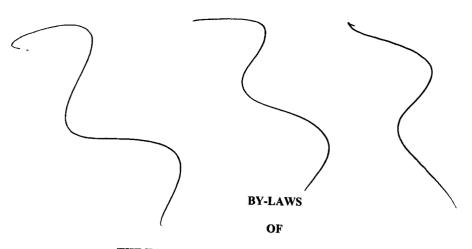
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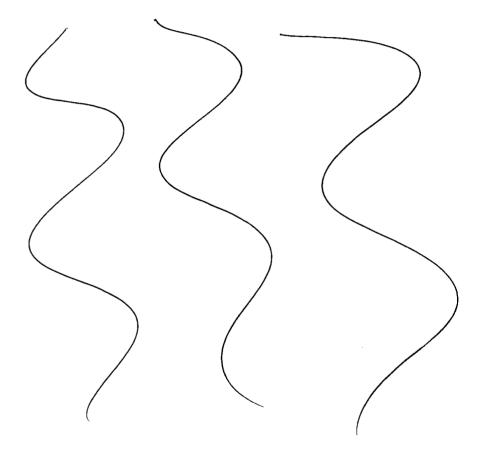
# DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS

**FOR** 

TATE RESERVE



THE TATE RESERVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.



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#### **BY-LAWS**

OF

# THE TATE RESERVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

# ARTICLE 1: NAME, PRINCIPAL OFFICE, AND DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 Name. The name of the corporation is The Tate Reserve Community Association, Inc. (the "Association"), a Georgia nonprofit corporation.
- 1.2 <u>Principal Office</u>. The principal office of the Association shall be located in the State of Georgia. The Association may have such other offices, either within or outside the State of Georgia, as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the Association may require.
- 1.3 <u>Definitions</u>. The words used in these By-Laws shall be given their normal, commonly understood definitions. Capitalized terms shall have the same meaning set forth in that Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for The Tate Reserve filed in the Public Records, as it may be amended (the "Declaration"), unless the context indicates otherwise.

# ARTICLE 2: ASSOCIATION: MEMBERSHIP, MEETINGS, QUORUM, VOTING, PROXIES

- 2.1 <u>Membership</u>. The Association shall have two (2) classes of memberships, Class "A" and incorporated by this reference.
- 2.2 <u>Place of Meetings</u>. Meetings of the Association shall be held at the principal office of the Association or at such other suitable place convenient to the Members as the Board may designate, either within the Properties or as convenient as is possible and practical.
- 2.3 <u>Annual Meetings</u>. The first meeting of the Association, whether a regular or special meeting, shall be held within one (1) year from the date of incorporation of the Association. Meetings shall be of the Members. Subsequent meetings shall be held annually on a date and at a time set by the Board.
- 2.4 Special Meetings. The president may call special meetings. In addition, it shall be the duty of the president to call a special meeting within thirty (30) days if so directed by resolution of the Board or upon a petition signed by Members representing at least twenty percent (20%) of the total Class "A" votes in the Association or upon written request of the Declarant.
- Notice of Meetings. Written notice stating the place, day, and time of any meeting of the Members shall be delivered to each Member not less than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the president or the secretary or the officers or person calling the meeting. If mailed, the notice of meeting shall be deemed delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the Member at the address appearing on the records of the Association.

In the case of a special meeting or when otherwise required by statute or these By-Laws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except as stated in the notice.

- 2.6 <u>Waiver of Notice</u>. Waiver of notice of a meeting of the Members shall be deemed the equivalent of proper notice. Any Member may, in writing, waive notice of any meeting of the Members, either before or after such meeting. Attendance at a meeting by a Member shall be deemed a waiver by such Member of any objection as to notice of the time, date, and place thereof, unless such Member specifically objects to lacks of proper notice of all business transacted at such meeting unless an objection on the basis of lack of proper notice is raised before the business is put to a vote.
- 2.7 Adjournment of Meetings. If any meeting of the Association cannot be held because a quorum is not present, Members representing a Majority of the votes represented at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days from the time the original meeting was called. At the reconvened meeting, if a quorum is present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called. If a time and place for reconvening the meeting is not set by those in attendance at the original meeting or if for any reason a new date is set for reconvening the meeting after adjournment, notice of the time and place for reconvening the meeting shall be given to Members in the manner prescribed for regular meetings.
- 2.8 <u>Voting</u>. The voting rights of the Members shall be as set forth in the Declaration and in these By-Laws, and such voting rights provisions are specifically incorporated by this reference. The Board may adopt policies and procedures regarding the methods of casting votes, such as written ballots, secret ballots or computer access.
- 2.9 <u>List for Voting</u>. After setting a record date for notice of a meeting, the Board shall prepare an alphabetical list of the names of the Members. The list shall show the address of the Member and the number of votes each is entitled to vote at the meeting. The list for voting shall be made available for inspection in accordance with Georgia law.
- 2.10 Proxies. Any Member who is entitled to cast only the vote(s) for such Member's Unit(s) pursuant to the Declaration may cast such vote in person or by proxy. Such vote may be cast in person (if a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or trust through any officer, director, partner, member, manager or fiduciary duly authorized to act on behalf of the Member) or by proxy, subject to the limitations of Georgia law relating to use of general proxies and subject to any specific provision to the contrary in the Declaration or these By-Laws. Every proxy shall be in writing specifying the Unit(s) for which it is given, signed by the Member or such Member's duly authorized attorney-in-fact, dated, and filed with the secretary of the Association prior to the meeting for which it is to be effective. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the proxy, a proxy shall be presumed to cover all votes which the Member giving such proxy is entitled to cast, and in the event of any conflict between two (2) or more proxies purporting to cover the same voting rights, the later dated proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance of any Unit for which it was given; upon receipt of notice by the secretary of the death or judicially declared incompetence of a Member who is a natural person: upon written revocation; or eleven (11) months from the date of the proxy, unless a shorter period is specified in the proxy.
- 2.11 Quorum. The presence of twenty percent (20%) of the Class "A" votes entitled to be cast shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Association.

The Members present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough Members to leave less than a quorum, provided that any action taken is approved by at least a Majority of the votes required to constitute a quorum.

2.12 <u>Conduct of Meetings</u>. The president shall preside over all meetings of the Association, and the secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and record in a minute book all resolutions adopted and all other transactions occurring at such meetings.

2.13 Action without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted by law to be taken at a meeting of the Members may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote in written consent specifically authorizing the proposed action is signed by all Members entitled to vote on such matter. Such consents shall be signed within sixty (60) days after receipt of the earliest dated consent, dated and delivered to the Association at its principal place of business in the State of Georgia. Such consents shall be filed with the minutes of the Association and shall have the same force and effect as a vote of the Members at a meeting. Within ten (10) days after receiving authorization for any action by written consent, the secretary shall give written notice to all Members summarizing the material features of the authorized action.

# ARTICLE 3: BOARD OF DIRECTORS: NUMBER, POWERS, METTINGS

#### A. Composition and Selection

- 3.1 Governing Body: Composition. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors. Each director shall have one (1) equal vote. Except with respect to directors appointed by the Class "B" Member or serving as a representative of the Declarant, the directors shall be eligible Members or residents; provided however, no Owner or resident shall be eligible to serve as a director if any assessment for such Owner's or resident's Unit is delinquent. A "resident" shall be any natural person eighteen (18) years of age or older whose principal place of residence is a Unit within the Properties. In the case of a Member which is not a natural person, any officer, director, partner, member, manager, employee, or fiduciary of such Member shall be eligible to serve as a director unless otherwise specified by written notice to the Association signed by such Member, provided that no Member may have more than one (1) such representation on the Board at a time, except in the case of directors appointed by or serving as a representative of the Class "B"
- 3.2 <u>Number of Directors</u>. The Board shall consist of two (2) directors, as provided in Sections 3.3 and 3.5 below. The initial Board shall be appointed by the Class "B" Member as provided in Section 3.3.
- 3.3 <u>Directors During Class "B" Control Period.</u> Subject to the provisions of Section 3.5, the directors shall be selected by the Class "B" Member acting in it s sole discretion and shall serve at the pleasure of the Class "B" Member during the Class "B" Control Period. Directors appointed by or serving as a representative of the Class "B" Member or the Declarant shall not be subject to the qualifications for directors set forth in Section 3.1.

#### 3.4 Nomination and Election Procedures.

(a) Nomination of Directors. The Board may establish a nominating committee consisting of a chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board, and three (3) or more Members or representatives of Members. If established, the nominating committee shall be appointed by the Board not less than thirty (30) days prior to each election to serve a term of one (1) year or until their successors are appointed, and such appointment shall be announced at each such election. A nominating committee shall make as many nominations for each election to the Board as it shall in its discretion determine, but in no event less than the number of positions to be filled as provided in Section 3.5 below. The nominating committee shall nominate separate slates for the directors, if any, to be elected at large by all Members. In making its nominations, a nominating committee shall use reasonable efforts to nominate candidates representing the diversity which exists within the pool of potential candidates.

Nominations shall also be permitted from the floor at a meeting of the Members. All candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity to communicate their qualifications to the Members and to solicit votes. Directors appointed by or serving as a representative of the Class "B" Member or the Declarant shall not be subject to these nomination requirements.

(b) <u>Election Procedures.</u> Each member entitled to vote shall cast one (1) vote for each Director position up for election. There shall be no cumulative voting. The number of candidates equal to

the number of positions to be filled receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected. Directors may be elected to serve any number of consecutive terms.

- 3.5 <u>Election and Term of Office</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision of these By-Laws:
- (a) Within ninety (90) days after Class "A" Members, other than Builders, own seventy-five percent (75%) of the Units permitted by the Master Plan for the property described in Exhibits "A" and "B" of the Declaration and certificates of occupancy have been issued thereon, or whenever the Class "B" Member earlier determines, the number of the Board of Directors shall increase to three (3). The Association shall hold an election at which the Members shall be entitled to elect one (1) of the three (3) directors, who shall be an at-large director and shall serve a term of two (2). The remaining two (2) directors shall be appointees of the Class "B" Member.
- (b) Not later than the first annual meeting after the termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the Association shall hold an election at which the Members shall be entitled to elect the remaining two (2) of the three (3) directors.
- (c) All directors elected by the Members shall be elected for terms of two (2) years. The directors shall hold office until their respective successors have been elected.
- 3.6 Removal of Directors and Vacancies. Any director elected by the Members may be removed, with or without cause, by Members representing a majority of the votes. Any director whose removal is sought shall be given notice prior to any meeting called for that purpose. Upon removal of a director, a successor shall be elected by the Members to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of such director.

Any director elected by Members who has three (3) or more consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings, or who is more than thirty (30) days delinquent (or is the resident of a Unit that is delinquent or is an officer, director, partner, member, employee, or trust officer of a Member who is delinquent) in the payment of any assessment or other charge due the Association, may be removed by a Majority of the directors, and the Board may appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting, at which time the members may elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

In the event of the death, disability, or resignation of an elected director or a vote to increase the number of directors, the Board may declare a vacancy and appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting, at which time the Members may elect a successor for the remainder of the term. Any director that the Board appoints shall be selected from among the Members.

This Section shall not apply to directors appointed by the Class "B" Member or to any director serving as a representative of the Declarant. The Class "B" Member or the Declarant shall be entitled to appoint a successor to fill *any* vacancy on the Board resulting from the death, disability or resignation of a director appointed by or elected as a representative of the Class "B" Member or the Declarant.

### B. Meetings.

- 3.7 <u>Organizational Meetings</u>. Within ten (10) days after the election or appointment of new directors, the Board shall hold an organizational meeting at such time and place as the Board shall set.
- 3.8 Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such time and place as a Majority of the directors shall determine, but a least one (1) such meeting shall be held during each quarter.
- 3.9 <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board shall be held when called by written notice signed by the president or vice president or by any two (2) directors.
- 3.10 Notice. Notice of the time and place of a regular meeting shall be communicated to directors not less than four (4) days prior to the meeting. Notice of the time and place a special meeting

shall be communicated to the directors not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting. No notice need be given to any director who has signed a waiver of notice or a written consent to holding of the meeting. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and, in the case of a special meeting, the nature of any special business to be considered. Notices shall be given to each director by: (a) personal delivery; (b) first class mail, postage prepaid; (c) telephone communication, either directly to the director or to a person at the director's office or home who would reasonably be expected to communicate such notice promptly to the director; (d) telecopy transmission to the director's home or office, with confirmation of receipt by the receiving telecopy; (e) telegram, charges prepaid; (f) overnight or same day delivery, charges prepaid; (g) e-mail using Internet accessible equipment and services if the director has consented in writing to such method of delivery and has provided the Board with an e-mail address. All such notices shall be given at the director's telephone or telecopy number or sent to the director's address as shown on the records of the Association. Notices sent by first class mail shall be deemed communicated when deposited into a United States mailbox. Notices given by personal, overnight, or courier delivery, telephone, telecopy, or telegraph shall be deemed communicated when delivered, telephoned, telecopied or given to a telegraph company.

- 3.11 <u>Waiver of Notice</u>. The transaction of any meeting of the Board, however called and noticed or wherever held, shall be as valid as though taken at a meeting duly held after regular call and notice if (a) a quorum is present, and (b) either before or after the meeting each of the directors not present signs a written waiver of notice, a consent to holding the meeting, or an approval of the minutes. The waiver of notice or consent need not specify the purpose of the meeting. Notice of a meeting also shall be deemed given to any director who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice.
- 3.12 Participation in Meetings. Members of the Board or any committee designated by the Board may participate in a meeting of the Board or committee by means of telephone conference, video conference or similar communications equipment, by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can converse with each other. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this Section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.
- 3.13 Quorum of Board of Directors. At all meetings of the Board, a Majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the votes of a Majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the decision of the Board, unless otherwise specifically provided in these By-Laws or the Declaration. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business, notwithstanding the withdrawal of directors, if any action taken is approved by a least a Majority of the required quorum for that meeting. If any meeting of the Board cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a Majority of the directors present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than four (4) or more than twenty (20) days from the date of the original meeting. At the reconvened meeting, if a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.
- 3.14 <u>Compensation.</u> Directors shall not receive any compensation from the Association for acting as such unless approved by Members representing a Majority of the total Class "A" votes in the Association at a regular or special meeting of the Association. Any director may be reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the Association upon approval of a Majority of the other directors. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Association from compensating a director, or any entity with which a director is affiliated, for services or supplies furnished to the Association in a capacity other than as a director pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Association, provided that such director's interest was made know to the Board prior to entering into such contract and such contract was approved by a Majority of the Board of Directors, excluding the interested director.
- 3.15 <u>Conduct of Meetings</u>. The president shall preside over all meetings of the Board, and the secretary shall keep a minute book of the Board meetings, recording all Board resolutions and all transactions and proceedings occurring at such meetings.

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- 3.16 Open Meetings. Subject to the provisions of Sections 3.12 and 3.17, all meetings of the Board shall be open to all Members, but attendees other than directors may not participate in any discussion or deliberation unless permission to speak is requested on an attendee's behalf by a director. In such case, the president may limit the time any individual may speak. Notwithstanding the above, the president may adjourn any meeting of the Board, reconvene in executive session, and exclude Persons other than directors, to discuss matters of a sensitive nature, such as pending or threatened litigation, personnel matters, etc.
- 3.17 Action without a Formal Meeting. Any action to be taken at a meeting of the directors or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, is signed by all the directors, and such consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote.

## C. Powers and Duties.

- 3.18 Powers. The board shall have all the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the Association's affairs and for performing all responsibilities and exercising all rights of the Association as set forth in the Governing Documents and as provided by law. The Board may do or cause to be done all acts and things which the Governing Documents or Georgia law does not direct to be done and exercised exclusively by the membership generally.
  - 3.19 <u>Duties</u>. The duties of the Board shall include, without limitation:
- (a) preparing and adopting, in accordance with the Declaration, an annual budget establishing each Owner's share of the Common Expenses and any Neighborhood Expenses;
  - (b) levying and collecting such assessments from the Owners;
- (c) providing for the operation, care, upkeep, and maintenance of the Area of Common Responsibility;
- (d) designating, hiring, and dismissing the personnel necessary to carry out the rights and responsibilities of the Association and where appropriate, providing for the compensation of such personnel and for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and materials to be used by such personnel in the performance of their duties;
- (e) depositing all funds received on behalf of the Association in a bank depository which it shall approve and using such funds to operate the Association, provided any reserve funds may be deposited, in the director's best business judgment, in depositories other than banks;
  - (f) making and amending rules in accordance with the Declaration;
- (g) opening of bank accounts on behalf of the Association and designating the signatories required;
- (h) making repairs, additions, and improvements to or alterations of the Common Area in accordance with the Governing Documents;
- (i) enforcing by legal means the provisions of the Governing Documents and bringing any proceedings which may be instituted on behalf of or against the Owners concerning the Association;
- (j) obtaining and carrying property and liability insurance and fidelity bonds, as provided in the Declaration, paying the cost thereof, and filing and adjusting claims, as appropriate;
  - (k) paying the cost of all services rendered to the Association;

- (l) keeping books with detailed accounts of the receipts and expenditures of the Association:
- (m) making available to any Owner, and the holders, insurers, and guarantors of any Mortgage on any Unit, current copies of the Governing Documents and all other books, records, and financial statements of the Association as provided in Section 6.4;
- (n) permitting utility suppliers to use portions of the Common Area reasonably necessary to the ongoing development or operation of the Properties; and
- (o) indemnifying a director, officer or ARB or committee member, or former director, officer or ARB or committee member Association to the extent such indemnity is required or permitted under Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation or the Declaration.
- 3.20 <u>Right of Class "B" Member to Disapprove Actions</u>. So long as the Class "B" Membership exists, the Class "B" Member shall have the right to disapprove any action, policy or program of the Association, the Board and any committee which, in the sole judgment of the Class "B" Member, would tend to impair rights of the Declarant or Builders under the Governing Documents, or interfere with development of or construction on any portion of Properties, or diminish the level of services being provided by the Association.
- (a) The Class "B" Member shall be given written notice of all meetings and proposed actions approved at meetings (or by written consent in lieu of a meeting) of the Association, the Board or any committee. Such notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery at the address the Class "B" Member has registered with the secretary of the Association, which notice complies with Section 3.10 and which notice shall, except in the case of the regular meetings held pursuant to the By-Laws, set forth in reasonable particularly the agenda to be followed at such meeting. The Class "B" Member may waive its rights to receive notice in the same manner as provided in Section 3.11; and
- (b) The Class "B" Member shall be given the opportunity at any such meeting to join in or to have its representatives or agents join in discussion from the floor of any prospective action, policy, or program which would be subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein.

No action, policy or program subject to the right of disapproval set forth herein shall become effective or be implemented until and unless the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) above have been met.

The Class "B" Member, its representatives or agents may make its concerns, thoughts, and suggestions known to the Board and/or the members of the subject committee. The Class "B" Member, acting through any officer or director, agent or authorized representative, may exercise its right to disapprove at any time within ten (10) days following the meeting at which such action was proposed or, in the case of any action taken by written consent in lieu of a meeting, at any time within ten (10) days following receipt of written notice of the proposed action. This right to disapprove may be used to block proposed actions but shall not include a right to require any action or counteraction on behalf of any committee, or the Board or the Association. The Class "B" Member shall not use its right to disapprove to reduce the level of services which the Association is obligated to provide or to prevent capital repairs or any expenditure required to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

3.21 <u>Management.</u> The Board may employ for the Association a professional management agent or agents at such compensation as the Board may establish to perform such duties and services as the Board shall authorize. The Board may delegate such powers as are necessary to perform the manager's assigned duties, but shall not delegate policy-making authority. The Declarant or an affiliate of the Declarant may be employed as managing agent or manager.

The Board may delegate to one (1) of its members the authority to act on behalf of the Board on all matters relating to the duties of the managing agent or manager, if any, which might arise between meetings of the Board.

- 3.22 Accounts and Reports. The following management standards of performance shall be followed unless the Board by resolution specifically determines otherwise:
- (a) cash or accrual accounting, as defined by generally accepted accounting principles, shall be employed;
- (b) accounting and controls should conform to generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) cash accounts of the Association shall not be commingled with any other accounts;
- (d) no remuneration shall be accepted by the managing agent from vendors, independent contractors, or others providing goods or services to the Association, whether in the form of commissions, finder's fees, service fees, prizes, gifts, or otherwise; any item of value received shall benefit the Association;
- (e) any financial or other interest which the managing agent may have in any firm providing goods or services to the Association shall be disclosed promptly to the Board; and
- (f) an annual financial report shall be made available to all Members within one hundred twenty (120) days after the close of the fiscal year. Such annual report may be prepared on an audit, reviewed or compiled basis, as the Board determines; provided however, upon written request of any holder, guarantor or insurer of any first Mortgage on a Unit, the Association shall provide an audited financial statement; and
- 3.23 <u>Borrowing</u>. The Association shall have the power to borrow money for any legal purpose; provided however, if the proposed borrowing is for the purpose of making discretionary capital improvements and the total amount of such borrowing, together with all other debt incurred within the previous twelve (12) month period, exceeds or would exceed ten percent (10%) of the budgeted gross expenses of the Association for that fiscal year, the Board shall obtain the approval of Members representing at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total votes allocated to Units prior to borrowing such money.
- 3.24 Right to Contract. The Association shall have the right to contract with any Person for the performance of various duties and functions. This right shall include, without limitation, the right to enter into common management, operational, or other agreements with trusts, condominiums, cooperatives, or Neighborhood and other owners or residents associations, within and outside the Properties; provided, any common management agreement shall require the consent of a Majority of the total; number of directors of the Association.

### 3.24 Enforcement.

(a) Notice. Prior to imposition of any sanction requiring compliance with these procedures as set forth in the Declaration, the Board or its delegate shall serve the alleged violator with written notice including (i) the nature of the alleged violation, (ii) the proposed sanction to be imposed, (iii) a statement that the alleged violator may present a written request for a hearing to the Board or the covenants committee, if one has been appointed pursuant to Article 5, within fifteen (15) days of the notice; and (iv) a statement that the proposed sanction shall be imposed as contained in the notice unless a request for a hearing is received within fifteen (15) days of the notice. If a timely request is not received, the sanction stated in the notice shall be imposed; provided however, the Board or covenants committee may, but shall not be obligated to, suspend any proposed sanction if the violation is cured within the fifteen (15) day period. Such

suspension shall not constitute a waiver of the right to sanction future violations of the same or other provisions and rules by any Person. In the event of a continuing violation, each day the violation continues beyond the fifteen (15) day period shall constitute a separate offense, and fines may be imposed on a per diem basis without further notice to violator. In the event of a violation which recurs within one (1) year from the date of any notice hereunder, the Board or covenants committee may impose a sanction without further notice to the violator.

- (b) Hearing. If a hearing is requested within the allotted fifteen (15) day period, the hearing shall be before the covenants committee, or if none has been appointed, then before the Board in executive session. The alleged violator shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard. Prior to the effectiveness of any sanction hereunder, proof of proper notice shall be placed in the minutes of the meeting. Such proof shall be deemed adequate if a copy of the notice, together with a statement of the date and manner of delivery, is entered by the officer, director, or delegate who delivered such notice. The notice requirement shall be deemed satisfied if the alleged violator or its representative appears at the meeting. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing and the sanction, if any, imposed.
- (c) Appeal. If a hearing is held before a covenants committee, the violator shall have the right to appeal the committee's decision to the Board. To exercise this right, a written notice of appeal must be received by the manager, president, or secretary of the Association within fifteen (15) days after the hearing date.

#### **ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS**

- 4.1 Officers. The officers of the Association shall be a president, secretary, and treasurer. The president and secretary shall be elected from among the Members of the Board; other officers may, but need not be members of the Board. The Board may appoint such other officers, including one or more assistant secretaries and one (1) or more assistant treasurers, as it shall deem desirable, such officers to have such authority and perform such duties as the Board prescribes. Any two (2) or more offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of president and secretary.
- 4.2 <u>Election and Term of Office</u>. The Board shall elect the officers of the Association at the first meeting of the Board following each annual meeting of the Members, to serve until their successors are elected.
- 4.3 Removal and Vacancies. The Board may remove any officer whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association will be served and may fill any vacancy in any office arising because of death, resignation, removal, or otherwise for the unexpired portion of the term.
- 4.4 <u>Powers and Duties</u>. The officers of the Association shall each have such powers and duties as generally pertain to their respective offices, as well as such powers and duties as may specifically be conferred or imposed by the Board of Directors. The president shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. The treasurer shall have primary responsibility for the preparation of the budget as provided for in the Declaration and may delegate all or part of the preparation and notification duties to a finance committee, management agent, or both. The secretary shall be responsible for preparing minutes of meetings of the Members and the Board and for the authenticating records of the Association.
- 4.5 <u>Resignation</u>. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors, the president, or the secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of such notice or at *any* later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
- 4.6 <u>Agreements, Contracts, Deeds, Leases, Checks, Etc.</u> All agreements, contracts, deeds, leases, checks, and other instruments of the Association shall be executed by at least two (2) officers or by such other person or persons as may be designated by the Board resolution.

4.7 <u>Compensation</u>. Compensation of officers shall be subject to the same limitations as compensation of directors under Section 3.14.

#### ARTICLE 5: COMMITTEES

- 5.1 General. The Board may appoint such committees as it deems appropriate to perform such tasks and to serve for such periods as the Board may designate by resolution. Each committee shall operate in accordance with the terms of such resolution. No committee appointed by the Board shall be empowered to take any affirmative action without the consent of the Board.
- 5.2 <u>Covenants Committee</u>. In addition to any other committees which the Board may establish pursuant to the Declaration, these By-Laws and, specifically, Section 5.1, the Board may appoint a covenants committee consisting of at least three (3) and no more than seven (7) Members. Acting in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, these By-Laws, and resolutions the Board may adopt, the covenants committee, if established, shall be the hearing tribunal of the Association and shall conduct all hearings held pursuant to Section 3.25 of these By-Laws.
- 5.3 Neighborhood Committees. In addition to any other committees appointed as provided above, each Neighborhood may elect a Neighborhood Committee to determine the nature and extent of services, if any, to be provided to the Neighborhood by the Association in addition to those provided to all Members of the Association in accordance with the Declaration. A Neighborhood Committee may advise the Board on any other issue, but shall not have the authority to bind the Board. Such Neighborhood Committees, if elected, shall consist of three (3) to five (5) Members, as determined by the vote of at least a Majority of the Owners of Units within the Neighborhood.

Neighborhood Committee members shall be elected for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected. Any director elected to the Board of Directors from a Neighborhood shall be an ex officio member of the Neighborhood Committee. The Neighborhood Committee shall elect a chairperson who shall preside at its meetings and shall be responsible for transmitting any and all communications to the Board.

In the conduct of its duties and responsibilities, each Neighborhood Committee shall abide by the meeting, notice and quorum requirements applicable to the Board under Sections 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, and 3.11. Meetings of a Neighborhood Committee shall be open to all Owners of Units in the Neighborhood and their representatives; provided however, a Neighborhood Committee may act by unanimous written consent in lieu of a meeting.

## ARTICLE 6: MISCELLANEOUS

- 6.1 <u>Fiscal Year</u>. The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year unless the Board establishes a different fiscal year by resolution.
- 6.2 <u>Parliamentary Rules</u>. Except as may be modified by Board resolution, <u>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</u> (current edition) shall govern the conduct of Association proceedings when not in conflict with Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, or these By-Laws.
- 6.3 <u>Conflicts</u>. If there are conflicts between the provisions of Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, and these By-Laws, the provisions of Georgia law, the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, and these By-Laws (in that order) shall prevail.

### 6.4 Books and Records.

(a) <u>Inspection by Members and Mortgagees</u>. The Board shall make available for inspection and copying by any holder, insurer or guarantor of a first Mortgage on a Unit, any Member, or the

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duly appointed representative of any of the foregoing at any reasonable time and for a purpose reasonably related to his or her interest in a Unit: the Declaration, By-Laws, and Articles of Incorporation, any amendments and supplements to the foregoing, the rules of the Association, and the minutes of meetings of the Members, the Board, and committees. The Board shall provide for such inspection to take place at the office of the Association or at such other place within the Properties as the Board shall designate.

- (b) <u>Rules for Inspection</u>. The Board shall establish rules with respect to:
  - notice to be given to the custodian of the records;
  - (ii) hours and days of the week when such an inspection may be made; and
  - (iii) payment of the cost of reproducing copies of documents requested.
- (c) <u>Inspection by Directors</u>. Every director shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect all books, records, and documents of the Association and the physical properties owned or controlled by the Association. The right of inspection by a director includes the right to make a copy of relevant documents at the expense of the Association.
- 6.5 <u>Notices</u>. Except as otherwise provided in the Declaration or these By-Laws, all notices, demands, bills, statements, and other communications under the Declaration or these By-Laws shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if delivered personally or if sent by United States mail, first class postage prepaid:
- (a) if to a Member, at the address which the Member has designated in writing and filed with the secretary or, if no such address has been designated, at the address of the Unit of such Member; or
- (b) if to the Association, the Board, or the managing agent, at the principal office of the Association or the managing agent or at such other address as shall be designated by notice in writing to the Members pursuant to this Section.

If mailed, any notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed with postage prepaid. To increase flexibility, any Person, including the Association, may consent to or request additional methods of receiving notices, including but not limited to, facsimile or Internet e-mail.

#### 6.5 Amendment.

- (a) <u>By Declarant.</u> Until termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the Declarant may unilaterally amend these By-Laws for any purpose. Thereafter, the Declarant may unilaterally amend these By-Laws at any time and from time to time if such amendment is necessary (i) to bring any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, regulation, or judicial determination; (ii) to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage on the Units; (iii) to enable any institutional or governmental lender, purchaser, insurer or guarantor of Mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to make, purchase, insure, or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Units; or (iv) to satisfy the requirements of any local, state, or federal governmental agency. However, any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Unit unless the Owner shall consent thereto in writing.
- (b) <u>By the Board</u>. The Board shall be authorized to amend these By-Laws without the consent of the Members for the purpose of submitting the Properties to the Georgia Property Owners' Association Act, O.C.G.A. §44-3-220, et seq (1994) and conforming these By-Laws to any mandatory provisions thereof.

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(c) <u>By Members</u>. Except as provided above, these By-Laws may be amended only by the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of Members representing sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant.

Notwithstanding the above, the percentage of votes necessary to amend a specific clause shall not be less than the prescribed percentage of affirmative votes required for action to be taken under that clause.

(d) <u>Validity and Effective Date</u>. Any amendment to these By-Laws shall become effective upon execution, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. Any procedural challenge to an amendment must be made within six (6) months of its execution or such amendment shall be presumed to have been validly adopted. In no event shall a change of conditions or circumstances operate to amend any provisions of these By-Laws.

No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege of the Declarant or the Class "B" Member without the written consent of the Declarant, the Class "B" Member, or the assignee of such right or privilege.

If a Member consents to any amendment to the Declaration or these By-Laws, it will be conclusively presumed that such Member has the authority to consent and no contrary provision in any Mortgage or contract between the Member and a third party will affect the validity of such amendment.