of Florida; and (iv) wherein a delegation is power and duty which by its very nature is a decision or fiduciary responsibility to be made by the Board of Directors and is therefore not susceptible of delegation.

(i) To employ personnel to perform the services required for proper operation of the condominium.

(j) To enter into agreements with other parties for easements or sharing arrangements or recreational facilities as the Board of Directors may deem in the best interests of the condominium.

(k) If, by the provisions of Chapter 617, Florida Statutes or Chapter 718, Florida Statutes, a power or authority may only be exercised by the Association if such power or authority is expressly set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, and such power or authority is not specifically set forth elsewhere herein, then this provision shall be construed to be that enabling provision, and the Association shall have such power or authority as if the same shall have been fully set forth herein.

5.03 Assets of the Association. All funds and the titles of all properties acquired by the Association and their proceeds shall be for the benefit and use of the members in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, these Articles, and the Bylaws.

5.04 Limitation. The powers of the Association shall be subject to and shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, including all exhibits thereto, and the Bylaws.

5.05 Required Compliance. All additions, alternations or improvements of the Condominium Property, including the Common Areas, whether by Unit Owners, the Association or the Developer, shall be in compliance with all applicable rules, regulations, laws, ordinances and requirements established from time to time by the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA"), the National Flood Insurance Program ("NFIP"), the Southwest Florida Water Management District ("SWFWMD") and the Town of North Redington Beach.

ARTICLE VI
MEMBERS

6.01 **Membership.** The members of the Association shall consist of all of the record owners of legal title to the units in the Condominium; and after termination of the condominium, if same shall occur, the members of the Association shall consist of those who are members at the time of the termination, and their successors and assigns. Membership shall be established by the acquisition of legal record fee title to a condominium parcel in the condominium, whether by conveyance, devise, judicial decree, or otherwise, subject to the provisions of the Declaration, and by the recordation amongst the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida, of the deed or other instrument establishing the acquisition and designating the parcel affected thereby. The new owner designated in such deed or other instrument shall thereupon become a member of the Association and the membership of a prior owner as to the parcel designated shall be terminated.

6.02 **Assignment.** The share of a member in the funds and assets of the Association, in the common elements and the common surplus, and membership in this Association, cannot be assigned, hypothecated, or transferred in any manner whatsoever except as an appurtenance to the unit for which that share is held.

6.03 **Voting.** On all matters upon which the membership shall be entitled to vote, there shall be only one (1) vote for each unit, which vote shall be exercised or cast in the manner provided by the Declarations and Bylaws. Any person or entity owning more than one (1) unit shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each unit owned.

6.04 **Meetings.** The Bylaws shall provide for an annual meeting of members, and make provision for regular and special meetings of members other than the annual meeting.

6.05 **Class of Members.** There shall only be one class of members in the Association.

ARTICLE VII
TERM OF EXISTENCE

The Association shall have perpetual existence.

ARTICLE VIII
SUBSCRIBERS

The names and addresses of the subscriber to these Articles is as follows:

NAME

ADDRESS

Jeffrey A. Withee

4053 Maple Road, Suite 200
Amherst, NY 14226

ARTICLE IX
OFFICERS

The affairs of the Association shall be administered by the officers as designated in the Bylaws. The officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors of the Association at its first meeting following the annual meeting of the members of the Association, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The Bylaws may provide for the removal from office of officers, for filling vacancies, and for the duties of the officers. The names and addresses of the initial officers who shall serve until their successors are designated by the Board of Directors are as follows:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
President	Margaret E. Shotwell	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226
Vice President	Steven J. Longo	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226
Secretary	Jeffrey A. Withee	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226
Treasurer	Jeffrey A. Withee	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226

ARTICLE X
DIRECTORS

10.01 Number and Qualification. The property, business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by a board consisting of the number of directors determined by the bylaws, but which shall consist of not less than three (3) directors. Except for directors appointed by the Developer, all directors must be members of the Association.

10.02 Duties and Powers. All of the duties and powers of the Association existing under the Act, the Declaration, these Articles and the Bylaws shall be exercised exclusively by the Board of Directors, its agents, contractors or employees, subject only to approval by unit owners when that approval is specifically required.

10.03 Election; Removal. Directors of the Association shall be elected at the annual meeting of the members in the manner determined by the Bylaws. Directors may be removed and vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled in the manner provided by the Bylaws.

10.04 Term of Developer's Directors. The Developer of the condominium shall appoint the members of the first Board of Directors who shall hold office for the periods described in the Bylaws. The Developer has the right retain control of the Association after a majority of the units have been sold as described in the Bylaws.

10.05 First Directors. The names and addresses of the members of the first Board of Directors, who shall hold office until their successors are elected and have qualified, are as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Margaret E. Shotwell	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226
Steven J. Longo	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226
Jeffrey A. Withee	4053 Maple Road, Suite 200 Amherst, NY 14226

ARTICLE XI **INDEMNIFICATION**

11.01 Indemnity. The Association shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending or contemplated action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the Association) by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, employee, officer or agent of the Association, against expenses (including attorneys' fees and appellate attorneys' fees) judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interest of the Association; and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he had not reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful; except, that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for gross negligence or willful misfeasance or malfeasance in the performance of his duty to the Association unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine, upon application, that despite the adjudication of liability, but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem

proper. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, or itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interest of the Association; and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

11.02 Expenses. To the extent that a director, officer, employee or agent of the Association has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Section 11.01 above, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees and appellate attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith.

11.03 Approval. Any indemnification under Section 11.01 above (unless ordered by the court) shall be made by the Association only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because he has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 11.01 above. Such determination shall be made (a) by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties of such action, suit or proceeding, or (b) if such quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (c) by a majority of the members.

11.04 Advances. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Association in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding as authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the directors, officer, employee or agent to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that he is entitled to be indemnified by the Association as authorized in this article.

11.05 Miscellaneous. The indemnification provided by this article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of members or otherwise, both as to action in his official capacity while holding such office, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefits of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

11.06 Insurance. The Association shall have the power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Association, or is or was serving at the request of the Association as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity, or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the Association would have the power to indemnify him against such liability under the provisions of this article.

ARTICLE XII
BYLAWS

The first Bylaws of the Association shall be adopted by the Board of Directors and may be altered, amended or rescinded in the manner provided by the Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII
AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these articles shall be proposed and adopted in the following manner:

13.01 Notice. Notice of the subject matter of a proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of any meeting at which a proposed amendment is to be considered.

13.02 Adoption. A resolution for the adoption of a proposed amendment may be proposed either by a majority of the Board of Directors or by not less than one-third (1/3) of the members of the Association. The approval of a proposed amendment must be by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the voting interests of the Association.

13.03 Limitation. No amendment shall make any changes in the qualifications for membership nor in the voting rights or property rights of members, nor any changes in Sections 6.03 and 6.04 of Article VI hereof, without approval in writing by all the voting interests of the Association and the joinder of all record owners of mortgages upon units in the Condominium. No amendment shall be made that is in conflict with these Articles or the Declaration, nor shall any amendment make any changes which would in any way effect any of the rights, privileges, powers or options herein provided in favor of or reserved to the Developer, or an affiliate or beneficiary of the Developer, unless the Developer shall join in the execution of the amendment.

12.04 Recording. A copy of each amendment shall be filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to the provisions of the applicable Florida Statutes, and a copy certified by the Secretary of State shall be recorded in the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida.

ARTICLE XIV
DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution or final liquidation of the Association, the assets, both real and personal of the Association, consisting of the surface water management system, including drainage easements, if any, shall, upon request by the appropriate public agency or utility, be dedicated to such public agency or utility to be devoted to purposes, as nearly as practicable, the same as those to which they were required to be devoted by the

Association. At the time of the filing of these Articles, no such drainage easements exist. In the event that such dedication is refused acceptance, such assets shall be granted, conveyed and assigned to any non-profit corporation, association, trust or other organization, to be devoted to purposes as nearly as practicable to the same as those to which they were required to be devoted by the Association. No such disposition of Association properties shall be effective to divest or diminish any right or title of any unit owner vested in him under the recorded Declaration of Condominium and deed applicable hereto, unless made in accordance with the provisions of such Declaration of Condominium and deeds.


ARTICLE XV
INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS
AND NAME OF REGISTERED AGENT

The initial registered office of this corporation shall be located at

The Cohrs Law Group, P.A.
2841 Executive Drive, Suite 120
Clearwater, FL 33762


and the initial registered agent of the corporation at that address is **Denis A. Cohrs**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the subscriber has affixed his signature hereto this 3rd
day of March, 2020.



Jeffrey A. Withee, Incorporator

HAVING BEEN NAMED TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS FOR THE ABOVE-NAMED CORPORATION, AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED IN THIS CERTIFICATE, THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY AGREES TO ACT IN THAT CAPACITY, AND FURTHER AGREES TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ALL STATUTES RELATIVE TO THE PROPER AND COMPLETE PERFORMANCE OF THE DUTIES OF SUCH OFFICE.



Denis A. Cohrs, Registered Agent

EXHIBIT A
TO
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
EL MAR OF NORTH REDINGTON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION

Lots 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, Block "B" of North Redington Beach Section A, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 24, Page 46, of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida.