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Glynn County Parcel ID No.:

P/O 04-15270 and P/O 04-15271

### DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS

FOR

FIFTY OAKS

THIS INSTRUMENT ESTABLISHES A MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, BUT DOES NOT SUBMIT THIS DEVELOPMENT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GEORGIA PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION ACT, O.C.G.A. § 44-3-220 ET SEQ., NOR DOES IT SUBMIT THIS DEVELOPMENT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GEORGIA CONDOMINIUM ACT, O.C.G.A. § 44-3-70 ET SEQ.

### DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS, CONDITIONS,

### RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS

### FOR

### FIFTY OAKS

### - TABLE OF CONTENTS -

		Page Number
ARTIC	CLE 1 DEFINITIONS	1
1.1	"AMENITY AREA"	1
1.2	"ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION"	2
1.3	"ASSOCIATION"	2
1.4	"BOARD OF DIRECTORS" OR "BOARD"	2
1.5	"BYLAWS"	2
1.6	"COMMON PROPERTY"	2
	"COMMUNITY"	
	"COMMUNITY-WIDE STANDARD"	
	"DECLARANT"	
	"GATE SYSTEM"	
	"Mortgage"	
	"Mortgagee"	
	"OCCUPANT"	
	· " <u>Owner</u> "	
1.15	"Person"	3
	"SUPPLEMENTARY DECLARATION"	
	"TOTAL ASSOCIATION VOTE"	
1.18	" <u>Unit</u> "	3
ARTIC	CLE 2 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THIS DECLARATION	4
	PROPERTY HEREBY SUBJECTED TO THIS DECLARATION	
	UNILATERAL ANNEXATION BY DECLARANT	
	ANNEXATION BY ASSOCIATION	
	WITHDRAWAL OF PROPERTY	
	CLE 3 ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS	
	Membership	
	VOTING	
ARTIC	CLE 4 ASSESSMENTS	5
4.1	PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENTS	5
	CREATION OF THE LIEN AND PERSONAL OBLIGATION FOR ASSESSMENTS	
	BUDGET	
	GENERAL ASSESSMENTS	
	SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	
4.6	SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS.	7
	SUBORDINATION OF LIENS TO MORTGAGES	
	REMEDIES OF THE ASSOCIATION	
	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF ASSESSMENTS	
4.10	BUDGET DEFICITS DURING DECLARANT CONTROL	

4.11	FAILURE TO ASSESS	9
	ESTOPPEL LETTER.	
4.13	WORKING CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION.	10
4.14	SUSPENSION OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY ASSOCIATION	10
ARTIC	CLE 5 MAINTENANCE; COMMON PROPERTY	11
	ASSOCIATION'S MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY	
	EXTERIOR UNIT MAINTENANCE	
	LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE	
	FAILURE OF AN OWNER TO MAINTAIN	
	PARTY WALLS.	
3.3	CONVEYANCE OF COMMON PROPERTY BY DECLARANT TO ASSOCIATION; NO IMPLIED RIGHTS	17
	PARTITION OF COMMON PROPERTY	
	<u>CONDEMNATION</u>	
	LIMITATION OF LIABILITY	
	MEASURES RELATED TO INSURANCE COVERAGE	
	GATE SYSTEM	
ARTIC	CLE 6 ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS	20
6.1	GENERAL	20
	GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES	
	ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES.	
	LIMITATION OF LIABILITY	
	No Waiver	
	VARIANCES	
	ENFORCEMENT	
	ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE	
ARTIC	CLE 7 USE RESTRICTIONS AND RULES	24
	RULES AND REGULATIONS	
	RESIDENTIAL USE	
7.3	<u>SIGNS</u>	25
7.4	VEHICLES; PARKING.	25
7.5	LEASING	28
7.6	ANIMALS AND PETS	29
7.7	NUISANCE	30
	UNSIGHTLY OR UNKEMPT CONDITIONS	
7.9	ANTENNAE	31
	FIREARMS	31
7.11	FIREARMS	
7.11 7.12	FENCES	31
7.12	FENCES AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS	31 32
7.12 7.13	FENCES AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS	31 32
7.12 7.13	AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE,	31 32 32
7.12 7.13 7.14	Air-Conditioning Units  Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations  Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture,  Water Features and Similar Items	31 32 32
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15	Air-Conditioning Units  Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations  Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture, Water Features and Similar Items  Flags	31 32 32 32
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16	Air-Conditioning Units  Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations  Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture,  Water Features and Similar Items  Flags  Conservation Equipment	31 32 32 32 32
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17	Air-Conditioning Units  Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations  Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture,  Water Features and Similar Items  Flags  Conservation Equipment  Clotheslines	31 32 32 32 33
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18	Air-Conditioning Units  Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations  Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture,  Water Features and Similar Items  Flags  Conservation Equipment  Clotheslines  Awnings and Window Treatments	31 32 32 32 33 33
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19	FENCES  AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE, WATER FEATURES AND SIMILAR ITEMS  FLAGS  CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT  CLOTHESLINES  AWNINGS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS  STORM AND SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS	31 32 32 32 33 33 33
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19 7.20	Air-Conditioning Units  Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations  Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture,  Water Features and Similar Items  Flags  Conservation Equipment  Clotheslines  Awnings and Window Treatments  Storm and Screen Doors and Windows  Drainage	31 32 32 32 33 33 33
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19 7.20 7.21	AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS.  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS.  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE, WATER FEATURES AND SIMILAR ITEMS.  FLAGS.  CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT.  CLOTHESLINES.  AWNINGS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS.  STORM AND SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS.  DRAINAGE.  GARBAGE CANS, FIREWOOD, ETC.	31 32 32 33 33 33 33
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19 7.20 7.21	FENCES  AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE, WATER FEATURES AND SIMILAR ITEMS  FLAGS  CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT  CLOTHESLINES  AWNINGS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS  STORM AND SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS  DRAINAGE  GARBAGE CANS, FIREWOOD, ETC.  SUBDIVISION OF UNIT	
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19 7.20 7.21 7.22 7.23	AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS.  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS.  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE, WATER FEATURES AND SIMILAR ITEMS.  FLAGS.  CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT.  CLOTHESLINES.  AWNINGS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS.  STORM AND SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS.  DRAINAGE.  GARBAGE CANS, FIREWOOD, ETC  SUBDIVISION OF UNIT.  HEATING OF UNITS IN COLDER MONTHS.	31323233333333333333
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19 7.20 7.21 7.22 7.23	AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS.  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS.  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE, WATER FEATURES AND SIMILAR ITEMS.  FLAGS.  CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT.  CLOTHESLINES.  AWNINGS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS.  STORM AND SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS.  DRAINAGE.  GARBAGE CANS, FIREWOOD, ETC  SUBDIVISION OF UNIT.  HEATING OF UNITS IN COLDER MONTHS.  GARAGE SALES.	3132323333333333333333
7.12 7.13 7.14 7.15 7.16 7.17 7.18 7.19 7.20 7.21 7.22 7.23 7.24 7.25	AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS.  EXTERIOR LIGHTING, DISPLAYS AND DECORATIONS.  ARTIFICIAL VEGETATION, GARDENS, PLAY EQUIPMENT, EXTERIOR SCULPTURE, WATER FEATURES AND SIMILAR ITEMS.  FLAGS.  CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT.  CLOTHESLINES.  AWNINGS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS.  STORM AND SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS.  DRAINAGE.  GARBAGE CANS, FIREWOOD, ETC  SUBDIVISION OF UNIT.  HEATING OF UNITS IN COLDER MONTHS.	

	27 ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY	
7.2	28 DECKS, PATIOS, PORCHES OR BALCONIES	35
7.2	29 STORM WATER DETENTION PONDS, CREEKS AND STREAMS	35
ARTI	ICLE 8 INSURANCE AND CASUALTY LOSSES	35
8.1	INSURANCE OBTAINED BY ASSOCIATION	35
	INSURANCE OBTAINED BY UNIT OWNERS	
	DAMAGE AND DESTRUCTION	
	INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLE	
	ICLE 9 EASEMENTS	
	General	
0.1	EASEMENTS FOR USE AND ENJOYMENT	38
	EASEMENTS FOR ENCROACHMENT AND OVERHANG	
	EASEMENT FOR UTILITIES – ASSOCIATION AND DECLARANT	
	EASEMENT FOR UTILITIES - ASSOCIATION AND DECLARANT	
	5 EASEMENT FOR EMERGENCY ENTRY	
	7 EASEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE - ASSOCIATION	
	B EASEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE - ASSOCIATION  B EASEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE - UNIT OWNER	
	EASEMENT FOR DRAINAGE	
	0 EASEMENT DURING CONSTRUCTION AND SALE PERIOD	
	1 EASEMENT FOR PRIVATE STREETS	
	ICLE 10 GENERAL PROVISIONS	
10.	.1 <u>Enforcement</u>	42
10.	.2 Duration	43
10.	.3 OCCUPANTS BOUND	43
10.	.4 SELF-HELP	44
10.	.5 TERMINATION OF RIGHTS OF DECLARANT	44
10.	.6 AMENDMENT	44
10.	.7 GENDER AND GRAMMAR	45
10.	.8 Severability	45
10.	9 CAPTIONS	45
	.10 No Merger	
	.11 Preparer	
	.12 Notices	
	.13 No Discrimination	
	.14 Security	
	15 INDEMNIFICATION	
	16 AGREEMENTS.	
	.17 VARIANCES	
	18 Litigation	
	19 NOTICE OF SALE OR ACQUISITION	
ARTI	ICLE 11 DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND LIMITATION ON LITIGATION	48
11.		
	.1 <u>GENERAL</u>	
11.		
	4 MANDATORY MEDIATION	
11.		
	.6 ALLOCATION OF COSTS.	
	.7 LIMITATION ON RIGHT OF ACTION	
	8 AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 11	
111	O A MENDIMENT OF AN INJECT II	

### **EXHIBITS**

EXHIBIT "A" - PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE DECLARATION

EXHIBIT "B" - ADDITIONAL PROPERTY WHICH MAY BE UNILATERALLY SUBMITTED TO THE DECLARATION BY DECLARANT

EXHIBIT "C" - BYLAWS OF FIFTY OAKS TOWNHOME ASSOCIATION, INC.

### DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS, CONDITIONS,

#### RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS

#### FOR

#### FIFTY OAKS

THIS DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS FOR FIFTY OAKS ("<u>Declaration</u>") is made on the date hereinafter set forth by **50 OAKS GROUP**, **LLC**, a Georgia limited liability company (hereinafter referred to as "<u>Declarant</u>");

#### WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Declarant is the owner of the real property described in **Exhibit "A"** hereof; and

WHEREAS, Declarant desires to subject the real property described in Exhibit "A" hereof to the provisions of this Declaration to create a residential community of single-family attached housing and to provide for the subjecting of other real property to the provisions of this Declaration;

NOW, THEREFORE, Declarant hereby declares that the real property described in <a href="Exhibit" A" attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein is hereby subjected to the provisions of this Declaration and shall be held, sold, transferred, conveyed, used, occupied, mortgaged and otherwise encumbered subject to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, assessments and liens, hereinafter set forth, which are for protecting the value and desirability of and which shall run with the title to, the real property hereby and hereafter made subject hereto and shall be binding on all persons having any right, title or interest in all or any portion of the real property now and hereafter made subject hereto, their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors, successors-in-title and assigns and shall inure to the benefit of each owner of all or any portion thereof.

### Article 1 Definitions

The following words when used in this Declaration or in any Supplementary Declaration shall have the following meanings:

1.1. "Amenity Area" means the recreational amenity area serving the Community, which is owned (or will be owned upon the conveyance thereof), operated and maintained by the Association and may include, without limitation, a swimming pool, clubhouse, and related facilities and parking areas, as may be more particularly shown on the recorded subdivision plat(s) for the Community.

- 1.2 "Articles of Incorporation" means the Articles of Incorporation of Fifty Oaks Townhome Association, Inc., filed with the Georgia Secretary of State and incorporated herein by this reference, as amended from time to time.
- 1.3 "Association" means Fifty Oaks Townhome Association, Inc., a Georgia nonprofit corporation, its successors and assigns.
- 1.4 "Board of Directors" or "Board" means the appointed or elected body of the Association, vested with the authority to operate and manage the affairs of the Association under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, O.C.G.A. § 14-3-101 *et seq*.
- 1.5 "Bylaws" means the Bylaws of Fifty Oaks Townhome Association, Inc., attached to this Declaration as Exhibit "C" and incorporated herein by this reference, as amended from time to time.
- 1.6 "Common Property" means any and all real and personal property, including, without limitation, easements and other interests therein, and the facilities and improvements located thereon, now or hereafter owned by the Association for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners. The Amenity Area is a portion of the Common Property.
- 1.7 "Community" refers to that certain real property described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto, and such additions thereto as may be made by Supplementary Declaration as provided herein.
- 1.8 "Community-Wide Standard" means the standard of conduct, maintenance or other activity generally prevailing in the Community. Such standard may be more specifically determined by the Board of Directors and may be articulated in the Architectural Guidelines established pursuant to Section 6.3 hereof, but must be consistent with the Community-Wide Standard initially established by the Declarant.
- 1.9 "Declarant" means **50 OAKS GROUP, LLC**, a Georgia limited liability company and its successor, successor-in-title or assigns taking title to any portion of the property described in Exhibit "A" or Exhibit "B" hereof for the purpose of development and/or sale and designated as Declarant in a recorded instrument by the then holder of the rights of Declarant hereunder. Any or all of the rights of Declarant set forth in this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws may be transferred or assigned in whole or in part to other Persons; provided, however, no transfer or assignment shall be effective unless it is in a written instrument signed by Declarant and recorded in the public real estate records of Glynn County, Georgia.
- 1.10 "Gate System" means the mechanical gate system located at the entrance of the Community which limits and/or restricts vehicular access, ingress and egress to and from the Community.

- 1.11 "Mortgage" means any and all instruments used for the purpose of encumbering real property in the Community as security for the payment or satisfaction of an obligation, including, without limitation, any mortgage, deed to secure debt or deed of trust.
  - 1.12 "Mortgagee" means the holder of a Mortgage.
- 1.13 "Occupant" means any Person occupying all or any portion of a Unit for any period of time, regardless of whether such Person is a tenant of the Owner of such property.
- 1.14 "Owner" means the record owner, whether one or more Persons, of the fee simple title to any Unit located within the Community, excluding, however, any Person holding such interest merely as security for the performance or satisfaction of any obligation.
- 1.15 "Person" includes any individual, individual acting in a fiduciary capacity, corporation, limited partnership, limited liability company, general partnership, joint stock company, joint venture, association, company or other organization, recognized as a separate legal entity under Georgia law.
- 1.16 "Supplementary Declaration" means a supplement to this Declaration which subjects additional property to the provisions of this Declaration and/or imposes additional covenants, conditions, restrictions or easements on the land described therein.
- 1.17 "Total Association Vote" means the votes attributable to the entire membership of the Association (including votes of Declarant) as of the record date for such action, but specifically excluding the votes of any Owners whose voting rights have been suspended as provided herein, whether or not such members are present or represented at the meeting, if any, where such votes are to be cast. If, for example, and without limitation, two-thirds (2/3) of the Total Association Vote is required to approve a matter, such matter must receive more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes attributable to all existing members of the Association as of the record date for such action (and excluding the votes of any Owners whose voting rights have been suspended as provided herein), whether or not such members are present or represented at the meeting, if any, where such votes are to be cast.
- 1.18 "<u>Unit</u>" shall mean any plot of land within the Community, whether or not improvements are constructed thereon, which constitutes a single family residential dwelling site, as shown on the subdivision plat(s) for the Community, recorded in the land records of Glynn County, Georgia. The residential dwelling located on each Unit shall be attached by one or more party wall(s) to one or more residential dwellings located on adjacent Units so that the boundary between such Units and the residential dwellings located thereon is a line running along the center of the party wall separating said residential dwellings.

The ownership of each Unit shall include the exclusive right to use and possession of any and all portions of the heating and air conditioning units which are appurtenant to and serve each Unit (including, but not limited to, compressors, conduits, wires and pipes) and any porch, driveway, walkway, deck, patio, steps, wall, roof, foundation, sunroom or any similar appurtenance as may be attached to a Unit when such Unit is initially constructed. The

ownership of each Unit shall include, and there shall automatically pass with the title to each Unit as an appurtenance thereto, whether or not separately described, membership in the Association and all of the rights and interest of an Owner in and to the Common Property, as herein provided.

In the case of a portion of the Community intended and suitable for subdivision into single family attached townhomes, but as to which no subdivision plat has been recorded in the land records, such property shall be deemed to contain the total number of Units shown on Declarant's concept plan or site plan until such time as a subdivision plat is recorded with respect to all or a portion of the property. Thereafter, the portion encompassed by such plat shall contain the number of Units as set forth in the preceding paragraph and any portion not platted shall continue to be treated as set forth in this paragraph.

## Article 2 Property Subject To This Declaration

- 2.1 <u>Property Hereby Subjected To This Declaration</u>. The real property which is, by the recording of this Declaration, subject to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and easements hereinafter set forth and which, by virtue of the recording of this Declaration, shall be held, transferred, sold, conveyed, used, occupied and encumbered subject to this Declaration is the real property described in <u>Exhibit "A"</u> attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.
- 2.2 <u>Unilateral Annexation by Declarant</u>. As the owner thereof or, if not the owner, with the consent of the owner thereof, the Declarant shall have the unilateral right, privilege, and option from time to time at any time to subject all or any portion of the real property described in <u>Exhibit "B"</u> attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein, to the provisions of this Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association by filing for record in the Glynn County, Georgia land records a Supplementary Declaration describing the property being subjected. Any annexation shall be effective upon the filing for record of such Supplementary Declaration in the Glynn County, Georgia land records, unless a later effective date is provided therein.
- 2.3 <u>Annexation by Association</u>. Upon the written consent of: (a) the owner(s) thereof; (b) the Declarant; and (c) Owners of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Units, the Association may annex real property to the provisions of this Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association by filing for record in the Glynn County, Georgia land records a Supplementary Declaration describing the property being annexed. Any Supplementary Declaration shall be executed on behalf of the Association by the President of the Association whose signature shall be attested by the Secretary of the Association. The annexation shall be effective only upon the filing for record of such Supplementary Declaration in the Glynn County, Georgia land records, unless a later effective date is provided therein.
- 2.4 <u>Withdrawal of Property</u>. Declarant reserves the right to remove any portion of the Community then owned by Declarant or the Association, as the case may be, from the coverage of this Declaration and the jurisdiction of the Association, to the extent originally included in error or as a result of any changes whatsoever in the plans for the Community, provided such withdrawal is not unequivocally contrary to the overall, uniform scheme of development for the

Community. Any withdrawal shall be accomplished by filing an amendment to this Declaration which describes the property to be removed. Any withdrawal shall be effective upon filing for record of such amendment in the Glynn County, Georgia land records, unless a later effective date is provided therein. Such amendment shall be executed by: (a) the Declarant; and (b) the Owner(s) of the property being removed, if not Declarant, and shall not require the vote or consent of any other Unit Owners.

# Article 3 Association Membership and Voting Rights

- 3.1 Membership. Every Person who is the record owner of a fee or undivided fee interest in any Unit that is subject to this Declaration shall have a membership in the Association. The foregoing is not intended to include Persons who hold an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation, and the giving of a security interest shall not terminate an Owner's membership. No Owner, whether one or more Persons, shall have more than one (1) membership per Unit. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of a Unit. The rights and privileges of membership, including the right to hold office, may be exercised by a member or the spouse of a member, but in no event shall more than one (1) Person representing a single membership hold office at the same time. This Section is not intended to prohibit the same individual from being both an officer and a director of the Association. Nothing in this Section shall restrict the number of votes cast or the number of officers and directors appointed by the Declarant as provided in the Bylaws.
- 3.2 <u>Voting</u>. Members shall be entitled to cast one vote for each Unit owned. When more than one Person holds an ownership interest in a Unit, the vote for such Unit shall be exercised as those Owners themselves determine and advise the Secretary prior to any meeting or referendum. The vote attributable to a Unit shall be suspended in the event more than one Person seeks to exercise it. The Board of Directors may suspend the voting rights of an Owner for any period during which any past due assessment against any Unit of the Owner remains unpaid; and, for a reasonable period of time for an infraction of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations, use restrictions, or Architectural Guidelines established pursuant to Article 6 hereof.

## Article 4 Assessments

- 4.1 <u>Purpose of Assessments</u>. The assessments provided for herein shall be used for the general purposes of promoting the recreation, health, safety, welfare, common benefit, and enjoyment of the Owners of Units, including, without limitation, the maintenance of real and personal property, all as may be more specifically authorized from time to time by the Board of Directors.
  - 4.2 Creation of the Lien and Personal Obligation for Assessments.
- (a) <u>General</u>. Each Owner of a Unit, by acceptance of a deed therefor, whether or not it shall be so expressed in such deed, covenants and agrees to pay to the Association: (i) general assessments; (ii) special assessments; and (iii) specific assessments. All assessments, together

with late charges (in an amount equal to the greater of Ten and No/100 Dollars (\$10.00) or ten percent (10%) of the amount of the assessment or installment not paid when due), interest (at a rate of ten percent (10%) per annum on the principal amount due) and costs of collection, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, shall, from the time the sums become due and payable, be a charge on the land and a continuing lien in favor of the Association on the Unit against which each assessment is made. As provided in O.C.G.A. Section 44-5-60(e), the obligation for the payment of assessments and fees arising hereunder shall also include costs of collection, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, and the award of attorneys' fees shall not be construed in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. Section 13-1-11(a)(2).

- (b) <u>Creation of the Lien</u>. The recording of this Declaration shall constitute record notice of the existence of the lien and no further recordation of any claim of lien shall be required. Each assessment, together with late charges, interest and costs of collection, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred, shall also be the personal obligation of the Person who was the Owner of the Unit at the time the assessment fell due. Each Owner shall be personally liable for the portion of each assessment coming due while the Owner of a Unit, and each grantee of an Owner shall be jointly and severally liable for such portion thereof as may be due and payable at the time of conveyance; provided, however, the liability of a grantee for the unpaid assessments of the grantor shall not apply to any first Mortgagee taking title through foreclosure proceedings.
- (c) No Exemption from Assessments. No Owner may waive or otherwise be exempt from liability for the assessments provided for herein for any reason, including, by way of illustration and not limitation, the following: (i) abandonment of the Unit; (ii) nonuse of the Common Property, including, without limitation, nonuse of the Amenity Area; (iii) the Association's failure to perform its obligations required under the Declaration; or (iv) inconvenience or discomfort arising out of the Association's performance of its duties. No diminution or abatement of any assessment shall be claimed or allowed by reason of any failure of the Association to take some action or perform some function required to be taken or performed by the Association, the obligation to pay assessments being a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner. All payments shall be applied first to costs, then to late charges, then to interest and then to delinquent assessments.
- 4.3 <u>Budget</u>. It shall be the duty of the Board to prepare a budget covering the estimated costs of operating the Association during the coming year. The Board shall cause the budget and the general assessment to be levied against each Unit for the year to be delivered to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the due date of such general assessment. The budget and the general assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting by a majority of the Total Association Vote and the Declarant; provided, however, the Board shall have no obligation to call a meeting of the members to consider disapproval of the budget except upon petition of the members as required for special meetings in the Bylaws. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, in the event the membership and Declarant disapprove the proposed budget or the Board fails for any reason to determine the budget for any period, then and until such time as a budget has been determined, as provided herein, the budget in effect shall continue.

- 4.4 General Assessments. General assessments shall be levied equally on all similarly situated Units and shall be paid in such manner and on such dates as may be fixed by the Board of Directors, which may include, without limitation, acceleration, upon ten (10) days' written notice for delinquents. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, the general assessment shall be paid in twelve (12) monthly installments. General assessments include any sums the Board determines necessary for the continued ownership, operation and maintenance of the Common Property, improvements to the Common Property, operating expenses of the Association, payment for any items of betterment and the establishment of reserve funds as the Board shall deem proper. General assessments may include, without limitation, the following: (a) sums for property taxes for the Common Property; (b) insurance premiums; (c) legal and accounting fees; (d) management fees; (e) charges for utilities provided by the Association, if any; (f) cleaning and janitor services, if any; (g) landscape maintenance; (h) costs incurred to maintain the Community entry features, including the costs of irrigation and/or lighting associated therewith; (i) costs incurred to maintain the storm water detention/retention pond and storm water drainage facilities serving the Community; (j) costs to maintain the private Community streets, sidewalks, street medians and street islands; (k) costs to perform exterior maintenance to Units; (l) costs to operate, maintain, repair and insure the Amenity Area; (m) costs to maintain the Gate System; and (n) expenses and liabilities incurred as provided herein and in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for indemnification of officers and directors and in connection with the enforcement of rights and duties of the Association against Owners and others.
- 4.5 <u>Special Assessments</u>. The Association, acting through the Board of Directors, may levy a special assessment against all Owners subject to assessment for any unbudgeted or unanticipated expenses or expenses in excess of those budgeted in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the general assessment applicable to a Unit a fiscal year without a vote of the members. Except for special assessments levied pursuant to Section 8.3 hereof, a special assessment in an amount greater than twenty-five percent (25%) of the general assessment applicable to a Unit in a fiscal year must be approved by two-thirds of the Total Association Vote and Declarant in order to become effective. Special assessments shall be paid as determined by the Board. The Board may permit a special assessment to be paid in installments extending beyond the fiscal year in which the special assessment is imposed.
- 4.6 Specific Assessments. The Board shall have the power to levy specific assessments as, in its discretion, it shall deem appropriate. The failure of the Board to exercise its authority under this Section shall not be grounds for any action against the Association and shall not constitute a waiver of the Board's right to exercise its authority under this Section in the future with respect to any expenses, including an expense for which the Board has not previously exercised its authority under this Section. By way of explanation and not limitation, the following shall constitute specific assessments: (a) fines levied pursuant to this Declaration; (b) the working capital contribution as set forth in Section 4.13 hereof; and (c) the costs of maintenance performed by the Association for which an Owner is responsible.

The Board of Directors may also specifically assess Owners for Association expenses as follows: (a) expenses of the Association which benefit less than all of the Units may be specifically assessed equitably among all of the Units which are benefited according to the benefit received; (b) expenses of the Association which benefit all Units, but do not provide an

equal benefit to all Units, may be specifically assessed equitably among all Units according to the benefit received; and (c) expenses incurred by the Association which are attributable to or incurred by a particular Owner or the Occupants, tenants, guests or invitees of an Owner may be specifically assessed against the Unit of such Owner.

- 4.7 Subordination of Liens to Mortgages. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Declaration or any other document related thereto or executed in connection therewith, the lien of all assessments authorized herein is hereby made subordinate to the lien of any first Mortgage placed on a Unit, if, but only if, all assessments and charges with respect to such Unit authorized herein having a due date on or prior to the date of the Mortgage as filed of record have been paid. The lien hereby subordinated is only such lien as relates to assessments and charges authorized hereunder having a due date subsequent to the date such Mortgage is filed of record and prior to the satisfaction, cancellation or foreclosure of such Mortgage. Such subordination is merely a subordination and: (a) shall not relieve an Owner of the personal obligation to pay all assessments coming due during such period of ownership; (b) shall not relieve such Unit from the lien provided for herein (except to the extent a subordinated lien is extinguished as a result of such subordination as against a Mortgagee or such Mortgagee's assignee or transferee by foreclosure); and (c) no sale or transfer of such Unit to the Mortgagee or to any other Person pursuant to a foreclosure, or pursuant to any other proceeding in lieu of foreclosure, shall relieve any existing or previous Owner of such Unit of any personal obligation or relieve such Unit or any Owner of such Unit from liability for any assessment authorized hereunder that becomes due after such sale and transfer.
- 4.8 Remedies of the Association. Any assessments or installments thereof which are not paid when due shall be delinquent. In addition to the lien rights, the personal obligation of the then Owner to pay such assessments shall remain such Owner's personal obligation and shall also pass to such Owner's successors-in-title. Such Owner shall nevertheless remain as fully obligated as before to pay to the Association any and all amounts which such Owner was obligated to pay immediately preceding the transfer; and such Owner and such successors-in-title shall be jointly and severally liable with respect thereto, notwithstanding any agreement between such Owner and such successors-in-title creating any indemnification of the Owner or any relationship of principal and surety as between themselves. Any assessment or installment thereof delinquent for a period of more than ten (10) days shall incur a late charge (in an amount equal to the greater of Ten and No/100 Dollars (\$10.00) or ten percent (10%) of the amount of the assessment or installment not paid when due) and interest (at a rate of ten percent (10%) per annum on the principal amount due). As provided in O.C.G.A. Section 44-5-60(e), the obligation for the payment of assessments and fees arising hereunder shall also include the costs of collection, which include, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred, and the award of attorneys' fees shall not be construed in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. Section 13-1-11(a)(2).

The Association may cause a notice of delinquency to be given to any Owner who has not paid within ten (10) days following the due date. In the event that the assessment remains unpaid after sixty (60) days, the Association may institute suit to collect such amounts and/or to foreclose its lien. The Association may file a claim of lien with the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Glynn County, Georgia, but no such claim of lien shall be required to establish

or perfect the lien for unpaid assessments. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed, vests in the Association the right and power to bring all actions against such Owner personally, for the collection of such charges as a debt or to foreclose the lien. The lien provided for in this Declaration shall be in favor of the Association and shall be for the benefit of all Owners. The Association shall have the power to bid on the Unit at any foreclosure sale and to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage and convey the same. The Association may also suspend: (a) the membership rights of the delinquent Owner, including the right to vote; (b) the right of the delinquent Owner to use and enjoy the Common Property, including the right to use the Amenity Area (other than access to such Owner's Unit); and (c) the right to receive and enjoy such services and other benefits as may then be provided by the Association, if any, which may include, without limitation, the deactivation of any card access system, gate code, or other method used in connection with the Gate System that restricts access to the Community. Any suspension shall not affect an Owner's obligation to pay assessments coming due during the period of such suspension and shall not affect the permanent lien on such Unit in favor of the Association.

- 4.9 <u>Date of Commencement of Assessments</u>. Assessments shall commence when the Board of Directors first determines a budget and levies assessments. The assessments provided for herein shall commence as to a Unit on the date that the Unit is first available for residential occupancy. A Unit shall be deemed to be available for residential occupancy when it has been improved with a dwelling or rental office for which a certificate of occupancy has been issued and has been conveyed to an Owner which is not the Declarant. Any Unit which has been approved by Declarant for use as a model home for marketing and sales purposes shall not be deemed to be available for residential occupancy and shall not be subject to assessments under this Declaration whether owned by Declarant or any other Person, so long as such Unit is approved for use as a model home.
- 4.10 <u>Budget Deficits During Declarant Control</u>. For so long as the Declarant has the authority to appoint and remove the directors and officers of the Association, Declarant may, but shall have no obligation to: (a) advance funds or contributions of services or materials or a combination of services and materials, rather than money (herein collectively called an "in kind contribution"), or a combination of these, to the Association sufficient to satisfy the deficit, if any, between the actual operating expenses of the Association (but specifically not including an allocation for capital reserves), and the sum of the general, special and specific assessments collected by the Association in any fiscal year (such advances shall be evidenced by promissory notes from the Association in favor of the Declarant); or (b) cause the Association to borrow such amount from a commercial lending institution at the then prevailing rates for similar loans in the local area of the Community; provided, however, no Mortgage secured by the Common Property or any of the structures or improvements maintained by the Association shall be given in connection with such loan unless the loan has been approved by Owners of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Units as provided in Section 9.2(a) hereof.
- 4.11 <u>Failure to Assess</u>. The omission or failure of the Board to fix the assessment amounts or rates or to deliver or mail to each Owner an assessment notice shall not be deemed a waiver, modification, or a release of any Owner from the obligation to pay assessments. In such event, each Owner shall continue to pay assessments on the same basis as the last year for which

-9-

an assessment was made, if any, until a new assessment is made, at which time any shortfalls in collections may be assessed retroactively by the Association.

- 4.12 Estoppel Letter. Any Owner, Mortgagee, or a Person having executed a contract for the purchase of a Unit, or a lender considering a loan to be secured by a Unit, shall be entitled, upon written request, to a statement from the Association or its managing agent setting forth the amount of assessments past due and unpaid, including any late charges, interest, fines, or other charges against that Unit. Such request shall be delivered to the registered office of the Association, and shall state an address to which the statement is to be directed. The Association shall, within five (5) business days after receiving a written request therefor, certify to the amount of any unpaid assessments constituting a lien on a specified Unit. The Association may charge a reasonable fee as may be permitted by law as a prerequisite to the issuance of such statement. A certification letter signed by an officer of the Association or the Association's managing agent, if any, as to the amount of assessments due with respect to a Unit shall be binding upon the Association. It is the intent of this provision to comply with O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-15(c), as amended.
- 4.13 Working Capital Contribution. Upon each and every transfer or conveyance of title to a Unit after it has been improved with a dwelling for which a certificate of occupancy has been issued, a working capital contribution, in an amount determined by the Board from time to time, shall be collected from the new Owner at the closing of such transaction and disbursed to the Association; or if not collected at closing, shall be paid immediately upon demand to the Association. The working capital contribution shall constitute a specific assessment against the Unit, shall be in addition to, not in lieu of, the general assessment and shall not be considered an advance payment of such assessment. The working capital contribution may be used by the Association for any purpose which provides a direct benefit to the Community, including, without limitation, for the payment of operating expenses of the Association and other expenses incurred by the Association pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the working capital contribution shall not apply to the holder of any first Mortgage on a Unit who becomes the Owner of a Unit through foreclosure or any other means pursuant to the satisfaction of the indebtedness secured by such Mortgage, but shall apply to the Owner acquiring title to the Unit from the foreclosing Mortgagee.
- 4.14 <u>Suspension of Services Provided by Association</u>. In the event any assessment, fine or other charge or portion or installment thereof is delinquent for sixty (60) days or more, in addition to all other rights provided in this Declaration, the Association shall have the right, upon ten (10) days written notice, to suspend any utility or service, the cost of which is paid for by the Association as a common expense, which may include, without limitation, water service provided to a Unit, until such time as the delinquent assessments and all costs permitted under this Section, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred and any reasonable utility provider charges or other reasonable costs incurred in suspending and/or restoring such services, are paid in full. Said utility services shall not be required to be restored until such delinquent assessments and costs, including, without limitation, any reasonable utility provider charges or other reasonable costs incurred in suspending and/or restoring such services, are paid in full. An Owner whose utility or service has been suspended shall not be entitled to use any such utility or service paid for as a common expense from any source. All Association expenses for terminating

and/or restoring any services pursuant to this Section, including reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred, shall be an assessment and a lien against the Unit and shall be collected as provided herein for the collection of assessments. The notice requirement of this Section shall be deemed complied with if the notice is sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Unit address and to any other address the Owner of the Unit has designated in writing to the Association. Enforcement under this Section is not dependent upon or related to other restrictions and/or other actions, except as provided in this Section.

## Article 5 Maintenance; Common Property

### 5.1 Association's Maintenance Responsibility.

- (a) <u>General</u>. The Association shall maintain and keep in good repair the Common Property, which maintenance shall include, without limitation, the maintenance, repair and replacement of all landscaping and improvements located thereon. The Association shall also maintain (whether or not constituting Common Property) the following:
- (i) all entry features and entry area landscaping serving the Community, including, without limitation, any irrigation system and/or lighting system which provides water and/or electricity to such entry features and entry area landscaping;
- (ii) roof replacement, painting and/or pressure washing to a Unit as provided in Section 5.2 hereof;
- (iii) landscaping improvements in the Community, including, without limitation, parks and open space, as provided in Section 5.3 herein;
- (iv) all private Community streets, roads, paths, sidewalks, street signs, street medians and street islands and appurtenant landscaping;
- (v) the storm water detention/retention ponds and any storm water drainage facilities serving the Community and any pipes, wires or conduits related thereto or used in connection therewith; provided, however, the Association shall not be responsible for the maintenance, repair and replacement of any storm water drainage facilities which exclusively serve a Unit;
  - (vi) perimeter walls and perimeter fencing in the Community, if any;
  - (vi) the Community mailbox area and the mailboxes located thereon;
- (viii) all pipes, wires, conduits and lines which serve more than one (1) Unit or the Common Property, including, without limitation, water and sanitary sewer pipes or facilities and fire lines, if and to the extent the same are not maintained by a governmental entity or third party;

- (ix) exterior lighting serving the Community, including, without limitation, street lights, if and to the extent the same are not maintained by a governmental entity or third party; provided, however, the Association shall not be responsible for the maintenance, repair and replacement of any exterior lighting attached to, exclusively serving or located on the residential dwelling on such Unit;
  - (x) the Amenity Area; and
  - (xi) the Gate System.
- (b) <u>Maintenance Standards</u>. All maintenance performed by the Association shall be consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. The Board of Directors may authorize the officers of the Association to enter into contracts with any Person or Persons to perform maintenance hereunder on behalf of the Association.

In the event that the Association determines that the need for any maintenance, repair, or replacement, which is the responsibility of the Association hereunder, is caused through the willful or negligent act of an Owner, or the Occupants, family, guests, lessees or invitees of an Owner, then the Association may perform such maintenance, repair or replacement and all costs associated therewith, not paid for by insurance, shall be assessed against the Unit of such Owner as a specific assessment.

- (c) <u>Assumption of Additional Maintenance</u>. The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain property it does not own, regardless of whether such property is located within or outside of the Community where the Board has determined that such action would benefit the Owners, and the foregoing shall not be construed to permit the Association to bring any action, claim or proceeding against the Declarant without first complying with the dispute resolution provisions set forth in Article 11 hereof.
- (d) <u>Easement and Cost Sharing Agreements</u>. In addition to the foregoing, the Board shall have the right, without a vote of the members, but with the consent of the Declarant, to enter into easement agreements and covenant to share cost agreements where the Board has determined that such action would benefit the Owners.
- 5.2 <u>Exterior Unit Maintenance</u>. The responsibility for maintenance, repair and upkeep for each Unit shall be allocated between the Association and the Owner of a Unit in accordance with the maintenance chart set forth below:

Maintenance, Repair or Upkeep Obligation	Responsible Party	
	Association	Owner
Roof		
Roof replacement, only when the Board determines in its sole and absolute discretion that replacement is necessary or if repair is the result of	X	

a casualty covered by the Association's insurance policy		
Routine maintenance and repair		X
Shingles, flashing and other roof components		X
Structural components to the roof		X
Exterior Surfaces		
Painting, only when the Board determines in its sole and absolute discretion that exterior paint needs to be replaced due to the life of the painted surface	X	
Touch-up painting		X
<ul> <li>Pressure washing, only when the Board determines in its sole and absolute discretion that the exterior building surface needs to be pressure washed</li> </ul>	X	
Caulking		X
All other maintenance, cleaning, pressure washing and repair		X
Foundations, Footings and Waterproofing (above and below grade)		X

Downspouts and Gutters		
Maintenance, repair and replacement		X
Cleaning		X
Garage Doors		
Painting in connection with the painting of the exterior of the Unit only when the Board determines in its sole and absolute discretion that the exterior paint needs to be replaced due to the life of the painted surface	X	
Touch-up painting		X
Pressure washing, only when the Board determines in its sole and absolute discretion that the exterior building surface needs to be pressure washed	X	
Equipment and operation		X
All other maintenance and repair		X
Decks, Patios and Privacy Panels		

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Painting and staining only when the Board determines at its sole and absolute discretion that the exterior paint or stain needs to be replaced due to the useful life of the painted or stained surface	X	
Touch up painting or staining		X
Routine cleaning of deck, patio and privacy panel surfaces		X
Joists and structural components		X
All other maintenance and repair		X
Exterior Lighting		
Attached to, exclusively serving or located on the Unit		X
Exterior lighting that serves more than one Unit	X	
Driveways, Walkways and Steps		X
Windows, Doors, Glass, Frames, Screens and Hardware	(esi Küli Kulle Küleki 2014 – 11	X
HVAC Equipment (regardless of whether inside or outside the boundaries of the Unit)		X
Pipes, Wires and Conduits		
If serving only 1 Unit		X
If serving more than 1 Unit or a Unit and Common Property	* <b>X</b>	
Hose Bibs		X

- (a) <u>Board Authority to Enter Contracts</u>. The Board of Directors may authorize the officers of the Association to enter into contracts with any Person or Persons to perform maintenance hereunder on behalf of the Association.
- (b) <u>Right of Association to Remove Personal Property</u>. In the event any personal property of an Owner or Occupant, including, but not limited to, any satellite dish, grill or patio furniture, is stored, placed or affixed to a deck, patio, balcony or the exterior of a residential dwelling, the Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, in the Board's sole discretion, to remove and reinstall such personal property in order to perform its responsibilities under this Article 5, and any and all costs associated with the removal and reinstallation of such

property may be assessed against the Unit of such Owner or Occupant as a specific assessment. Additionally, in the event the Association incurs additional costs resulting from the failure of an Owner or Occupant to store, remove or place personal property as provided herein, the Association shall have the right to specifically assess such additional costs against the Unit of such Owner or Occupant. In the event damage or destruction of such personal property occurs during the performance of the Association's obligations herein, the Association, and the officers, directors, agents or employees thereof, shall not be liable for such damage or destruction.

- (c) <u>Architectural Approval Required</u>. Each Owner acknowledges and understands that certain maintenance to the Unit, including, without limitation, periodic painting or roof maintenance or repair may require prior written approval under Article 6 of this Declaration and it is the responsibility of the Owner to determine if such approval is required or necessary.
- (d) Owner Responsibility. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Owner of a Unit shall be obligated to: (i) perform his or her maintenance responsibility in such manner so as not to unreasonably disturb other Persons in or on other Units; and (ii) not make any alterations or additions to or on any portion of a Unit, remove any portion thereof, or do anything with respect to the exterior or interior of such Unit or the structures located thereon which would jeopardize or impair the safety or soundness of any Unit or any structure or improvement located thereon, without first obtaining the signed written consent of the Board and all Owners and Mortgagees of the affected Units. Each Owner shall also not impair any easement without first obtaining the signed written consent of the Association and of the Owner(s) and their Mortgagees for whose benefit such easement exists.

#### 5.3 Landscape Maintenance.

(a) <u>Landscaping to Common Property</u>. Except as may be otherwise determined by the Board as provided herein, the Association shall maintain and keep in good repair the landscaping improvements located on the exterior portions of the Community (whether or not constituting Common Property), including all green space and open space areas. Such maintenance shall be performed at a level to be determined in the sole discretion of the Board. The Board of Directors in its sole discretion may leave certain exterior portions of the Community as undisturbed natural areas and may change the landscaping in the Community at any time and from time to time. Owners shall not add, remove or modify trees, shrubs, bushes, plants or other vegetation to the Common Property without prior written approval pursuant to Article 6 hereof or otherwise as specifically authorized in the Architectural Guidelines (as defined below), if any.

The Board of Directors may promulgate rules setting forth the extent of landscaping maintenance to be performed by the Association to the Common Property and the rights of Owners with respect to adding or modifying landscaping improvements to the Common Property, including, for example allowing seasonal flowering plants in certain portions of the Common Property at the expense of the Owner. Landscaping improvements installed by an Owner on the Common Property in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration shall be maintained by the Owner in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. Any landscaping improvements which are not properly maintained, including, but not limited to, damaged, diseased or dead plants, shrubs and trees may, at the sole discretion of the Board and

subject to the notice provisions of Section 5.5 hereof, be removed from the Community and all costs associated therewith may be assessed against the Owner of the Unit as a specific assessment.

### (b) Lawn and Landscaping to Units.

- (i) By the Association. As provided in Section 5.1 above, the Association shall provide lawn and landscaping to Units which shall include, but not be limited to the following: (A) lawn mowing on a regular basis; (B) tree and shrub pruning; (C) lawn fertilization; (D) weed control in pine straw beds; and (E) installation of pine straw on a schedule determined by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion. The Board of Directors may, with the consent of the Declarant, change the level of landscape maintenance performed to the Units so long as all Units are maintained according to the same standard.
- (ii) By an Owner. Each Owner shall be responsible for all lawn and landscaping to a Unit which is not provided by the Association pursuant to subsection (a) above, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following: (A) shrub fertilization; (B) monitoring plants, shrubs and lawns for insecticide and disease; (C) watering landscaped areas; and (D) keeping lawn and garden areas generally alive and attractive. All lawn and landscape maintenance to Units shall be performed in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. Any landscaping improvements originally installed by an Owner which are not properly maintained, including, without limitation, dead, diseased, damaged or dying plants, trees and shrubs may, at the sole discretion of the Board and, subject to the notice provisions in Section 5.5 hereof, be removed from the Community and all costs associated therewith shall be a specific assessment against the Unit of such Owner.
- (iii) <u>Fences</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 5.3, in the event that a fence is erected or installed on a Unit by Declarant or an Owner pursuant to the provisions of Article 6 hereof, the Owner shall be responsible for maintaining the area enclosed by said fence and shall perform all obligations of the Association set forth in subsection (i) above in a manner consistent with the Community Wide Standard. In such event, the Owner shall not be entitled to a reduction in the liability for assessments arising from the construction of a fence on a Unit.
- 5.4 Failure of an Owner to Maintain. In the event that the Board of Directors determines that any Owner has failed or refused to discharge properly any of such Owner's obligations with regard to the maintenance, repair or replacement of items for which such Owner is responsible under this Declaration, the Association shall, except in an emergency situation, give the Owner written notice of the Association's intent to provide such maintenance, repair or replacement at the Owner's sole cost and expense. The notice shall set forth with reasonable particularity the maintenance, repair or replacement to be performed. The Owner shall have ten (10) days after receipt of such notice within which to complete such maintenance, repair or replacement, or, in the event that such maintenance, repair or replacement is not capable of completion within a tenday period, to commence such work which shall be completed within a reasonable period of time. If an Owner does not comply with the provisions hereof, the Association may provide any such maintenance, repair or replacement and all costs associated therewith shall be assessed

against the Unit as a specific assessment. This Section shall not apply to any Unit(s) owned by the Declarant, unless improved with a dwelling and occupied as a residence.

5.5 Party Walls. Each wall built as part of the original construction of the residential dwelling located on a Unit which shall serve and separate any two (2) adjoining residential dwellings located on adjacent Units shall constitute a party wall and, to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this Section, the general rules of law regarding party walls and liability for property damage due to negligent or willful acts or omissions shall apply thereto. The cost of reasonable repair and maintenance of a party wall shall be shared by the Owners who make use of the wall in equal proportions. If a party wall is destroyed or damaged by fire or other casualty, then any Owner who has benefited by the wall may restore it, and the other Owner who is benefited by the wall shall contribute one-half of the cost of restoration, without prejudice, however, to the right of any Owner to call for a larger contribution from any other Owner under any rule of law regarding liability for negligent or willful acts or omissions.

All such repair or rebuilding shall be done within a reasonable period of time, and in such workmanlike manner with materials comparable to those used in the original wall, and shall conform in all respects to the laws or ordinances regulating the construction of buildings in force at the time of such repair or reconstruction. Whenever any such wall or any portion thereof shall be rebuilt, it shall be erected in the same location and on the same line and be of the same size as the original wall.

5.6 Conveyance of Common Property by Declarant to Association; No Implied Rights. Declarant may transfer or convey to the Association, at any time and from time to time, any personal property and any interest in improved or unimproved real property. Such conveyance shall be deemed to be accepted by the Association upon delivery of any personal property or upon recordation of an instrument of conveyance of any interest in real property, and the property shall thereafter be Common Property to be used and, if and as provided in Section 5.1 hereof, maintained by the Association for the benefit of its members. Until the rights of Declarant terminate as provided in Section 10.5 hereof, Declarant may, upon written notice to the Association, require the Association to re-convey to Declarant all or any portion of the Common Property, improved or unimproved, at no charge to Declarant, without a vote of the members of the Association, if all or a portion of the Common Property is: (a) found by Declarant to have been conveyed in error; (b) needed by Declarant to make adjustments in property boundary lines; or (c) needed by Declarant due to changes in the overall scheme of development for the Community.

The Association hereby constitutes and appoints Declarant as its agent and attorney-in-fact to accept/make on behalf of the Association any such conveyance and re-conveyances and to execute on behalf of the Association any and all documents, including, without limitation, deeds, necessary or convenient to effectuate and document any such conveyances and re-conveyances, and all acts of such attorney-in-fact are hereby ratified. The power and agency hereby granted are coupled with an interest and are irrevocable by death or otherwise. The Declarant shall not be required to make any improvements whatsoever to property to be conveyed and accepted pursuant to this Section and shall have no duty or obligation to convey any property or property rights to the Association regardless of whether or not such property has been made available for

the use of Owners. The Declarant may reserve, by lease, license, easement or otherwise such rights of use and enjoyment in and to all or any portion of the property so conveyed as Declarant may reasonably require so long as such reservation is not materially inconsistent with the overall scheme of development for the Community. The recordation of any subdivision plat, the use by the Owners, or maintenance by the Association of any property shall not create any rights, easements or licenses, in the Association or the Owners, express or implied, unless and until any such property rights, easements or licenses are conveyed by the Declarant to the Association or the Owners, as the case may be, by an instrument recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Glynn County, Georgia.

- 5.7 <u>Partition of Common Property</u>. The Common Property shall remain undivided and no Owner shall bring any action for partition or division of the whole or any part thereof without the written consent of: (a) all Owners of all portions of the property located within the Community; and (b) all holders of all Mortgages encumbering any portion of the property, including, but not limited to, the Units.
- 5.8 <u>Condemnation</u>. In the event of a taking by eminent domain of all or any portion of the Common Property on which improvements have been constructed, the Association shall, if reasonably possible, restore or replace such improvements on the remaining Common Property, unless within sixty (60) days after such taking, an alternative plan is approved by at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the Total Association Vote and the Declarant. The provisions of this Declaration applicable to the replacement and/or restoration of damaged improvements on the Common Property shall also apply to and govern the actions to be taken in the event that the improvements are not restored or replaced after a condemnation.
- 5.9 <u>Limitation of Liability</u>. Owners, Occupants and their guests shall use the common areas maintained by the Association and all other Common Property and all portions of the Community not contained within a Unit, including, without limitation the private Community streets and the Amenity Area, at their own risk and shall assume sole responsibility for their personal belongings used or stored thereon. Each Owner and Occupant shall have an affirmative duty and responsibility to inspect the Common Property, including, without limitation, the private Community streets and the Amenity Area, for any defects, perils or other unsafe conditions relating to the use and enjoyment thereof. The Association, the Declarant and its respective officers, directors, employees, representatives and agents shall not be held liable for:
  (a) personal injury to any person occurring on the Common Property; (b) loss or damage to personal belongings used or stored on the Common Property or on any other portion of the Community; or (c) loss or damage, by theft or otherwise, of any other property of such Owner or Occupant.

In addition to the foregoing, the Association, the Declarant and their respective officers, directors, members, partners, agents and representatives shall not be liable for injury or damage to any Person or property: (a) caused by the elements or by an Owner or any other Person; (b) resulting from any rain or other surface water which may leak or flow from any street, pipe, plumbing, drain, conduit, appliance, equipment, security system, or utility line or facility, the responsibility for the maintenance of which is that of the Association or from any portion of the Common Property; or (c) caused by any street, pipe, plumbing, drain, pond, lake, dam, conduit,

appliance, equipment, security system, or utility line or facility, the responsibility for the maintenance of which is that of the Association, becoming out of repair.

### 5.10 Measures Related to Insurance Coverage.

- (a) The Board of Directors shall have the authority to require all or any Unit Owner(s) to do any act or perform any work involving portions of the Community that are the maintenance responsibility of the Unit Owner which will, in the Board's sole discretion, decrease the possibility of fire or other damage to any improvements located in the Community, reduce the insurance premium paid by the Association for any insurance coverage, or otherwise assist the Board in procuring or maintaining such insurance coverage. This authority shall include, but need not be limited to, requiring Owners to: (i) turn off cut-off valves, which may now or hereafter be installed, during winter months for outside water spigots; (ii) insulate pipes sufficiently or take other preventive measures to prevent water pipes from freezing; (iii) install smoke detectors; (iv) make improvements to the Owner's Unit; and (v) take such other measures as the Board may reasonably require. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the work performed by an Owner pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed the amount of the general assessment applicable to the Unit in any twelve (12) month period.
- (b) In addition to, and not in limitation of, any other rights the Association may have, if any Unit Owner does not comply with any reasonable requirement made by the Board pursuant to Section 5.10(a) above, the Association, upon fifteen (15) days' written notice (during which period the Unit Owner may perform the required act or work without further liability), may perform such required act or work and such cost shall be a specific assessment and a lien against the Unit and shall be collected as provided herein for the collection of assessments. The Association shall have all rights necessary to implement the requirements mandated by the Board pursuant to Section 5.10(a) above, including, but not limited to, a right of entry during reasonable hours and after reasonable notice to the Owner or Occupant of the Unit, except that access may be had at any time without notice in an emergency situation.
- 5.11 <u>Gate System</u>. It is anticipated that the Declarant may install the Gate System in the Community. Each Owner, by accepting a deed to a Unit, shall be deemed to acknowledge and agree to the following:
- (a) The Board of Directors, with the consent of the Declarant, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, shall determine when the Gate System will be operational.
- (b) Neither Declarant, the Association nor their respective officers, directors, members, representatives or agents shall be responsible for the security of Owners, Occupants or their family members, guests, invitees or property. NEITHER DECLARANT, THE ASSOCIATION NOR ANY OWNER OR OCCUPANT GUARANTEES OR ASSURES TO ANY OTHER OWNER OR OCCUPANT NOR ANY OTHER PARTY WHOMSOEVER THAT THE GATE SYSTEM WILL IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER PROVIDE PERSONAL PROTECTION OR SECURITY TO ANY OWNER OR OCCUPANT, THEIR PERSONAL POSSESSIONS OR TO GUESTS OR INVITEES, OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON, AND EACH OWNER, BY THE ACCEPTANCE OF A DEED TO A UNIT, SHALL HAVE ASSUMED THE ENTIRE RISK AS

BETWEEN SUCH OWNER AND DECLARANT OR THE ASSOCIATION, AS APPLICABLE, FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PERSON OR PROPERTY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY ARISING FROM ANY DEFICIENCY, FAILURE OR DEFECT IN THE GATE SYSTEM OR OTHERWISE.

- (c) All governmental authorities shall have access to the Community for law enforcement, safety and emergency purposes. Each Owner shall look solely to the applicable governmental authority for the provision of law enforcement and police protection.
- (d) The Gate System is not intended to replace or to serve in lieu of individual alarm systems or other measures designed to provide security at a residence or within any Unit. Each Owner is encouraged to install personal security devices upon and within such Owner's Unit to the same extent that would be prudent if the Gate System did not exist.
- (e) The Gate System will be installed based upon the representations of vendors regarding the operation and performance capabilities of the components of the Gate System.
- (f) DECLARANT DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AND MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER REGARDING THE GATE SYSTEM, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH IT WAS DESIGNED. Declarant does not guarantee that the Gate System will avert or prevent occurrences or consequences which the Gate System is designed to avert or prevent.
- (g) The Gate System shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the Association at its sole cost and expense and the costs associated therewith shall be included in the general assessment as provided in Section 4.4 hereof. Declarant shall not be required to operate or maintain the Gate System.
- (h) Each Owner shall use the Gate System in the proper manner and within the rules and regulations relating thereto as may be adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors.

# Article 6 <u>Architectural Standards</u>

6.1 General. No exterior construction, alteration or addition of any improvements of any nature whatsoever (including, without limitation, staking, clearing, excavating, grading, filling, construction of impervious surfaces, building, exterior alteration of existing improvements, exterior lighting, changing the exterior color of any existing improvement and planting and/or removing landscaping materials), shall be commenced or placed upon any part of the Community unless installed by the Declarant or its respective affiliates, approved in accordance with this Article, or otherwise expressly permitted under this Declaration. Any Owner may remodel, paint or redecorate the interior of a structure located on a Unit without approval hereunder. However, additions and/or modifications to the interior of porches, patios, decks, balconies and similar portions of a structure visible from outside of a Unit shall be subject to

approval. No approval shall be required to rebuild in accordance with originally approved plans and specifications. This Article shall not apply to the activities of the Declarant, its affiliates, nor to improvements to the Common Property made by or on behalf of the Association. This Article may not be amended without the written consent of the Declarant until its rights have terminated as provided herein.

6.2 <u>Guidelines and Procedures</u>. Except as provided above or as specifically articulated in the Architectural Guidelines established pursuant to Section 6.3 hereof, no exterior construction, addition or alteration shall be made unless and until plans and specifications shall have been submitted in writing to and approved by the Declarant. Such plans and specifications shall be of sufficient detail to allow the Declarant to make its review and to the extent required by the Declarant shall show the nature, kind, shape, height, materials and location of the proposed structure or improvement. The Declarant shall be the sole arbiter of such plans and specifications and may withhold approval for any reason, including, without limitation, purely aesthetic considerations, and it shall be entitled to stop any construction in violation of such plans and specifications. If the Declarant fails to approve or disapprove submitted plans and specifications within forty-five (45) days after receipt of all required plans and specifications, such approval shall be deemed to have been given. If construction does not commence on a project for which plans have been approved within twelve (12) months of such approval, such approval shall be deemed withdrawn, and it shall be necessary for the Owner to resubmit the plans to the Declarant for reconsideration.

As a condition of approval under this Article, each Owner, on behalf of such Owner and such Owner's successors-in-interest, shall assume all responsibilities for maintenance, repair, replacement and insurance to and on any structure, improvement, change, modification, addition or alteration. In the discretion of the Declarant, an Owner may be required to verify such condition of approval by a recordable written instrument acknowledged by such Owner on behalf of such Owner and such Owner's successors-in-interest. The Declarant and its representatives shall have the right, during reasonable hours and after reasonable notice, to enter upon any property in the Community to determine whether or not these restrictive covenants have been or are being complied with and such Persons shall not be deemed guilty of trespass by reason of such entry; provided, however, nothing herein shall authorize entry into any residential dwelling located on a Unit without the consent of the Owner thereof.

All provisions of this Declaration and any Association rules and Architectural Guidelines adopted in accordance with Section 6.3 hereof shall apply to all Owners, Occupants, tenants, guests, and invitees of any Unit.

6.3 Architectural Guidelines. The Declarant may adopt written architectural and landscaping guidelines (collectively, the "Architectural Guidelines") and application and review procedures, which may provide for a review fee. The Declarant shall have authority to prepare, amend, modify, repeal or expand from time to time at its sole discretion and without notice, the Architectural Guidelines. In the event the Architectural Guidelines are modified, expanded or repealed, in whole or in part, said new Architectural Guidelines shall be distributed to all Owners and Occupants prior to the date that they are to become effective and shall thereafter be binding upon all Owners and Occupants until and unless overruled, canceled or modified by a majority of

the Total Association Vote and the Declarant. The Architectural Guidelines shall be made available to Owners and Occupants who seek to engage in construction upon all or any portion of the Community and such Owners and Occupants shall conduct their operations strictly in accordance therewith and with the provisions of this Article 6.

The Board shall have no obligation to call a meeting of the members to consider disapproval of the Architectural Guidelines except upon petition of the members as required for special meetings in the Bylaws. A copy of the Architectural Guidelines then in effect shall be provided to any requesting member or Mortgagee.

All Owners and Occupants of Units are hereby notified that the use of their Units is limited by the Architectural Guidelines as they may be amended, expanded, and otherwise modified hereunder. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed or entering into a contract of sale, acknowledges and agrees that the use and enjoyment and marketability of his or her Unit can be affected by the Architectural Guidelines, that the Architectural Guidelines may change from time to time, and that such changed Architectural Guidelines may or may not be set forth in an instrument recorded in the Glynn County, Georgia land records.

- 6.4 Limitation of Liability. Plans and specifications are not approved for engineering or structural design, quality of materials or for compliance with permitting requirements, building codes, zoning conditions applicable to the Community or other local laws, regulations or ordinances governing construction in the Community and by approving such plans and specifications the Declarant, the Association, and their respective directors, officers, members, representatives, agents or employees assume no liability or responsibility therefor or for any defect in any structure or improvement constructed from such plans and specifications or for any violation of building codes, permitting requirements, zoning conditions or for any other violation of any local or governmental law, regulation or ordinance governing construction in the Community. Neither Declarant, the Association, nor their respective officers, directors, members, employees and agents shall be liable in damages to anyone submitting plans and specifications to any of them for approval or to any Owner of property affected by these restrictions by reason of mistake in judgment, negligence or nonfeasance arising out of or in connection with the approval or disapproval or failure to approve or disapprove any such plans or specifications. Every Person who submits plans and specifications and every Owner agrees that such Person or Owner will not bring any action or suit against Declarant, the Association or their respective officers, directors, members, employees, representatives and agents to recover any damages and hereby releases, remises, quitclaims and covenants not to sue for all claims, demands and causes of action arising out of or in connection with any judgment, negligence or nonfeasance and hereby waives the provisions of any law which provides that a general release does not extend to claims, demands and causes of action not known at the time the release is given.
- 6.5 No Waiver. The approval of the Declarant of any proposals or plans and specifications or drawings for any work done or proposed, or in connection with any other matter requiring the approval or consent of the Declarant, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of any right to withhold approval or consent as to any similar proposals, plans and specifications or drawings or matters whatsoever subsequently or additionally submitted for approval or consent.

- 6.6 <u>Variances</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Declarant shall be authorized to grant individual variances from any of the provisions of this Declaration and the Architectural Guidelines, if it determines that waiver of application or enforcement of the provision in a particular case is dictated by unique circumstances, such as, but not limited to, topography, natural obstructions, hardship, aesthetic considerations or environmental considerations. No variance shall: (a) be effective unless in writing; (b) be inconsistent with the overall scheme of development for the Community; or (c) estop the Declarant from denying a variance in other similar circumstances. For purposes of this provision, the inability to obtain approval of any governmental agency or the issuance of any permit, or the terms of any financing shall not be considered a hardship warranting a variance.
- 6.7 Enforcement. Any structure, improvement or landscaping improvement placed or made in violation of this Article shall be deemed to be nonconforming. Upon written request from the Declarant, Owners shall, at their own cost and expense, remove such nonconforming structure or improvement and restore the land to substantially the same condition as existed prior to the nonconforming work. Should an Owner fail to remove and restore as required, the Declarant and its agents shall have the right to enter the property, remove the nonconforming structure or improvement, and restore the property to substantially the same condition as previously existed. All costs, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred, may be assessed against the Unit as a specific assessment. Neither the Declarant, the Association nor their respective officers, directors, members, employees and agents shall be held liable to any Person for exercising the rights granted by this Section, including, without limitation, claims for damages resulting from the removal of the nonconforming structure or improvement as provided herein. In the event of noncompliance with this Article, the Association or the Declarant, as the case may be, may record in the appropriate land records a notice of violation hereunder naming the violating Owner. Declarant or the Association, as applicable, shall also have the authority and standing to pursue any and all remedies available at law and equity to enforce the provisions of this Article, including, without limitation, the right to levy and collect fines as provided herein and in Section 3.21 of the Bylaws.

Any contractor, subcontractor, agent, employee or other invitee of an Owner who fails to comply with the terms and provisions of this Article and the Architectural Guidelines may be excluded by the Declarant from the Community, subject to any applicable notice and hearing procedures contained in the Bylaws.

6.8 Architectural Review Committee. Until: (a) the Declarant no longer owns any property in the Community and no longer owns any property that can be annexed to the Community as provided herein; and (b) each Unit has been improved with a dwelling for which a certificate of occupancy has been issued, the Declarant shall have the sole right, power and authority under this Article. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Declarant may in its sole discretion relinquish architectural control as to certain types of improvements or modifications to an architectural review committee ("Architectural Review Committee") while retaining control over all other building and construction in the Community; provided, however, any right, power or authority of the Declarant which may be relinquished to the Architectural Review Committee prior to the termination of the rights of Declarant hereunder shall only be in a written instrument

in recordable form executed by Declarant and recorded with the Clerk of the Superior Court of Glynn County, Georgia. For example and without limitation, the Declarant may relinquish control over modifications of existing structures to the Architectural Review Committee while retaining all authority to review and approve new home construction. The establishment of an advisory Architectural Review Committee shall not be deemed to be a relinquishment by Declarant of any of its right, power and authority hereunder.

Upon expiration or earlier surrender in writing of all or a portion of such right and authority by the Declarant, the Board of Directors shall appoint an Architectural Review Committee, which shall then have such jurisdiction over architectural control under this Article as may have been relinquished by the Declarant. After the termination of all rights of Declarant hereunder, the Architectural Review Committee shall have all right, power and authority to review and approve building and construction activity within the Community hereunder and this Article shall then be read and interpreted as if any reference to the authority of or action by the Declarant in this Article 6 were a reference to the authority of or action by the Architectural Review Committee. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the members of the Architectural Review Committee shall be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

### Article 7 Use Restrictions and Rules

7.1 Rules and Regulations. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, with the consent of Declarant and without a vote of the members, promulgate, modify or delete reasonable rules and regulations applicable to the Community. Such rules and regulations shall be distributed to all Owners prior to the date that they are to become effective and shall thereafter be binding upon all Owners and Occupants until and unless overruled, canceled or modified by a majority of the Total Association Vote and the Declarant.

All Owners and Occupants of Units are hereby notified that the use of their Units is limited by any rules and regulations adopted by the Board, as they may be amended, expanded, and otherwise modified hereunder. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed or entering into a contract of sale, acknowledges and agrees that the use and enjoyment and marketability of his or her Unit can be affected by the rules and regulations, that the rules and regulations may change from time to time, and that such changed rules and regulations may or may not be set forth in an instrument recorded in the Glynn County, Georgia land records.

7.2 Residential Use. Each Unit shall be used for residential purposes exclusively. Leasing of a Unit for residential occupancy shall not be considered a business or business activity. No trade or business of any kind may be conducted in or from a Unit, except that the Owner or Occupant residing at the Unit may conduct business activities within the residential dwelling located thereon so long as the business activity: (a) does not otherwise violate the provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws or rules and regulations of the Association; (b) is not apparent or detectable by sight, sound or smell from the exterior of the Unit; (c) does not unduly increase traffic flow or parking congestion; (d) conforms to all zoning requirements for the Community; (e) does not increase the insurance premium paid by the Association or otherwise

negatively affect the ability of the Association to obtain insurance coverage; (f) is consistent with the residential character of the Community; (g) does not constitute a nuisance or a hazardous or offensive use; (h) does not threaten the security or safety of other residents of the Community; (i) does not involve door-to-door solicitation within the Community; (j) does not involve more than five individuals within the Unit at any one time, of which no more than two may reside outside the Unit; and (k) does not involve regular visitation of the Unit by employees who do not reside at the Unit, clients, customers, suppliers or other business invitees, all as may be determined in each case in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board may issue rules regarding permitted business activities. The terms "business" and "trade", as used in this provision, shall be construed to have their ordinary, generally accepted meanings and shall include, without limitation, any occupation, work or activity undertaken on an ongoing basis which involves the provision of goods or services to Persons other than the provider's family and for which the provider receives a fee, compensation, or other form of consideration, regardless of whether: (x) the activity is engaged in full or part-time; (y) the activity is intended to or does generate a profit; or (z) a license is required for the activity. Nothing in this Section 7.2 shall be construed as prohibiting the Declarant from maintaining model homes, speculative housing, sales trailers or construction trailers in the Community.

7.3 Signs. No sign of any kind shall be erected or displayed within the Community without the prior written consent under Article 6 hereof; provided, however, the following signs may be erected or displayed on a Unit without prior written approval under Article 6: (a) one (1) professionally lettered For-Rent sign consistent with the Community-Wide Standard; provided, however, the Board or its designee may require that the sign be displayed only from within the dwelling structure; (b) security signs not larger than 18-inches by 18-inches and any signs required by legal proceedings; (c) one (1) "life event" sign commemorating a birth, graduation, or similar life event for a period not to exceed seven (7) days from the date of the event; (d) political signs in a reasonable number for a limited time as may be determined by the Board from time to time in its sole discretion; and (e) such other signs as may be permitted by the Architectural Guidelines. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board, on behalf of the Association, and the Declarant shall have the right to erect and display reasonable and appropriate signs, including, without limitation, signs relating to the development, construction, marketing or sales of residential dwellings located on Units in the Community. The Board or Declarant may impose a reasonable fine per day for the display of any sign which violates this provision and is not removed within twenty-four (24) hours after written demand is delivered to the Owner at the Unit. The Board of Directors shall have the right to adopt rules and regulations governing the display and placement of signs in the Community, including, without limitation, imposing reasonable time, place and manner restrictions. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the provisions of this Section shall not apply to any Mortgagee in possession due to foreclosure of a first Mortgage or as grantee pursuant to any deed in lieu of such foreclosure.

### 7.4 Vehicles; Parking.

(a) <u>General</u>. Vehicles shall be parked only in appropriate parking spaces serving the Unit or other designated parking areas established by the Board, if any. The term "<u>vehicles</u>," as used herein, shall include, without limitation, motor homes, boats, trailers, motorcycles, minibikes, scooters, go carts, golf carts, trucks, campers, buses, vans and automobiles. The term

"parking spaces serving a Unit" shall refer to the number of garage parking spaces and, if and only if, the Owner or Occupants of a Unit have more vehicles than the number of garage parking spaces, those excess vehicles which are an Owner's or Occupant's primary means of transportation on a regular basis may be parked on the driveway located on such Unit; provided, however, no vehicle parked on a driveway shall encroach onto any portion of the sidewalk, public right-of-way or any landscaped or grassy area. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, parking at mailbox kiosk areas, if any, shall be for short term temporary parking, only for such reasonable period of time as may be necessary to retrieve mail, and may be subject to such additional rules and regulations as the Board may adopt from time to time. All parking shall be further subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the Board may adopt from time to time. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, no on-street parking shall be permitted.

- (b) <u>Garages</u>. All homes shall contain a garage; carports shall not be permitted. Garage doors should be kept closed at all times, except during times of ingress and egress from the garage. Garages shall be used primarily for the parking of vehicles and not for storage or other purposes; provided, however, use of a garage shall be permitted so long as such storage does not prevent an Owner or Occupant from parking his or her vehicles in the garage. Garages may not be converted to additional living space unless the same has been approved in accordance with Article 6 hereof.
- (c) Disabled and Stored Vehicles. No vehicle may be left upon any portion of the Community, except in an enclosed garage or other area designated by the Board, if any, for a period longer than five (5) days if it is not licensed or if it is in a condition such that it is incapable of being operated upon the public highways. After such five-day period, such vehicle may be removed from the Community by the Board of Directors or the appropriate authority of Glynn County. Any towed vehicle, boat, personal watercraft, recreational vehicle, motor home, trailer, motorcycle, minibike, scooter, go cart, golf cart, commercial truck, camper, bus or mobile home regularly stored in the Community or temporarily kept in the Community, except if kept in an enclosed garage, for periods longer than twenty-four (24) hours may be removed from the Community by the Board of Directors (the temporary removal of such vehicle to break the continuity of the twenty-four (24) hour period shall not be sufficient to establish compliance with this restriction). Trucks with mounted campers which are used as a primary means of transportation shall not be considered recreational vehicles provided they are used on a regular basis for transportation and the camper is stored out of public view upon removal. No eighteen wheel trucks or the cabs of such trucks or trucks with a load capacity in excess of three-quarters of a ton shall be parked, kept or stored within the Community except during the time reasonably necessary to provide service to or delivery within the Community. All parking shall be subject to such other rules and regulations as the Board may adopt from time to time.
- (d) <u>Commercial Vehicles</u>. The term "<u>commercial vehicles</u>" as used in this paragraph, shall include, without limitation, any standard passenger vehicles, pick-up trucks or vans with no more than two (2) axels which bear any indicia of commercial use, including, but not limited to, writing, logos, ladders, ladder racks, vehicles displaying signage of a commercial or business nature or vehicles which are not primarily used for the transportation of passengers, all as determined by the Board in its sole discretion.

Commercial vehicles must fit and be parked within an enclosed garage or on the driveway serving the Unit without blocking or impeding traffic on the sidewalk or street. Such vehicles shall be kept clean and in good repair.

Vehicles of three (3) or more axels shall not be permitted in the Community, except if kept in an enclosed garage. Construction, service, and delivery vehicles shall be exempt from this provision for such period of time as is reasonably necessary to provide service to or make a delivery within the Community.

- (e) Remedies of the Association for Noncompliance. If any vehicle is parked on any portion of the Community in violation of this Section or in violation of the Association's rules and regulations, the Board or agent of the Association may cause the vehicle to be towed or booted, subject to compliance with applicable law, including any notice required thereby. The notice may be a general notice by signage or may be placed on the vehicle, if and as allowed under applicable law, as the case may be. If a vehicle is parked in a fire lane, is blocking another vehicle, is obstructing the flow of traffic, is parked on any landscaped area or otherwise creates a hazardous condition, the Board or agent of the Association may have the vehicle towed immediately, subject to compliance with applicable law. If a vehicle is towed or booted in accordance with this subparagraph and applicable law, Declarant, the Association and their respective affiliates, directors, officers, employees, representatives or agents shall not be liable to any person for any claim of damage as a result of the towing or booting activity. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Board may elect to impose fines or use other available sanctions, rather than exercise its authority to tow or boot.
- (f) <u>Traffic Regulations</u>. All vehicular traffic on any private streets in the Community shall be subject to the provisions of the state and local laws concerning the operation of motor vehicles on public streets. The Association is hereby authorized to promulgate, administer, and enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing vehicular and pedestrian traffic, including, without limitation, imposing reasonable safety measures and speed limits consistent with those in force on public streets within the Community. The Association shall be entitled to enforce the same by establishing such enforcement procedures as it deems appropriate, including levying and collecting fines for the violation thereof. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of state and local laws and rules and regulations promulgated by the Association, the more restrictive provision shall control. Only drivers properly licensed to operate motor vehicles on the public roads within the State of Georgia may operate any type of motor vehicle within the Community. All vehicles of any kind and nature which are operated on the streets and alleys in the Community shall be operated in a careful, prudent, safe, and quiet manner and with due consideration for the rights of all Owners and Occupants.
- (g) <u>Guest Parking Spaces</u>. Portions of the Common Property may contain striped and lined parking spaces for use by the guests of Owners and Occupants, as may be more particularly identified on the recorded subdivision plat(s) for the Community ("<u>Guest Parking Spaces</u>"). The Guest Parking Spaces shall be on a first-come, first served basis and are reserved for the exclusive use of the guests of Owners and Occupants. For purposes of this Section 7.4(g), a guest is defined as an individual who resides in the Unit for less than ten (10) consecutive days. A guest may park his or her vehicle in a Guest Parking Space for up to ten (10) consecutive days;

provided, however, the temporary removal of a vehicle from a Guest Parking Space or the relocation of a vehicle from one Guest Parking Space to another Guest Parking Space shall not be sufficient to establish compliance with this restriction. Any guest residing at a Unit for more than ten (10) consecutive days shall be deemed to be an Occupant and must park his or her vehicle in either the garage or driveway serving the Unit. Owners and Occupants are prohibited from parking vehicles in the Guest Parking Spaces. Any guest, Owner or Occupant who fails to comply with the provisions set forth in this subsection (g) shall be subject to the remedies of the Association as set forth in subsection (e) above and any other remedies available to the Association under this Declaration or Georgia law.

- (h) <u>Declarant Exemption</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 7.4, the Declarant and its respective agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors and assigns shall have the right, during regular business hours, to park vehicles on any and all streets within the Community as needed in order to facilitate the construction, development, maintenance and build out of the Community.
- 7.5 <u>Leasing</u>. Units may be leased for residential purposes. All leases shall be in writing. Units may be leased only in their entirety; no fraction or portion may be leased without prior written Board approval. Unless otherwise provided by the Board of Directors, all leases shall have a minimum term of at least seven (7) days. The Owner must provide the lessee with copies of the Declaration, Bylaws, the rules and regulations of the Association and Architectural Guidelines and the lease shall provide that the Owner has made available to the lessee copies of the Declaration, Bylaws, the Association's rules and regulations and Architectural Guidelines.
- (a) <u>Compliance with Declaration, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and Architectural Guidelines</u>. Each Owner covenants and agrees that any lease of a Unit shall contain the following language and agrees that if such language is not expressly contained therein, then such language shall be incorporated into the lease by existence of this covenant, and the lessee, by occupancy of the Unit, agrees to the applicability of this covenant and incorporation of the following language into the lease:

Lessee shall abide by and comply with all provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations and Architectural Guidelines adopted pursuant thereto and shall control the conduct of all other Occupants and guests of the leased Unit in order to ensure such compliance. Owner agrees to cause all Occupants of his or her Unit to comply with the Declaration, Bylaws, the rules and regulations and Architectural Guidelines adopted pursuant thereto and is responsible for all violations caused by such Occupants, notwithstanding the fact that such Occupants of the Unit are fully liable and may be sanctioned for any violation of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations and Architectural Guidelines adopted pursuant thereto. In the event that the lessee or a person living with the lessee violates the Declaration, Bylaws, or a rule, regulation or Architectural Guideline for which a fine is imposed, notice of the violation shall be given to the Owner and the lessee, and such fine may be assessed against the lessee in accordance with the provisions contained herein. If the fine is not paid by the lessee within the time period set by the Board of Directors, the Owner shall pay the fine upon notice from the Association of the lessee's failure to pay the fine. Unpaid fines shall constitute a lien against the Unit.

- (b) Notice. Within ten (10) days after executing a lease agreement for the lease of a Unit, the Owner shall provide the Board with the following information: (i) a copy of the fully executed lease agreement; (ii) the name of the lessee and all other Occupants of the Unit; (iii) the phone number and email address of the lessee; (iv) the Owner's address and phone number other than at the Unit; (v) the Owner's email address; and (vi) such other information as the Board may reasonably require.
- (c) <u>Use of Common Property</u>. The Owner transfers and assigns to the lessee, for the term of the lease, any and all rights and privileges that the Owner has to use and enjoy the Common Property, including, without limitation, the right to use the Amenity Area.
- (d) <u>Liability for Assessments</u>; <u>Assignment of Rent</u>. If an Owner who is leasing his or her Unit fails to pay any general, special or specific assessment or any other charge owed to the Association for a period of more than thirty (30) days after it is due and payable, then the delinquent Owner hereby consents to the assignment of any rent received from the lessee during the period of delinquency, and, upon request by the Board of Directors, lessee shall pay to the Association all unpaid general, special and specific assessments and other charges payable during and prior to the term of the lease and any other period of occupancy by lessee. However, lessee need not make such payments to the Association in excess of, or prior to the due dates for, monthly rental payments unpaid at the time of the Board of Director's request. All such payments made by lessee shall reduce, by the same amount, lessee's obligation to make monthly rental payments to lessor. If lessee fails to comply with the Board of Director's request to pay assessments or other charges, lessee shall pay to the Association all amounts authorized under the Declaration as if lessee were an Owner. The above provision shall not be construed to release the Owner from any obligation, including the obligation for assessments, for which he or she would otherwise be responsible.
- 7.6 Animals and Pets. No animals, livestock or poultry of any kind shall be raised, bred or kept on any Unit; provided, however, dogs or cats may be kept on a Unit, not to exceed a total of three (3) such animals, provided they are not kept, bred or maintained for any commercial purposes. In addition to the foregoing, no more than two (2) additional animals such as birds, hamsters, guinea pigs, turtles or small lizards or other constantly caged or contained animals shall be allowed within a dwelling located on a Unit. The limitation on the number of pets described above shall not apply to fish contained within an aquarium. In no event shall monkeys, snakes, pigs, chicken or other poultry, or exotic animals be permitted on a Unit. No animal shall be stored or kept temporarily or permanently in any garage located on a Unit. No dog runs, runners or exterior pens for household pets shall be erected or maintained on any Unit unless approved in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 hereof. Dogs shall at all times when outside of a dwelling located on a Unit be kept on a leash or otherwise under the physical control of a responsible person.

The Association may adopt reasonable rules and regulations designed to minimize damage and disturbance to other Owners and Occupants, including regulations requiring damage deposits, waste removal, leash controls and noise controls.

All Owners must control their animals at all times, whether or not such Owner is present, in a manner that will prevent any pet from: (a) making noise at objectionable sound levels for extended periods of time, whether continuously or intermittently; (b) endangering the health or safety of other Owners, their families, guests or invitees or creating fear in other Owners as to the safety of themselves, their families, guests or invitees; or (c) otherwise constituting a nuisance or inconvenience to the Owner(s) of any other Unit; all of the foregoing as determined by the Association. In the event that the Owner or person responsible for the animal fails to comply with the foregoing, the Association shall have the right to institute legal action and the Owner of the Unit where the animal was kept (or was brought by a guest or invitee) shall be responsible for all costs associated therewith, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred. In the event that such Owner fails to reimburse the Association for such costs and expenses within twenty-one (21) days after the Association's demand for reimbursement, such costs and expenses shall become a specific assessment against such Unit. An Owner's failure to remove fecal matter or other solid waste left in any Common Property or Unit by an animal owned by an Occupant of such Owner's Unit (or their guests or invitees) shall be conclusively deemed to be a nuisance, and shall subject such Owner to such reasonable penalties as may be determined by the Association, including without limitation, upon repeated violations, the removal of such animal as described above.

Every person owning or having possession, charge, care, custody or control of any dog, cat or other uncaged animal shall keep such pet exclusively inside his own residential dwelling or inside the confines of such Owner's Unit; provided, however, that a dog may be outside of an Owner's Unit if it is under the control of a competent person and restrained by a chain, leash or other means of adequate physical control. Any Owner or Occupant who keeps or maintains any animal within the Community shall be deemed to have agreed to indemnify and hold harmless the Association, Declarant and their respective officers, directors, employees and agents from any and all loss, claim, or liability of any kind or character whatsoever arising by reason of keeping or maintaining such animal in the Community.

7.7 Nuisance. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner and Occupant to prevent the development of any unclean, unhealthy, unsightly or unkempt condition on a Unit. No property within the Community shall be used, in whole or in part, for the storage of any property or thing that will cause such Unit to appear to be in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing or material be kept that will emit foul or obnoxious odors or that will cause any noise or other condition that will or might disturb the peace, quiet, safety, comfort or serenity of the occupants of surrounding property. No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on within the Community, nor shall anything be done tending to cause embarrassment, discomfort, annoyance or nuisance to any Person using any property within the Community. No plants, animals, device or thing of any sort shall be maintained in the Community whose activities or existence is in any way noxious, dangerous, unsightly, unpleasant or of a nature as may diminish or destroy the enjoyment of the Community by other Owners and Occupants. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no horns, whistles, bells, or other sound devices, except security devices used exclusively for security purposes. screaming, shouting, excessively loud talking, fighting, raucous behavior, insobriety, playing loud music or television, use of any alarm, equipment, or device, mechanical or otherwise, which creates or produces excessively loud sounds or any vibrations, or any conduct which creates any

noxious or offensive odors outside of a home shall be permitted, located, used or placed on any Unit. In no event shall cigarette butts or cigar butts be permitted or deposited on the Common Property. The inconvenience complained of shall not be fanciful, or such as would affect only one of fastidious taste, but it shall be such as would affect an ordinary, reasonable person as determined in a particular instance by the Board. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, each Owner and Occupant acknowledges that the Declarant and their respective agents, subcontractors, employees and assigns may engage in construction activities in the Community and further agrees that such construction activities shall not be deemed a nuisance as provided herein.

- 7.8 <u>Unsightly or Unkempt Conditions</u>. The pursuit of hobbies or other activities, including specifically, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the assembly and disassembly of motor vehicles and other mechanical devices, which might tend to cause disorderly, unsightly or unkempt conditions, shall not be pursued or undertaken in any part of the Community. This Section shall not apply to Declarant during the initial construction of a residential dwelling on a Unit.
- 7.9 Antennae. No exterior antenna, receiving dish or similar apparatus of any kind for receiving and/or transmitting audio or video signals shall be placed, allowed or maintained upon any portion of the Community, including any Unit, unless approved in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 hereof or in compliance with Architectural Guidelines; provided, however, no approval shall be necessary to install the following on a residential dwelling located on a Unit: (a) antennas designed to receive direct broadcast satellite services, including direct-to-home satellite services or antennae designed to receive or transmit fixed wireless signals via satellite, that are one meter or less in diameter; (b) antennas designed to receive video programming services via multi-point distribution services or antennae designed to receive or transmit fixed wireless signals other than via satellite that are one meter or less in diameter or diagonal measurement; or (c) antennas that are designed and intended to receive television broadcast signals.

Owners shall install any permitted antennae on the rear of the residential dwelling located on a Unit unless such installation: (a) imposes unreasonable delay or prevents the use of the antennae; (b) unreasonably increases the cost of installation; or (c) an acceptable quality signal cannot otherwise be obtained. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any damage to a roof of the residential dwelling located on a Unit arising from or in connection with the installation, repair or removal of permitted antennae shall be repaired and/or replaced by the Owner thereof.

- 7.10 <u>Firearms</u>. The discharge of firearms the Community is prohibited. The term "firearms" includes, but is not limited to, B-B guns, pellet guns, archery equipment and firearms of all types, regardless of size.
- 7.11 <u>Fences</u>. No fence or fencing type barrier of any kind shall be placed, erected, allowed or maintained upon any Unit without the prior written consent under Article 6 hereof; provided, however, the Declarant and the Association may erect any type of fence on the Common Property or elsewhere within the Community as they may deem appropriate or as

necessary to satisfy the requirements of any law, regulation or governmental entity or for the health and safety of Owners and Occupants.

- 7.12 Air-Conditioning Units. No window air conditioning units may be installed.
- 7.13 Exterior Lighting, Displays and Decorations.
- (a) Exterior Lighting. Exterior lighting on any Unit visible from the street shall not be permitted, except for: (i) approved lighting originally installed on a Unit; (ii) one decorative post light; (iii) street lights in conformity with an established street lighting program for the Community; (iv) seasonal decorative lights for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of installation, subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the Board may adopt from time to time in its sole discretion; (v) front house illumination of model homes; or (vi) other lighting approved under and pursuant to Article 6 hereof or as permitted in the Architectural Guidelines.
- (b) <u>Displays and Decorations</u>. Religious or holiday symbols and decorations may be displayed on a Unit of the kinds normally displayed in single-family residential neighborhoods; provided, however, the Association may adopt reasonable time, place and manner restrictions with respect to said symbols and decorations visible from outside of a structure located on a Unit, including limitations on appearance, style, size, and number; and further provided, no decoration or symbol may be placed on a Unit for more than thirty (30) days in any twelve (12) month period.
- 7.14 Artificial Vegetation, Gardens, Play Equipment, Exterior Sculpture, Water Features and Similar Items. No artificial vegetation shall be permitted on the exterior of any property. No vegetable garden, hammock, statuary, play equipment (including, without limitation, basketball goals), exterior sculpture, fountains or water features may be erected on any Unit without prior written approval in accordance with Article 6 hereof or applicable Architectural Guidelines.
- 7.15 Flags. No flags may be displayed on any Unit without prior written approval in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 hereof or in accordance with applicable Architectural Guidelines; provided, however no approval shall be required to: (a) display the flag of the United States of America and the current flag of the State of Georgia on a Unit in accordance with the provisions of the U.S. Flag Code (36 US Code 10) and usual and customary practice; and (b) display a seasonal flag or banner no larger than two feet (2') by four feet (4') consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and other usual and customary practice for a period not to exceed one thirty (30) day period per quarter. The Board of Directors of the Association may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations with respect to the display of flags in the Community, including, without limitation, regulating the size of flags that may be displayed and imposing reasonable time, place and manner restrictions pertaining to the display of the United States flag; provided, however, the Association shall not enact any rule or regulation which has the effect of prohibiting any Owner from displaying the flag of the United States of America on a Unit in the Community in contravention of the Freedom to Display the American Flag Act of 2005. Free standing flag poles shall be prohibited.

- 7.16 <u>Conservation Equipment</u>. No solar energy collector panels or attendant hardware or other conservation equipment, including, without limitation, rain barrels, shall be constructed or installed unless as an integral and harmonious part of the architectural design of a structure or otherwise screened from view and approved under Article 6 hereof or as otherwise permitted in the Architectural Guidelines.
  - 7.17 Clotheslines. No exterior clotheslines of any type shall be permitted upon any Unit.
- 7.18 Awnings and Window Treatments. No foil or other reflective materials shall be used on any windows for sunscreens, blinds, shades or for any other purpose. The side of all window treatments which can be seen at any time from the outside of any structure located on a Unit must be white or off-white or such other acceptable color as may be provided in the Architectural Guidelines. Except on Units on which there is maintained a sales office or model home by the Declarant or as otherwise approved in accordance with Article 6 hereof, no metal, wood, fabric, fiberglass or similar type material awnings or patio covers will be permitted anywhere in the Community.
- 7.19 Storm and Screen Doors and Windows. Owners shall not add screen doors on any Unit without prior written approval in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 hereof. Owners shall be permitted to install full-view storm doors with white or black frames without prior written approval in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 hereof, provided such full-view storm door is consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and meets any requirements or specifications set forth in the Architectural Guidelines established by the Declarant or Board of Directors from time to time, if any.
- 7.20 <u>Drainage</u>. Catch basins, retention ponds, detention ponds, drainage easement areas and related drainage facilities are for the purpose of controlling the natural flow of water only. No obstructions or debris shall be placed in these areas. No Owner may obstruct or alter the drainage flow after the location and installation of catch basins, retention ponds, detention ponds, drainage swales, storm sewers or storm drains without approval in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 hereof.
- 7.21 <u>Garbage Cans, Firewood, Etc.</u> All garbage cans, firewood and other similar items shall be located or screened so as to be concealed from the view of streets and neighboring property. All rubbish, trash and garbage shall be regularly removed and shall not be allowed to accumulate.
- 7.22 <u>Subdivision of Unit</u>. No Unit shall be subdivided or its boundary lines changed except with prior written approval in accordance with Article 6 hereof. Declarant, however, hereby expressly reserves the right to subdivide and/or revise and re-record the subdivision plat of any Unit(s) with the consent of the Owner of the affected Unit(s) and to approve the revision and re-recording of any plat of any Unit(s) owned by any other builder or developer, including, but not limited to, changing any Unit to Common Property or creating a public or private street over any Unit or property that was formerly a Unit, without the consent of any Person, other than the Owner(s) of such Unit(s).

- 7.23 Heating of Units in Colder Months. In order to prevent water pipes from breaking during colder months of the year resulting in damage to Units, increased common expenses, and increased insurance premiums or cancellation of insurance policies due to numerous damage claims, the thermostats within all Units shall be maintained with the heat operating and set at a minimum of fifty (50°) degrees Fahrenheit when the temperature is forecasted to or does reach thirty two degrees (32°) degrees Fahrenheit or below. Owners shall take all steps possible on a timely basis to keep heating equipment, including, but not limited to, the thermostat, in good working order and repair. If the heating equipment is not working, the Owner shall: (a) immediately inform the Owners of the other Units in the same building of such equipment failure and of the time needed in order to repair the equipment; and (b) take reasonable steps to keep the Unit heated sufficiently to prevent the breakage of water pipes.
- 7.24 <u>Garage Sales</u>. No garage sale, carport sale, yard sale, flea market, or similar activity shall be conducted in any portion of the Community without the prior written consent of the Board of Directors. If permitted, such activities shall be subject to all reasonable conditions that the Board may impose.
- 7.25 <u>Insects</u>. No Person shall permit any thing or condition to exist upon any Unit which shall induce, breed or harbor noxious insects. Electric Bug Killers, "zappers", and other similar devices shall not be installed at a location or locations which result in the operation thereof becoming a nuisance or annoyance to other Owners or Occupants, and shall be operated only when outside activities require the use thereof and shall not be operated continuously.
- 7.26 <u>Impairment of Units and Easements</u>. An Owner shall take no action that will impair the structural soundness or integrity of any Unit or impair any easement or other interest in real property, nor allow any condition to exist which will materially adversely affect the other Units or their Owners or Occupants.
- 7.27 Abandoned Personal Property. Personal property, other than vehicles as provided for in Section 7.4 hereof, is prohibited from being stored, kept, or allowed to remain unattended upon any portion of the Common Property, without the prior written approval of the Board. If the Board determines that a violation exists, then, not less than twenty-four (24) hours after written notice is placed on the personal property and/or on the front door of the property owner's Unit, if known, the Board may remove the personal property and have no obligation to return or replace such property or reimburse the owner of the property. In the event that the Board removes personal property as provided herein, the Owner shall be responsible for all costs associated therewith, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred and such costs shall be a specific assessment against the Unit. The notice shall include the name and telephone number of the Person which will remove the property and the name and telephone number of an individual to contact regarding the alleged violation.

The Board, in its discretion, may determine that an emergency situation exists and may exercise its removal rights hereunder without prior notice to the property owner; provided, however, in such case, the Board shall give the property owner, if known, notice of the removal of the property and the location of the property within three (3) days after the property is removed.

The Association and any director, officer, employee or agent thereof shall not be liable to any Person for any claim of damage resulting from the removal of personal property in accordance herewith. The Board may elect to impose fines or use other available remedies, rather than exercise its authority to remove property hereunder.

7.28 <u>Decks, Patios, Porches and Balconies</u>. No laundry, garments, towels or objects other than potted plants, grills and patio furniture, shall be placed on a deck, patio, porch or balcony, except as may be authorized by the Board of Directors or permitted in the Architectural Guidelines. Objects shall not be permitted to hang over or be attached to any deck, patio, porch or balcony or to otherwise protrude outside of the vertical plane formed by the exterior surface of any deck, patio, porch or balcony located on or appurtenant to a Unit. No deck, patio, balcony or porch shall be enclosed without prior approval in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the Declaration. No deck shall be stained without the prior written approval under Article 6 hereof.

The use of grills and other like equipment, including, without limitation, smokers, shall only be permitted in accordance with applicable municipal, county and state ordinances and laws and fire codes, as well as the requirements of the Association's insurance policies. No outdoor grills are permitted indoors or inside any garage area. Grills shall be covered with grill covers when not in use. Grill and outdoor furniture covers shall be removable and of a type and color consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

7.29 Storm Water Detention Ponds, Creeks and Streams. Except as herein provided, any storm water detention/retention pond, creek, or stream within the Community shall be used for storm water drainage or aesthetic purposes only, no other use thereof, including, without limitation, swimming, ice skating, playing, or use of personal flotation devices, and other recreation, shall be permitted. The Association and its respective officers, directors, employees. representatives and agents shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, or injury to any person or property arising out of the authorized or unauthorized use of any storm water detention/retention pond, creek, stream or wetland area within the Community. No Owner shall have any right to place rocks, stones, trash, garbage, sewage, waste water, rubbish, debris, ashes or other refuse in any body of water or wetland area within the Community. Applicable governmental agencies, the Declarant and the Association shall have the sole right to control the water level of all bodies of water located within the Community and to control the growth and eradication of plants, fowls, reptiles, animals, fish and fungi in and around any storm water detention/retention pond, stream, creek or wetland area within the Community. Owners shall have no riparian or littoral rights with respect to the waters in any creek or stream within the Community and shall not be permitted to withdraw water from any creek or stream as may exist in the Community without the prior written consent of the Board of Directors.

### Article 8 Insurance and Casualty Losses

8.1 <u>Insurance Obtained by Association</u>. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to and shall obtain insurance for all insurable improvements located on the Common Property,

including, without limitation, the Amenity Area, or required to be maintained by the Association under Article 5 hereof and blanket insurance for all Units. Insurance obtained and maintained by the Association shall cover loss or damage by fire or other hazards, including extended coverage, vandalism and malicious mischief and shall be in the amount sufficient to cover the full replacement cost of any repair or reconstruction in the event of damage or destruction from any such hazard. Alternatively, the Board may purchase "all risk" coverage in like amounts. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, nothing in this Section 8.1 shall be construed as obligating the Association to obtain or maintain insurance covering a Unit Owner's or Occupant's personal property or any improvements and betterments made to the Unit after the initial construction thereof.

The Board of Directors shall obtain a public liability policy applicable to the Common Property covering the Association and its members for all damage or injury caused by the negligence of the Association or any of its members or agents, and, if reasonably available, directors' and officers' liability insurance. The public liability policy shall have a combined single limit of at least One Million and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). Policies may contain a reasonable deductible as determined by the Board of Directors.

Premiums for all insurance obtained and maintained by the Association shall be a common expense of the Association.

In addition to other insurance coverage required by this Section, the Board shall obtain workers compensation insurance, if and to the extent necessary to satisfy the requirements of applicable law, and, if available at reasonable cost, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board, a fidelity bond or employee dishonesty coverage covering directors, officers, employees and other Persons handling or responsible for the Association's funds. The amount of fidelity or employees dishonesty coverage, if obtained, shall be determined in the director's best business judgment and shall satisfy local, state or federal requirements for such coverage, if any. Such coverage, if obtained, shall also contain a waiver of all defenses based upon the exclusion of Persons serving without compensation and shall not be subject to cancellation, nonrenewal or substantial modification without at least ten (10) days' prior written notice to the Association.

8.2 <u>Insurance Obtained by Unit Owners</u>. By virtue of taking title to a Unit subject to the terms of this Declaration, each Owner acknowledges that the Association has no obligation to obtain and maintain insurance covering an Owner's and Occupant's personal property and each Owner covenants and agrees with all other Owners to obtain and maintain the following: (a) a liability policy covering damage or injury occurring on a Unit; (b) insurance covering an Owner's or Occupant's personal property; and (c) insurance covering any betterments and improvements made to the residential dwelling located on a Unit which are installed by the Declarant during the initial construction process at the request of a purchaser who has entered into a contract with Declarant to purchase such Unit or made by an Owner at any time thereafter. The policies required hereunder shall be in effect at all times.

#### 8.3 Damage and Destruction

- (a) <u>In General</u>. Immediately after the damage or destruction by fire or other casualty to all or any portion of any structure or improvement covered by insurance written in the name of the Association, the Board of Directors shall proceed with the filing and adjustment of all claims arising under such insurance and obtain reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction of the damaged or destroyed property. Repair or reconstruction, as used in this Section, means repairing or restoring the property to substantially the same condition and location that existed prior to the fire or other casualty, allowing for any changes or improvements necessary to comply with applicable building codes.
- (b) Repair and Construction. Any damage or destruction to property required to be covered by insurance written in the name of the Association shall be repaired or reconstructed unless, within sixty (60) days after the casualty, at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the Total Association Vote, the Declarant, and the Owners of any damaged Units otherwise agree. If, for any reason, either the amount of the insurance proceeds to be paid as a result of such damage or destruction, or reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction, or both, are not made available to the Association within such period, then the period shall be extended until such information is made available; provided, however, such extension shall not exceed sixty (60) days. No Mortgagee shall have the right to participate in the determination of whether damage or destruction shall be repaired or reconstructed. If the damage or destruction for which the insurance proceeds are paid is to be repaired or reconstructed and such proceeds are not sufficient to defray the cost thereof, the Board of Directors shall, without the necessity of a vote of the members, levy a special assessment against the Owners of Units who would be responsible for such loss in the absence of insurance or if the damage or destruction applies to the Common Property, against the Owners of all Units. Additional assessments may be made in like manner at any time during or following the completion of any repair or reconstruction. If the funds available from insurance exceed the costs of repair or reconstruction or if the improvements are not repaired or reconstructed, such excess funds shall be deposited to the benefit of the Association. In the event that it should be determined in the manner described above that the damage or destruction shall not be repaired or reconstructed and no alternative improvements are authorized, then, and in that event, the property shall be maintained as an undeveloped portion of the Community by the Association in a neat and attractive condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and this Declaration.

-37-

8.4 <u>Insurance Deductible</u>. The deductible for any casualty insurance policy carried by the Association shall, in the event of damage or destruction, be allocated among the Persons who would be responsible for such loss in the absence of insurance. The Owner(s) shall be responsible for the full amount of the deductible under the Association's policy to the extent the same is not covered under such Owner's individual insurance policy. If the loss affects more than one Unit or a Unit and the Common Property, the cost of the deductible may be apportioned and assessed equitably by the Board among the parties suffering loss in accordance with the total costs of repair, unless the insurance policy provides that the deductible will apply to each Unit separately. If an Owner fails to pay the deductible when required hereunder, the Association can pay the deductible and assess the cost to such Owner as a specific assessment.

## Article 9 Easements

- 9.1 General. Each Unit shall be subject to those easements, if any, shown or set forth on the recorded subdivision plat for the Community, as amended from time to time, as well as the easements now or hereafter established by the Declarant in this Declaration or by any other document recorded in the Office of Superior Court of Glynn County, Georgia.
- 9.2 <u>Easements for Use and Enjoyment</u>. Every Owner shall have a right and easement of ingress and egress, use and enjoyment by the Owner and the Occupants of the Owners Unit in and to the Common Property which shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to each Unit, subject to the following:
- (a) the right of the Association to suspend the right of an Owner to use the Common Property, including, without limitation, the Amenity Area, for any period during which any past due assessment against any Unit of the Owner remains unpaid; and, for a reasonable period of time for an infraction of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations or Architectural Guidelines;
- (b) the right of the Association to charge reasonable admission and other fees for the use of the Amenity Area, to limit the number of Persons who may use the Amenity Area and to provide for the exclusive use and enjoyment of specific portions thereof at certain designated times by authorized users and their guests and invitees;
- (c) the right of the Association to borrow money for the purpose of improving the Common Property, or any portion thereof, or for constructing, repairing or improving any facilities located or to be located thereon and, upon the affirmative vote of the Owners of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Units and the consent of Declarant to give as security for the payment of any such loan a Mortgage conveying all or any portion of the Common Property; provided, however, the lien and encumbrance of any such Mortgage given by the Association shall be subject and subordinate to any rights, interests, options, easements and privileges herein reserved or established for the benefit of Declarant or any Owner or the holder of any Mortgage encumbering any Unit or other property located within the Community (Regardless of any contrary provision in this Declaration or in any such Mortgage given by the Association, the

exercise of any rights by the holder of such Mortgage in the event of a default thereunder shall not cancel or terminate any rights, easements or privileges herein reserved or established for the benefit of Declarant or any Owner or the holder of any Mortgage encumbering any Unit or other property located within the Community.);

- (d) the right of the Association, acting through the Board of Directors and without a vote of the members, to dedicate or grant licenses, permits, easements and rights-of-way over, under and through the Common Property;
- (e) the right of the Association to transfer or convey all or any portion of the Common Property upon the approval of the Owners of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Units and the consent of Declarant;
- (f) all other rights of the Association, the Declarant, Owners and Occupants set forth in this Declaration, in any Supplementary Declaration, or in any deed conveying Common Property to the Association;
- (g) all encumbrances, zoning conditions, and other matters shown by the public records affecting title to the Common Property; and
- (h) the right of the Association to deactivate any card access system, gate code or other method used in connection with the Gate System which restricts vehicular access to the Community for any period during which any past due assessment against any Unit of the Owner remains unpaid; and, for a reasonable period of time for an infraction of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations or Architectural Guidelines.
- 9.3 Easements for Encroachment and Overhang. Declarant hereby reserves to itself for the benefit of each Unit a reciprocal appurtenant easement for encroachment and overhang between adjacent Units and between a Unit and adjacent Common Property due to the original construction or the unintentional placement or settling or shifting of the improvements constructed, reconstructed, or altered thereon (in accordance with the terms of this Declaration) to a distance of not more than two (2) feet, as measured from any point on such common boundary; provided, however, in no event shall an easement for encroachment exist if such encroachment occurred due to willful conduct on the part of an Owner, Occupant, or the Association, other than the Declarant in the original construction of the Units.
- 9.4 Easement for Utilities Association and Declarant. Declarant reserves to itself and grants to the Association a blanket easement upon, across, above and under all property within the Community for access, ingress, egress, installing, altering, repairing, replacing, and maintaining all utilities serving the Community or any portion thereof, including, but not limited to, gas, water, sanitary sewer, telephone and electricity, as well as storm drainage and any other service such as, but not limited to, a master television system, or security system which the Declarant or the Association might decide to have installed to serve the Community. Declarant, the Association or their respective designees, may install, repair, replace and maintain or authorize the installation, repair, replacement and maintenance of such wires, conduits, cables and other equipment related to the providing of any utility or service. Should any party

furnishing any such utility or service request a specific license or easement by separate recordable document, the Declarant or the Board shall have the right to grant such easement. Owners shall not remove, relocate or interfere in any way with any previously installed utility lines and facilities. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Board of Directors, without a vote of the Owners, shall have the right, power and authority to grant permits, licenses, utility easements, and other easements under, through, or over the Units and/or the Common Property as may be reasonably necessary for the proper maintenance and/or ongoing operation of the Community.

- 9.5 Easement for Utilities Unit Owner. Declarant hereby establishes for the benefit of each Unit a nonexclusive easement for access to and installation, maintenance, repair, replacement and use of all pipes, wires, cables, conduits, utility lines, flues and ducts serving such Unit and situated in, on or under any other Unit or the Common Property. Certain utility meters and facilities may be installed on the end of a building containing multiple Units and utility lines serving other Units may run across, over, under or through neighboring Units. Easements for all such utility lines are established by this Section 9.5 and Section 9.4 above. In the event that any Owner desires access to another Unit to install, maintain, repair or replace any utility pipe, wire, cable, conduit, utility line, flue or duct, the Owner shall contact the Owner of such other Unit(s) at least two (2) days in advance of the date that access is needed and attempt to agree on a convenient date and time for access by the Owner and the Owner's contractors. Access in emergency situations shall be granted immediately upon request. Any Owner of a Unit to which access is needed under this Section shall not unreasonably withhold, condition or delay such access. Rights exercised pursuant to this easement shall be exercised with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment of affected Units, reasonable steps shall be taken to protect such Units and the property of the Owners and Occupants thereof, and damage shall be repaired by the Person causing the damage at its sole cost and expense.
- 9.6 Easement for Emergency Entry. The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to enter upon any Unit for emergency, security and safety reasons and to inspect for the purpose of ensuring compliance with this Declaration, the Bylaws, and rules and regulations and Architectural Guidelines, which right may be exercised by any member of the Board, the officers, agents, employees, and managers of the Association and all policemen, firemen, ambulance personnel, and similar emergency personnel in the performance of their respective duties. Except in an emergency situation, entry shall only be during reasonable hours and after notice to the Owner. This right of entry shall include the right of the Association to enter upon any Unit to cure any condition which may increase the possibility of a fire or other hazard in an emergency situation and in the event an Owner fails or refuses to cure the condition within a reasonable period of time after requested by the Association, but shall not authorize entry into any residential dwelling located on a Unit without permission of the Owner.
- 9.7 <u>Easement for Maintenance Association</u>. Declarant hereby grants to the Association a perpetual easement across all Units as may be reasonably necessary for the maintenance required hereunder. Such maintenance shall be performed with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment of Units, reasonable steps shall be taken to protect such property and damage shall be repaired by the Association or its contractors at their sole cost and expense. Except in an

emergency situation, entry to the interior of a Unit shall only be during reasonable hours and after notice to the Owner.

- 9.8 Easement for Maintenance Unit Owner. Declarant hereby reserves for itself and grants for the benefit of each Unit reciprocal appurtenant easements between adjacent Units and an easement over adjacent Common Property for the purpose of maintaining or repairing the improvements located on each Unit which easement shall extend to a distance of five (5) feet as measured from any point on the common boundary between the Units. The easement shall be used only for such period of time as is reasonably necessary in order to complete the maintenance or repair. The Owner exercising this easement right shall be liable for the prompt repair of any damage to the Unit over which this easement is exercised which arises out of such maintenance or repair work.
- 9.9 Easement for Drainage. Declarant hereby reserves for itself and grants to the Association an easement upon, across, above and under all storm water drainage easement areas as shown on the recorded subdivision plat(s) for the Community for access, ingress, egress, installing, altering, repairing, replacing, and maintaining the storm water drainage system and related facilities serving the Community or any portion thereof. This easement shall include the right to construct and maintain catch basins, retention ponds, detention ponds, drainage swales, storm sewers, storm drains, sloping banks, cut or fill. In addition, there is hereby reserved to Declarant and granted to the Association a blanket easement across all Units for creating and maintaining satisfactory drainage in the Community; provided, however, such easement area shall not include any portion of a Unit within the outer perimeter of the dwelling structure. It is anticipated that increased storm water run-off across downstream Units will result from the construction of impervious surface within or adjacent to the Community. Neither Declarant, the Association nor any builder or Owner constructing according to plans and specifications approved under Article 6 hereof shall have any liability to any Owner due to the increased flow or increased velocity of surface water resulting from approved construction within the Community.
- 9.10 Easement During Construction and Sale Period. Notwithstanding any provisions now or hereafter contained in this Declaration, the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, use restrictions, rules and regulations, Architectural Guidelines, and amendments thereto, Declarant hereby reserves for itself an easement across the Community to maintain and carry on, upon such portion of the Community as it may reasonably deem necessary, such facilities and activities as in the opinion of Declarant may be required or convenient for development, construction and sales activities related to property hereby and hereafter subjected to this Declaration or for the development, construction or benefit of any neighboring property including, but not limited to, including, but not limited to: (a) the right to place or authorize the placement of marketing and directional signs on Units or right-of-way(s) at street intersections within the Community; (b) the right of access, ingress and egress for vehicular and pedestrian traffic and construction activities over, under, on or in the Community, including, without limitation, any Unit; (c) the right to tie into any portion of the Community with streets, driveways, paths, parking areas and walkways; (d) the right to tie into and/or otherwise connect and use (without a tap-on or any other fee for so doing), replace, relocate, maintain and repair any device which provides utility or similar services including, without limitation, electrical, telephone, cable television, natural gas, water,

sewer and drainage lines and facilities constructed or installed in, on, under and/or over the Community; (e) the right to grant easements over, under, in or on the Community, including without limitation the Units, for the benefit of neighboring properties for the purpose of tying into and/or otherwise connecting and using sewer and drainage lines and facilities constructed or installed in, on, under and/or over the Community; (f) the right to convert Units (with the consent of the Owner thereof) to Common Property and/or streets; (g) the right to construct recreational facilities, utilities and other improvements on Common Property; (h) the right to carry on sales and promotional activities in the Community; (i) the right, without the consent of any other Person, to revise and re-record the subdivision plat(s) of the Community, including, without limitation, creating and/or more specifically describing any Unit, changing any Unit or portion of a Unit to Common Property, changing any Common Property to a Unit, or creating a public or private street over all or any portion of a Unit or other property within the Community; provided, however, the boundary lines of any Unit not owned by Declarant shall not be changed without the written consent of the Owner(s) and Mortgagee(s) of such Unit; and (i) and the right to construct and operate business offices, signs, construction trailers, model residences and sales offices. Declarant may use residences, offices or other buildings it owns or leases as model residences and sales offices. This Section shall not be amended without the written consent of Declarant until the rights of Declarant have terminated as provided in Sections 10.5 hereof.

9.11 Easement for Private Streets and Sidewalks. Declarant hereby grants, conveys, declares, creates, imposes and establishes a perpetual, non-exclusive right-of-way easement for vehicular and pedestrian access, ingress and egress over and across the private streets and sidewalks located within the Community. At such time as one or more subdivision plats for the property submitted to this Declaration are recorded in the real estate records of the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Glynn County, Georgia, any reference to private streets shall then and thereafter mean a reference to the private streets as actually constructed and depicted on the recorded subdivision plat(s). The right-of-way easement herein granted shall permit joint usage of such easement by: (a) the Owners and Occupants; (b) the legal representatives, successors and assigns of the Owners; and (c) invitees and licensees of the Owners and Occupants. Declarant hereby expressly reserves for itself, its successors and assigns, all rights and privileges incident to the ownership of the fee simple estate of any right-of-way easement area which is not inconsistent with the rights and privileges herein granted, including, without limitation, the right to maintain one or more proprietary signs on the easement area and the right to grant additional non-exclusive easements to third parties, over, under and across the easement area. Declarant hereby reserves for the benefit of Declarant and grants to the Association as Common Property, the perpetual nonexclusive right and easement upon, over and across those utility easement areas and private streets, alleys and roads for the installation, maintenance, and use of such streets, alleys and roads, sidewalks, traffic directional signs, grading for proper drainage of said alleys and related activities and improvements.

## Article 10 General Provisions

10.1 <u>Enforcement</u>. Each Owner and Occupant shall comply strictly with the Bylaws, rules and regulations, Architectural Guidelines and use restrictions, as amended or modified from time to time, and with the covenants, conditions, easements and restrictions set forth in this

Declaration, the recorded subdivision plat(s) for the Community and in the deed to such Owner's Unit, if any. The Declarant and Board of Directors may impose fines or other sanctions for violations of the foregoing, which shall be collected as provided herein for the collection of assessments; provided, however, only one fine may be imposed for a single violation such that an Owner or Occupant may not be fined by the Declarant and the Board of Directors for the same violation; and provided, further, Declarant or the Board, as the case may be, may count each day a violation continues after notice thereof as a separate violation. In the event fines or other sanctions are imposed by Declarant hereunder, Declarant shall have any and all rights to collect such fines or sanctions (which fines shall be payable to the Association) and any related charges, including, without limitation, attorney's fees actually incurred and costs of collection, in the same manner as provided herein for the collection of assessments by the Association acting through the Board.

Failure to comply with this Declaration, the Bylaws, the rules and regulations or Architectural Guidelines shall be grounds for an action to recover sums due for damages or injunctive relief or both, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred, maintainable by the Association, the Declarant or an aggrieved Owner. Failure by the Declarant and the Association or any Owner to enforce any of the foregoing shall in no event be deemed a waiver of the right to do so thereafter. The Association shall have the right to record in the appropriate land records a notice of violation of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations, use restrictions or Architectural Guidelines, and to assess the cost of recording and removing such notice against the Unit of the Owner who is responsible (or whose Occupants are responsible) for violating the foregoing.

- 10.2 <u>Duration</u>. The covenants, conditions, restrictions and easements contained in this Declaration shall run with and bind the Community and shall inure to the benefit of and shall be enforceable by the Association, the Declarant and any Owner, their respective legal representatives, heirs, successors, and assigns, perpetually to the extent provided by law; provided, however, if and to the extent that Georgia law limits the period during which covenants restricting land to certain uses may run, any provisions of this Declaration affected thereby shall run with and bind the land so long as permitted by such law, after which time, any such provision(s) shall be automatically extended for successive periods of twenty (20) years (or the maximum period allowed by Georgia law, if less), unless a written instrument signed by the then Owners of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Units has been recorded within the two years immediately preceding the beginning of a twenty (20) year renewal period agreeing to terminate the same, in which case this Declaration shall be terminated as specified therein.
- 10.3 Occupants Bound. All provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations, use restrictions and Architectural Guidelines which govern the conduct of Owners and which provide for sanctions against Owners shall also apply to all Occupants and the guests and invitees of Owners and Occupants. The Owner shall be responsible for insuring that the Occupants, the guests, invitees and licensees of the Owner and Occupant strictly comply with all provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations, use restrictions and Architectural Guidelines. Fines may be levied against Owners or Occupants. If a fine is first levied against an Occupant and is not timely paid, the fine may then be levied against the Owner.

- 10.4 <u>Self-Help</u>. In addition to any other remedies provided for herein, the Association, the Declarant, or their respective duly authorized agents shall have the power to enter upon any Unit or any other portion of the Community to abate or remove any structure, thing or condition which violates this Declaration, the Bylaws, the rules and regulations, the use restrictions or Architectural Guidelines. Unless an emergency situation exists, the violating Owner shall be given ten days' written notice of the intent to exercise self-help. Notwithstanding the foregoing, vehicles may be towed after giving any notice required by law. All costs of self-help, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred, shall be assessed against the Unit of the violating Owner as a specific assessment.
- 10.5 Termination of Rights of Declarant. The rights of Declarant to take, approve or consent to actions under this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws shall cease and be of no further force and effect upon the earlier of: (a) the date that the Declarant no longer owns any property in the Community or owns any property that may be annexed to the Community as provided herein and a certificate of occupancy has been issued for the residential dwelling located on each Unit in the Community; or (b) the date of recording by Declarant in the real estate records of the county where the Community is located of a written instrument terminating all of Declarant's rights hereunder.

#### 10.6 Amendment.

(a) By Declarant. This Declaration may be amended unilaterally at any time and from time to time by Declarant if such amendment is: (i) necessary to bring any provision hereof into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule or regulation or judicial determination which shall be in conflict therewith; (ii) necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Units subject to this Declaration; (iii) required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, without limitation, the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable such lender or purchaser to make or purchase Mortgage loans on the Units subject to this Declaration; or (iv) necessary to enable any governmental agency or private insurance company, including without limitation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, to insure or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Units subject to this Declaration; provided, however, no amendment shall adversely affect the title to any Unit unless the Owner of such Unit consents thereto in writing.

Further, Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration for any other purpose; provided, however, any such amendment shall not: (i) materially adversely affect the substantive rights of any Owners hereunder to use and enjoy the Owner's Unit; or (ii) adversely affect title to any Unit without the consent of the affected Owner.

(b) By the Board. The Board of Directors may, with the written consent of the Declarant and without a vote of the members, amend the Declaration for the following purposes: (i) if such amendment is necessary to bring any provision hereof into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule or regulation or judicial determination which shall be in conflict therewith; (ii) if such amendment is necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to

issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Units subject to this Declaration; (iii) if such amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, without limitation, the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable such lender or purchaser to make or purchase Mortgage loans on the Units subject to this Declaration; (iv) if such amendment is necessary to enable any governmental agency or private insurance company, including without limitation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, to insure or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Units subject to this Declaration; provided, however, any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Unit unless the Owner of such Unit consents thereto in writing; or (v) for the purpose of electing to be governed by and thereafter complying with the provisions of the Georgia Property Owners' Association Act, O.C.G.A. § 44-3-220 et seq.

(c) <u>By the Association</u>. In addition to the above, this Declaration may be amended upon the affirmative vote or written consent or any combination thereof of Owners of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Units and the consent of Declarant.

Amendments to this Declaration shall become effective upon recordation unless a later effective date is specified therein. The consent of the Declarant to any amendment shall be evidenced by the execution of said amendment by Declarant. The consent of the requisite number of Owners to any amendment shall be evidenced by the execution of the amendment by said Owners, or, in the alternative, the sworn statement of the President or any Vice President or the Secretary of the Association attached to or incorporated in the amendment, which sworn statement states unequivocally that the consent of the required number of Owners was obtained and that any notices required by this Declaration, the Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation and Georgia law were given. The amendments authorized by this Section may be of uniform or non-uniform application and Owners shall be deemed to have agreed that the Declaration may be amended as provided herein and that any rule of law requiring unanimous approval of amendments having a non-uniform application shall not apply.

- 10.7 <u>Gender and Grammar</u>. The singular, wherever used herein, shall be construed to mean the plural, when applicable, and the use of the masculine or feminine pronoun shall include the neuter, masculine and feminine.
- 10.8 <u>Severability</u>. Whenever possible, each provision of this Declaration shall be interpreted in such manner as to be effective and valid, but if the application of any provision of this Declaration to any Person or to any property shall be prohibited or held invalid, such prohibition or invalidity shall not affect any other provision or the application of any provision which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and, to this end, the provisions of this Declaration are declared to be severable.
- 10.9 <u>Captions</u>. The captions of each Article and Section hereof, as to the contents of each Article and Section, are inserted only for convenience and are in no way to be construed as defining, limiting, extending or otherwise modifying or adding to the particular Article or Section to which they refer.

- 10.10 No Merger. There shall be no merger of any of the covenants, conditions, restrictions or easements created or reserved hereby with the fee estate of Declarant, by reason of the fact that Declarant may own or hold the estate or interest both encumbered and benefited by such covenants, conditions, restrictions or easements and no such merger shall occur unless and until Declarant, while owning all of the estate or interests shall execute a written statement or instrument affecting such merger and shall duly record the same.
- 10.11 <u>Preparer</u>. This Declaration was prepared by Lisa A. Crawford, Dorough & Dorough, LLC, Attorneys at Law, 160 Clairemont Avenue, Suite 650, Decatur, Georgia 30030.
- 10.12 Notices. Except as otherwise specifically provided in such document(s), as the case may be, notices provided for in this Declaration, the Articles or Bylaws shall be in writing, and shall be addressed to an Owner at the address of the Unit and to the Declarant, and to the Association at the address of their respective registered agent on file with the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia. Any Owner may designate a different address, including an electronic mail address, for notices to such Owner by giving written notice to the Association. Owners shall keep the Association advised of their current address and phone number(s) where they can be reached. Notices addressed as above shall be mailed by United States Registered or Certified Mail, return receipt requested, postage paid, or delivered in person, including delivery by Federal Express or other reputable commercial courier service, or issued electronically in accordance with Chapter 12 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act". The time period in which a response to any such notice must be given or any action taken with respect thereto, shall commence to run from the date of personal delivery or date of receipt shown on the return receipt. Rejection or other refusal to accept or the inability to deliver because of changed address of which no notice was given shall be deemed to be receipt of the notice sent.
- 10.13 <u>No Discrimination</u>. No action shall be taken by the Declarant, the Association or the Board of Directors which would discriminate against any person on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability.
- 10.14 Security. ALL OWNERS, OCCUPANTS, GUESTS, LICENSEES, AND INVITEES, AS APPLICABLE, ACKNOWLEDGE THAT DECLARANT, THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, IF ANY, DO NOT REPRESENT OR WARRANT THAT ANY SAFETY OR SECURITY MEASURES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE COMMUNITY OR, IF IMPLEMENTED, THAT SUCH SAFETY OR SECURITY MEASURES MAY NOT BE COMPROMISED OR CIRCUMVENTED, OR THAT ANY SUCH SAFETY OR SECURITY MEASURES WILL IN ALL CASES PROVIDE THE DETECTION OR PROTECTION FOR WHICH THEY ARE DESIGNED. EACH OWNER, OCCUPANT, GUEST, LICENSEE, OR INVITEE, AS APPLICABLE, ACKNOWLEDGES AND UNDERSTANDS THAT DECLARANT, THE ASSOCIATION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, IF ANY, ARE NOT INSURERS OR PROVIDERS OF SAFETY OR SECURITY AND SHALL HAVE NO DUTY TO PROVIDE ANY SAFETY OR SECURITY ON THE COMMON PROPERTY OR OTHERWISE; AND THAT EACH OWNER, OCCUPANT, GUEST, LICENSEE, AND

INVITEE ASSUMES ALL RISKS OF PERSONAL INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE AND FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DECLARANT, THE ASSOCIATION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, IF ANY, HAVE MADE NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, NOR HAS ANY OWNER, OCCUPANT, GUEST, LICENSEE, OR INVITEE RELIED UPON ANY REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE RELATIVE TO ANY SAFETY OR SECURITY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED OR APPROVED.

- 10.15 Indemnification. To the fullest extent allowed by the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, and in accordance therewith, the Association shall indemnify every current and former officer, director and committee member against any and all expenses, including, but not limited to, attorney's fees, imposed upon or reasonably incurred by any officer, director or committee member in connection with any action, suit or other proceeding (including settlement of any suit or proceeding, if approved by the then Board of Directors) to which such officer, director or committee member may be a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director or committee member. The officers, directors and committee members shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment, negligent or otherwise, except for their own individual willful misfeasance, malfeasance, misconduct or bad faith. The officers, directors and committee members shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made by them, in good faith, on behalf of the Association and the Association shall indemnify and forever hold each such officer, director and committee member free and harmless against any and all liability to others on account of any such contract or commitment. Any right to indemnification provided for herein shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any officer, director or committee member, or former officer, director or committee member, may be entitled. The Association shall maintain adequate general liability and officers' and directors' liability insurance to fund this obligation, if such coverage is reasonably available.
- 10.16 Agreements. Subject to the prior approval of Declarant, all agreements and determinations, including settlement agreements regarding litigation involving the Association, lawfully authorized by the Board of Directors, shall be binding upon all Owners, their heirs, legal representatives, successors, assigns and others having an interest in the Community or the privilege of possession and enjoyment of any part of the Community.
- 10.17 <u>Variances</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Board of Directors shall be authorized to grant individual variances from any of the provisions of this Declaration, the Bylaws and any rule, regulation or use restriction promulgated pursuant thereto, if it determines that waiver of application or enforcement of the provision in a particular case is warranted and would not be inconsistent with the overall scheme of development for the Community.
- 10.18 <u>Litigation</u>. No judicial or administrative proceeding shall be commenced or prosecuted by the Association unless approved by at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the Total Association Vote and Declarant. This Section shall not apply to: (a) actions brought by the Association to enforce the provisions of this Declaration; (b) the imposition and collection of

assessments as provided herein; (c) proceedings involving challenges to *ad valorem* taxation; (d) counterclaims brought by the Association in proceedings instituted against it; or (e) actions brought by the Association against any contractor, vendor, or supplier of goods or services arising out of a contract for goods or services to which the Association is a party. This Section shall not be amended unless such amendment is made unilaterally by the Declarant as provided herein or is approved by the percentage of votes necessary to institute proceedings as provided above.

10.19 Notice of Sale or Acquisition. Owners must keep the Association apprised of their name, address and telephone number. Accordingly, prior to the sale of a Unit, the Owner shall provide the Association with written notice of the name of the purchaser, the Owner's street address and telephone number other than at the Unit, as applicable, and such other information as the Board may reasonably require. Upon acquisition of title to a Unit, each new Owner shall provide the Association with written notice of the name, mailing address and telephone number of the Owner, the names of the Occupants of the Unit, if any, and such other information as the Board may reasonably require. All Owners shall notify the Association of any change in name, address or telephone number.

## Article 11 <u>Dispute Resolution and Limitation on Litigation</u>

- 11.1 General. Declarant, Unit Owners, Occupants, the Association and its officers, directors, and committee members, all Persons subject to this Declaration, and any Person not otherwise subject to this Declaration who agrees to submit to this Article by written instrument delivered to a builder, a general contractor, sub-contractor, design professional, any of the contractor's subcontractors, sub-subcontractors, suppliers, materialmen, consultants or any other person who participated in the design or construction of Units, Common Property or any improvement within, serving or forming a part of the Community (collectively, "Bound Parties"), agree that it is in the best interest of all concerned to encourage a resolution of disputes involving the Association and this Declaration without the emotional and financial costs of litigation. Instead, the Bound Parties agree to the following dispute resolution procedures.
- 11.2 <u>Resolution of Claims other than Construction Defect Claims</u>. Unless specifically exempted below, the term "Claim" shall refer to any claim, grievance, or dispute arising out of or relating to the interpretation, application, or enforcement of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations of the Association or Architectural Guidelines or the rights, obligations, and duties of any Bound Party under this Declaration, except for a Construction Defect Claim, as defined in Section 11.3 below.
- (a) Actions which do not Constitute a Claim. The following shall not constitute a Claim and shall not be subject to the provisions of this Article 11:
- (i) any action or suit brought by the Association against a Bound Party related to the collection and/or imposition of assessments as set forth in Article 4 of this Declaration;
  - (ii) any action or suit brought by the Association enforce the provisions of the

Declaration, including, without limitation, filing a lawsuit or other action for injunctive relief, obtaining a temporary restraining order (or equivalent emergency equitable relief) and/or taking such other action as may be necessary to enforce the provisions of the Declaration;

- (iii) any suit between Owners that does not include Declarant, or the Association as a party, if such suit asserts a Claim which would constitute a cause of action independent of the Declaration, Bylaws, rules and regulations or Architectural Guidelines;
  - (iv) any suit in which any indispensable party is not a Bound Party;
- (v) counterclaims brought by the Association in proceedings instituted against it; or
- (vi) actions brought by the Association against any contractor, vendor, or supplier of goods or services arising out of a contract for goods or services to which the Association is a party.
- (b) Notice of a Claim. The Bound Party asserting any Claim ("Claimant"), except for a Construction Defect Claim, which shall be governed by the provisions of Section 11.3 hereof, against another Bound Party ("Respondent") shall provide written notice to each Respondent and to the Board stating plainly and concisely:
- (i) the nature of the Claim, including the Persons involved and the Respondent's role in the Claim;
- (ii) the basis of the Claim (i.e., the provision of the Declaration, Bylaws, Architectural Guidelines or other authority out of which the Claim arises);
  - (iii) the Claimant's proposed resolution or remedy; and
- (iv) that Claimant will meet with the Respondent to discuss in good faith ways to resolve the Claim.
- (c) <u>Good Faith Negotiation</u>. The Claimant and Respondent shall make every reasonable effort to meet in person to resolve the Claim by good faith negotiation.
- (d) <u>Mandatory Mediation</u>. Any Claim which cannot be resolved by the Bound Parties through negotiation shall be subject to mediation as a condition precedent to binding arbitration, as set forth in Section 11.4 below.
- 11.3 <u>Disputes Involving Construction Defect Claims</u> The Bound Parties agree that all Construction Defect Claims, as defined herein, shall be subject to the dispute resolution process set forth in this Section 11.3.
- (a) General. The Bound Parties acknowledge and agree that the Georgia Right to Repair Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 8-2-35 through 8-2-43, as may be amended (the "Act"), includes certain

requirements that must be followed before a Unit Owner, Occupant, or the Association may file a lawsuit or other action for defective construction against the "contractor," as that term is defined in O.C.G.A. § 8-2-36, who constructed, improved, or repaired a Unit or Common Property. The Act applies to any matter concerning the design, construction, or repair of a "dwelling," as that term is defined in O.C.G.A. § 8-2-36, which includes the improvements on a Unit and/or the Common Property on which a person has a complaint against any contractor; and any physical damage to the dwelling or real property on which it is located that is caused by a design or construction defect (hereinafter individually, a "Construction Defect Claim" and collectively "Construction Defect Claims").

- (b) <u>Notice</u>. Ninety (90) days before a Unit Owner, Occupant, or the Association files an action or arbitration, the Unit Owner, Occupant, or the Association must serve on any contractor a written notice of the construction conditions alleged to be defective. Under the Act, any contractor has the opportunity to make an offer to repair or to pay for the defects, or both.
- (c) <u>Procedure</u>. If a Construction Defect Claim is asserted by any Owner, Occupant, and/or the Association against Declarant, and/or any of Declarant's contractors, consultants, architects, engineers, suppliers, vendors and/or any of contractor's subcontractors, subsubcontractors, suppliers, materialmen, consultants or any other party for whom contractor is responsible or who provides labor, material, or services for the construction project, then the Bound Parties agree that all such Construction Defect Claims shall be resolved as follows:
- (i) first, any Construction Defect Claims shall be subject to the notice and procedural requirements of the Act, and all Bound Parties shall fully participate in the efforts to resolve such Construction Defect Claims pursuant to the Act;
- (ii) second, if any Construction Defect Claim is not resolved through the procedures set forth in the Act, then such Construction Defect Claim shall proceed to mandatory mediation in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Section 11.4, as a condition precedent to binding arbitration.
- 11.4 Mandatory Mediation. If the parties negotiate, but do not resolve the Claim through negotiation within one-hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the notice (or within such other period as may be agreed on by the parties) or a Construction Defect Claim in accordance with the Act, Claimant will have thirty (30) additional days within which to submit the Claim or Construction Defect Claim, as the case may be, to mediation under the auspices of a mediation center or individual mediator on which the parties mutually agree. The mediator must have at least five (5) years of experience serving as a mediator and must have technical knowledge or expertise appropriate to the subject matter of the Claim or Construction Defect Claim, respectively. If Claimant does not submit the Claim or Construction Defect Claim to mediation within the 30-day period, Respondent will submit the Claim or Construction Defect Claim to mediation in accordance with this Section 11.4. If the Bound Parties do not settle the Claim or Construction Defect Claim within ninety (90) days after submission to mediation, Respondent or Claimant may initiate arbitration proceedings in accordance with Section 11.5. The Claimant and Respondent shall share the mediator's fee and any filing fees equally. The mediation shall be held in the greater metropolitan Atlanta area. Agreements reached in mediation shall be

enforceable as settlement agreements in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

- after mediation, the Construction Defect Claim will be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the terms of this subsection and the American Arbitration Association (the "AAA") Construction Industry Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures and, if applicable, the rules contained in the AAA Supplementary Procedures for Consumer Related Disputes, as each are supplemented or modified by the AAA (collectively, the Construction Industry Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures and AAA Supplementary Procedures for Consumer Related Disputes are referred to herein as the "AAA Rules"). In the event of any inconsistency between the AAA Rules and this Section 11.5, this Section 11.5 will control. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be binding and not subject to appeal, other than as set forth herein below, but may be reduced to judgment or enforced in any court having jurisdiction. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary or any applicable rules for arbitration, any arbitration with respect to a Claim or Construction Defect Claim arising hereunder shall be conducted by a panel of three (3) arbitrators, to be chosen as follows:
- (i) One arbitrator shall be selected by Respondent, in its sole and absolute discretion;
- (ii) One arbitrator shall be selected by the Claimant, in its sole and absolute discretion; and
- (iii) One arbitrator shall be selected by mutual agreement of the arbitrators having been selected by Respondent and the Claimant, in their sole and absolute discretion.

To the extent practicable, an arbitration proceeding hereunder shall be concluded within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the filing of the Claim or Construction Defect Claim, as applicable, for arbitration. Arbitration proceedings hereunder shall be conducted in the greater metropolitan Atlanta area. Unless otherwise provided by this Section 11.5, the arbitrator shall be empowered to impose sanctions and to take such other actions as the arbitrator deems necessary to the same extent a judge could pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Georgia Rules of Civil Procedure, and applicable law. Claimant and Respondent agree to keep all Claims and arbitration proceedings strictly confidential, except for disclosures of information required in the ordinary course of business of the parties or by applicable law. In no event shall Claimant or Respondent discuss with the news media or grant any interviews with the news media regarding a Claim or issue any press release regarding any Construction Defect Claim without the signed written consent of the other parties to the Construction Defect Claim.

All statutes of limitation that would otherwise be applicable shall apply to any arbitration proceeding under this Section 11.5.

In all arbitration proceedings, the arbitrator shall make specific, written findings of fact and conclusions of law. In all arbitration proceedings, the Claimant and Respondent shall have the right to seek vacation or modification of any award that is based in whole, or in part, on: (i) conclusions of law that are erroneous; (ii) an error of applicable law; or (iii) a cause of action or

remedy not expressly provided under applicable law. In no event may an arbitrator award speculative, special, exemplary, treble, or punitive damages for any Claim or Construction Defect Claim.

11.6 <u>Allocation of Costs</u>. Notwithstanding any provision in this Article 11 to the contrary, each party shall bear all of its own costs incurred pursuant to this Article 11, including, without limitation, all legal and expert fees, with the exception of all fees and other expenses charged by the mediator and arbitrator which shall be shared equally by Claimant and Respondent.

#### 11.7 Limitations on Right of Action.

- (a) By the Association. The Association shall not have the power to institute, defend, intervene in, settle or compromise litigation, arbitration or other proceedings: (a) in the name of or on behalf of any Unit Owner (whether one or more); or (b) pertaining to a Construction Defect Claim applicable to one or more Units (whether one or more).
- (b) <u>By Owners</u>. To the extent not prohibited under Georgia law, class action or consolidated actions or proceedings against Declarant are expressly prohibited, and no Unit Owner shall be entitled to prosecute, participate in, initiate or join any litigation, arbitration or other proceeding under this Declaration or otherwise.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Declarant is not prohibited from, and Unit Owner expressly consents to, the joinder or addition by Declarant of additional parties to a Claim or Construction Defect Claim as may be allegedly responsible in whole or in part for matters which are the subject of such Claim or Construction Defect Claim.

- (c) <u>Approval of Proceedings</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to the extent that the Association has the legal standing to bring a Claim or Construction Defect Claim against the Declarant, the Association may not initiate any litigation, arbitration, or other proceeding against Declarant without the express written approval of ninety (90%) of the Unit Owners.
- 11.8 <u>Amendment of Article 11</u>. The provisions of this Article 11 cannot be amended, modified or supplemented unless such amendment, modification or supplement has been approved by members of the Association entitled to cast one hundred percent (100%) of the Total Association Vote and the signed written consent of the Declarant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Declarant herein hereby executes this instrument under seal, this 17<sup>fn</sup> day of February , 2022. 2023 50 OAKS GROUP, LLC, a Georgia limited DECLARANT: liability company (SEAL) By: Print Name: Christopher Roemer Title: Authorized Signatory Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of: Movoh anuk My Commission Expires: 8/23/26 [AFFIX NOTARY SEAL] SANDRA LEE MUISE Notary Public-State of Florida Commission # HH 304384 My Commission Expires August 23, 2026

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#### OWNER'S FORM EXHIBIT A

Policy Number: File Number: 7230610-225722657 50 OAKS18-0698

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The land referred to in this Policy is described as follows:

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT, PARCEL OR TRACT OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN G.M.D. 25, GLYNN COUNTY, ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIAAND SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY BY GARY R. NEVILL, GA. PLS# 2401, DATED 10/18/18, TITLED "A PORTION OF LOTS 7 & 8, HARRINGTON SUBDIVISION" AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCINGATA 1/2" IRON REBAR WHICH MARKS THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SOUTH HARRINGTON ROAD WITH THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF FREDERICA ROAD, PROCEED ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY OF FREDERICA ROAD SOUTH 02 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 35 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 290.41 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR AND THE POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING: THENCE PROCEED THROUGH THE LANDS OF THE DON & DENESE GENTILE FAMILY TRUST THE FOLLOWING COURSES AND DISTANCES: SOUTH 87 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 328.70 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR; THENCE SOUTH 85 DEGREES, 23 MINUTES, 20 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 54.95 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR; THENCE SOUTH 02 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 46 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 425.83 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR; THENCE NORTH 84 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 49.43 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR; THENCE SOUTH 76 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 24.02 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR: THENCE SOUTH 54 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 30.56 FEET TO A 1/2" IRON REBAR: THENCE ALONG THE LANDS NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY LEWIS & RAULERSON, INC. THE FOLLOWING COURSES AND DISTANCES: NORTH 88 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 32 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 81.59 FEET TO A 1/2" IRON REBAR: THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 25 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 90.00 FEET TO A 1/2" IRON REBAR; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 32 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 200.00 FEET TO A 1/2" IRON REBAR ON THE EASTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF FREDERICA ROAD: THENCE ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY OF FREDERICA ROAD NORTH 02 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 35 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 365.87 FEET TO A 1/2" CAPPED (SSC PC/LSF 317) IRON REBAR AND THE POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING. SAID LOT, PARCEL OR TRACT OF LAND HAVING AN AREA OF 3.500. **ACRES** 

# EXHIBIT "B" Additional Property Which May Be Unilaterally Submitted To This Declaration by Declarant

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in G.M.D. 25, Glynn County, Georgia.