# **PROPOSED REVISIONS TO:**

FIRST FILINGS

LOTS 1 THROUGH 39

AND
BLUFF OAKS SUBDIVISION
SECOND AND THIRD FILINGS
LOTS 40 THROUGH 68

**NOVEMBER 13,2023** 

The purpose of the proposed revisions to these documents is threefold: to combine the two documents as one <u>unified</u> set of restrictions for the entirety of the neighborhood, to correct existing errors and discrepancies between the documents, and finally to help establish a more feasible way of enforcing the restrictions without resorting to costly litigation.

Notes:

Words highlighted in yellow are to be removed.

Words in red are to be added into the document.

# FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED ACT OF RESTRICTIONS OF

# BLUFF OAKS SUBDIVISION FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD FILINGS LOTS 140 THROUGH 68

# STATE OF LOUISIANA PARISH OF ASCENSION

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the Parish of East Baton Rouge Ascension, State of Louisiana, duly commissioned, qualified in and for said Parish and State, personally came and appeared:

#### **GEORGE W. ROBINSON, JR. REAL ESTATE, L.L.C.**

A limited liability company, duly organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana appearing herein through its duly authorized Manager, George W. Robinson, Jr. (Hereinafter referred to as "Subdivider") who declared that:

It is the owner, subdivider and developer of the real property hereinafter described, and by this act, imposes upon the property, the restrictions, conditions, liens, and servitude's hereinafter set forth.

BLUFF OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, domiciled in the Parish of Ascension, State of Louisiana, represented by Milton Morel, its President, duly authorized (hereinafter referred to as "Appearer").

Appearer, acting pursuant to the approval of the undersigned lot owners representing more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the lots located in the Bluff Oaks Subdivision, First Filing and Bluff Oaks Subdivision, Second and Third Filings (collectively the "Bluff Oaks Subdivision"), hereby states:

Whereas, the 68 lots in were sold and conveyed by the developer subject to the servitudes, restrictions, reservations, covenants and conditions set forth in the Act of Restrictions of Bluff Oaks Subdivision, First Filing recorded in the Ascension Parish records at Conveyance Book 621, Page 724 and the Acts of Restrictions of Bluff Oak Subdivision, Second and Third Filings recorded in the Ascension Parish Records at Conveyance Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_ (collectively, the "Restrictions");

Whereas, the Restrictions recognize the Bluff Oaks Homeowners Association, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized and operated exclusively for the maintenance, preservation, general welfare, safety, security, and development of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision, as the entity responsible for enforcing the Restrictions;

Whereas, the Bluff Oaks Homeowners Association, Inc. and the lot owners wish to streamline the Restrictions for the First, Second, and Third filings of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision and provide a mechanism for enforcing the Restrictions;

Whereas, the Louisiana Homeowners Association Act, La. R.S. 9:1141.1 *et seq.*, permit the owners of the lots located in the Bluff Oaks Subdivision to amend the Restrictions;

Whereas, copies of the First Amended and Restated Act of Restrictions of Bluff Oaks Subdivision were delivered to all lot owners;

Wherefore, the Restrictions for Bluff Oaks Subdivision, First Filing and Bluff Oaks Subdivision, Second and Third Filings are hereby integrated, amended and restated as follows:

# 1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose hereof is the creation of a residential community having a uniform plan of development and the preservation of property values and amenities in that community. The real property described herein is hereby subjected to the covenants, restrictions, servitude's conditions, reservations, liens and charges herein set out to insure the best use and most appropriate development and improvement of each building site as will appreciate the value of their property; to preserve, so far as practicable, the natural beauty of the property; to guard against the erection thereon of poorly designed or proportioned structures built of improper or unsuitable materials; to obtain harmonious color schemes, to insure the highest and best development of the property; to encourage and secure the erection of attractive homes thereon, with appropriate locations thereof on building sites, to prevent haphazard and inharmonious improvements of building sites; to secure and maintain property setbacks from streets; and, in general, to provide adequately for quality improvements of the property and thereby enhance the values of investments made by purchasers of building sites therein.

#### 2. THE PROPERTY

2.1 The real property new owned by Subdivider and referred to herein is described as follows, and is subject to the covenants; conditions and restrictions set out herein. Lots 40 through 68 (Lots 1-68) and common areas, if any, private fence servitudes, or landscape areas as shown on the Final Plat of Bluff Oaks Subdivision, First Filing, prepared by Ferris Engineering & Surveying, Inc. recorded June 24, 1999 in COB 619, Entry No 440638 and Second and Third Filing, prepared by Ferris Engineering & Surveying, Inc. recorded in COB , Entry No. In the official records of the Ascension, State of Louisiana.

2.2 The properties and all other portions thereof hereinafter described shall be conveyed, transferred and sold by any record owner thereof subject to the conditions, covenants, restrictions, reservations, servitude's liens and charges hereinafter set out, all of which are imposed upon the property and all of which shall run with the land.

#### 3. IMPROVEMENT RESTRICTIONS

- 3.1 The right to enforce these Restrictions is vested in the Bluff Oaks Homeowners Association, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana and operated for exclusively for the maintenance, preservation, general welfare, safety, security, and development of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision (the "HOA"). Each lot owner shall be a member of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision Association, Inc.
- 3.2<del>1</del> There is hereby created Bluff Oaks Subdivision Council (the "Council"), to be composed of of three (3) individuals. The members of the Council shall be appointed by the subdividers until such a time as the subdividers shall release this right to lot owners in the subdivision. This shall not occur until at least 80% of the lots in the first and second filing have been sold. The members of the Council may, at any time, at their option, assign the rights to enforce these restrictions, as well as the selection of future Council members to a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, to consist of owners of the lots of Bluff Oaks Subdivision, as members, by execution of an act, in authentic form to transfer and assign such rights to a non-profit corporation. After the assignment of such rights, tThe members of the HOA<del>non-profit corporation</del> shall elect members of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision Council, by annual election, according to the Articles of Incorporation and by laws adopted by such non-profit corporation the HOA. (Each lot owner shall be a member of the nonprofit corporation). The members of the Council shall serve as officers of the HOA. The members of the Loanprofit corporation HOA may increase the number of members of the Bluff Oaks Sub division Ccouncil, however the number of member of said Council shall consist of a minimum of three (3) members. The Council shall serve without pay and shall check all building plans to ascertain their thorough compliance with all the restrictions as set forth herein. The decision of the Council, in the event of any dispute or controversy regarding the interpretation of these restrictions and covenants, shall be final and non-appealable. The Council shall have sole right to approve any waivers from the imposition of these restrictions on a particular lot due to certain limitations and shall be in furtherance of the general purposes set forth in Section 1.1 herein above. The Bluff Oaks Subdivision Homeowners Association, Inc. shall have the right to enforce these restrictions. The first members of the Council are:

# <del>GEORGE W. ROBINSON JR.</del>

#### DEE ROBINSON

#### WILLIAM L. BOWMAN

- 3.32 Two (2) sets of plans, including plot plans, for any new construction or renovation must be submitted for Council approval. One (1) set will be signed and returned to the owner, and the other will be retained by the Council. AutoCAD drawings, version 12 on 3.5" disks digital/electronic drawings may be supplemental for the two (2) plan sets. The Fee for Review of Plans is \$100.00 and must be submitted with plans, which may be waived by the Council at its discretion.
- 3.43 The Council has the right to approve or disapprove contractors and/or sub-contractors that will be allowed to build in Bluff Oaks Subdivision.
- 3.54 Upon approval of plans to build, contractor will pay \$1000.00 (one thousand) contractor fee to the Council. Upon completion of home, said \$1000.00 will be returned to contractor unless the Council has reason to withhold all or any part thereof for infractions occurred during construction that contractor failed to comply with, tei.e., trash on lot or adjoining lots, mud in the street, etc. (List to be supplied to contractor)
- 3.65 No residence, building, fence, wall or other structures shall be commenced, erected or maintained, nor shall any addition, change or alteration of any kind therein be made until plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, floor plans, elevations, exterior color schemes, locations, garage door and garage specifications, and the grading plan of the lot and plans for landscaping of the lot on which the improvements are to be erected shall have been submitted to and approved by the Council and a copy thereof as finally approved lodged permanently with the Council.
- 3.76 No house shall be erected, altered, placed or permitted to remain on any one of the said lots other than one (1) detached single family dwelling not to exceed two and one-half (2 1/2) stories in height, a private garage for not more than four (4) cars, and other incidental accessories structures or fixtures incidental to the residential use of said lots, such as swimming pools,

boathouses and/or gazebos. Private garages or carports shall load from the side or rear and shall not face the street fronting the lot; it and must have an approved garage door. Houses constructed on corner lots shall include an attached or detached fully enclosed garage with a standard an approved garage door. Detached servant's quarters incidental fixtures or any other detached structure may be constructed only with the prior written approval of the Council. In order to assure that location of houses will be harmonious, that the maximum amount of view will be available to each house. That the structures will be located with regard to the topography of each individual lot, taking into consideration the location of the other houses, large trees, common facilities and similar consideration, the Council reserves unto itself, its successors and assigns, the right to control absolutely and solely to decide the precise site, location and orientation of any house, dwelling or other structure upon all residential building sites; provided however, that such location shall be determined only after reasonable opportunity is afforded the lot owner to recommended a specific site, and provided, that in the event an agreed location is stipulated in writing in the contract purchase, the Council shall approve automatically such location for a residence.

- 3.87 In the event the Council fails to approve or disapprove within forty- five (45) days after any matter including plans and specifications, has been submitted to it, approval shall not be required by the Council. However, all other provisions shall continue to apply. Any variance to the Restrictions granted in accordance with this paragraph shall be temporary and shall expire if the relevant construction is removed, replaced, or destroyed, including if caused by an Act of God.
- 3.98 No residence shall be erected on any lot in Bluff Oaks Subdivision containing, exclusive of porches, breezeways, garages and carports, less than Two Thousand Four Hundred (2,400) square feet of climatized living area. The Council, as its discretion, and on an individual basis, will consider a change in size requirements due to lot geometry, topography, tree locations, or other architectural considerations.
- 3.109 Unless approved in advance by the Council (-and provided that the placement on said lot does not violate any zoning or subdivision ordinances or regulations) no residence shall be built nearer than eight (8) feet to the sideline of a lot, except as shown on the official subdivision plat. Front and rear minimum building setback lines shall be in accordance with the official subdivision plat. No building structure shall be erected closer than ten (10) feet from an electrical transformer.
- 3.1<u>10</u> The exterior of all homes shall consist of old brick or new "old" brick with a sack finish, as approved by the Council, and/or stucco/plaster. Siding, as approved by the Council, can comprise the remaining 20% of the exterior. Any residence erected, placed or altered shall

not be constructed exteriorly of imitation brick or stone or synthetic types of stucco/plaster. Any aluminum/vinyl siding used for any purposes must be approved by the Council. All painted exteriors must have at least two (2) coats.

- 3.124 The minimum roof pitch shall be 7/12 unless otherwise approved by the Council. All roofing shingles must be Architectural Style, such as Prestique Brand or equivalent. Quality standing seam metal roofing may be considered by the Council on an individualized basis for certain architectural styles. Slate and tile roofs will also be acceptable. Any other type of roof must be approved by the Council. No steel or aluminum roofs, including roofs for detached structures, shall be allowed unless approved by the Council.
- 3.132 All residences shall be constructed with at least eighty (80%) percent of the ceiling on the ground floor not less than nine (9') feet high, unless otherwise approved by the Council.
- 3.143 Fireplace flues and chimneys shall be covered with the same material as used on the exterior of the residence (plaster and drivett acceptable). All fireplaces shall have chimney caps unless approved by the Council. Galvanized metal caps are not allowed.
- 3.154 All windows facing any street must be wood or wood with vinyl or metal clad as approved by the Council. Quality vinyl windows may be approved if deemed acceptable by the council.
- 3.165 No fence shall be erected on said lot beyond the front building setback line of that lot. All fencing material must be wood, brick, stucco, or wrought iron, unless otherwise approved by the Council.
- $3.1\overline{26}$  No garage apartment shall be built on any lot.
- 3.178 Servitudes for installation, maintenance of utilities and drainage facilities are reserved as shown on the final plat of Bluff Oaks Subdivision.
- 3.198 Nothing in these restrictions shall prohibit an owner of any two (2) adjoining lots having frontage on the same street from erecting a residence on the two (2) lots, which shall be considered for the purpose of these restrictions as one (1) lot.

- 3.<u>20</u>19 No lot or lots shall be sold except with the description as shown on the plat of the subdivision referred to above provided, however, that any lot or lots may be subdivided or replatted with the written consent of the Subdivider or Council.
- 3.210 This subdivision will be served by underground utilities only, except where an overhead electric distribution system is previously existing or has been installed by the subdivider. Electric service from the electric distribution system to each residence shall be underground.
- 3.221 Complete sodding of the front yard, and side yards of corner lots, from the front elevation of the home to the curb of the street, shall be required within thirty (30) days of substantial completion of the residence. Certified centipede is required, however, in special circumstances the Council may approve St. Augustine, Bermuda, or Zoysia. Except for corner lots, side and rear yards may be sprigged or seeded.
- 3.232 Corner lots are considered to have two front yards; therefore, two-thirds of the required plant materials (trees, shrubs, and sod) are to be planted in this area. One-third of the required plants are to be planted in the rear yard.
- All air-conditioning compressors, stand-by generators, -utility boxes, gas/electrical meters, and pool equipment, or other like improvements must be visually screened from the street and sideyard view by appropriate fencing, screening or landscaping. Details shall be submitted with the landscaping plan to the Council for approval. If landscaping is used to screen air-conditioning compressors, generators, utility boxes, gas meters, water meters, and/or pool equipment, or other like improvements, plant materials must be at least as high as units being screened, four (4') foot minimum. Evergreen plants shall be used for screening purposes and must be of a type that does not "die back or meltdown" in freezing temperatures. All air-conditioning units and pool equipment must be screened from the street and sideyard view, Screening must be completed within thirty (30) days of installation or prior to home occupancy. Failed or dead plants used for screening must be replaced within a reasonable time as seasonal planting conditions allow.
- 3.254 Gazebos and pigeonniers should relate architecturally to the design of the home in both form and material. Details and location of gazebos must be submitted for approval with the landscape plan and must be approved by the Council.

- 3.265 The owner shall not paint or decorate any portion of the exterior of any building or improvements without first obtaining written consent of the Council.
- 3.276 No outside lines, outside television antennas, satellite dishes, above ground improvements or hanging devices shall be allowed without the written consent of the Council. Only satellite dishes of eighteen (18") or less are acceptable and must be erected completely out of street view.
- 3.287 Outside lighting, outside music or sound producing devices and any other mechanical devices shall be subject to the approval of the Council, and any standard adopted respecting any restrictions in the regard shall be final.
- 3.298 Landscaping shall be installed within thirty (30) days of completion of residence. The front yard must be completely sodded with centipede, in default of which the Council may cause such work to be performed and may demand and sue for reimbursement for such costs and legal fees. All landscaping plans must be submitted to the Council at least seven (7) days in advance for approval.
- a. All lots which have electric or other utility transformers or pedestals must screen them from view along the roadway. Each homeowner shall plant three (3) Azaleas, variety "lavender formosas" in a semi-circle adjacent to pedestals. Once both lots are built upon, this will completely screen view of transformers from roadway.
- b. If the homeowner goes above these minimum requirements, the plant material above the minimum requirements does not have to be the same size requirements as the required minimum standards as long as the sizes of additional plant material is located in such a manner that the overall appearance of the landscape looks in balance.
- c. Each homeowner will be required to plant a minimum of two (2) shade trees in the front yard. Each tree being a minimum height of eight (8') feet. Existing trees may be allowed to fulfill this requirement if approved by the Council.
- d. Due to size, shape, and configuration of home, the Council may require additional landscaping if the minimum requirements do not complete the appearance of the landscape from the roadway or lake view.
- 3.3029 Address Numbers/Mailboxes Address numbers shall be Address numbers displayed on the front door of any residence, . Address numbers they shall be 4 inches in height on any part

of the door once the home is completed and occupied. No vinyl numbers are permitted. The Council has pre-selected a style of mailbox and requires property owners to select this style for their residence. Mailboxes shall be placed near the sidewalk or driveway close to the center of the lot.

- 3.310 All mailboxes must be of the same design, material and paint color as <u>pre-approved</u> by the Council. Specifications, prices, and place for purchase will be provided by the Council before installation. The Council has approved <u>the "Horse and Carriage" style, number 617the</u> mailbox by Bose Associates, Inc. <u>it is "Horse and Carriage" style, number 617.</u> It is hand cast aluminum and approved by the U.S. Postmaster General. <u>Telephone number for Bose Associates, Inc. is (504)751-5701. (See Attached sheet).</u>
- 3.321 Cutting down or removal of any tree or trees larger than eight (8") inches in diameter from any lot or parcel is prohibited, without first obtaining the approval (in writing) of the Council. Placement of any object on any tree or trees is prohibited.
- Driveways/Walkways—Driveways shall not be constructed nearer than one (1') foot from the side property line. A turning radius of not less that twenty-one (21') feet for entering the garage shall be required unless otherwise approved by the Council. Driveways shall be constructed of concrete and shall have a width of not less than eleven (11') feet flaring to fifteen (15') at the street curb. A thirty (30") inch apron will be required (No stamped concrete allowed) and will be the same on each driveway. No driveway shall be permitted adjacent to another except where the configuration of lots dictate it necessary and then it must be approved by the Council. All driveways must be completed upon completion of the home. Walkways shall be constructed on each lot consisting of hard surface paths leading from the street or driveway to the front entrance of the home. Walkways shall be a minimum of 42" in width.
- 3.343 Drainage/Erosion—Lots shall be graded to direct drainage to the street, except for lots naturally sloping away from the street subject to the approval of the Council. During and after construction, erosion shall be controlled by completely sodding exposed slopes. The use of exposed drainpipe or impervious swale lining is prohibited; however, catch basins and buried drainpipe may be used. Drainpipe must go under the sidewalk and terminate at curb with a catch basin and grate-adjacent to curb to allow water to spill over curb and into road.
- 3.354 Gas Lights-Homes shall be required to have at least one gas light on the front elevation of the home.

- $3.3_{\underline{65}}$  All exterior exposed posts and columns shall be a minimum of eight (8") inches in diameter.
- 3.376 As much exposed aggregate, stamped and scored concrete as practical should be used for porches and sidewalks.
- 3.387 All homes must be pre-wired for security systems.
- 3.398 Only one sign no larger than five (5') <u>foot</u> square will be allowed during construction and during the time that particular property is for sale. No "for sale" signs will be allowed on any lots to sell cars, boats, travel trailers, furniture, clothing, etc. Also, no political /election signs allowed.
- Restrictions one or more times, to add additional lots and additional filings to Bluff Oaks Subdivision and to subject the additional lots to the building and use restrictions contained in these Act of Restrictions and to amend this Act of the Restrictions in any other manner or for any other purpose deemed necessary or appropriate in the sole discretion of the Subdivider HOA. Any amendment of the Act of Restrictions shall be in writing and shall be effective when filed for registry in the official records of Ascension Parish, State of Louisiana. Upon the filing of an amendment of the Act of the Restrictions to add additional lots, the lots described in this Act and the lots described in the amendment shall constitute a single subdivision, and the building and use restrictions contained in the Act shall be binding on each lot in Bluff Oaks Subdivision and shall be fully enforceable by each lot owner in the subdivision.

# 4. GENERAL COVENANTS, OBLIGATIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS

4.1 Homes in Bluff Oaks Subdivision shall be used for residential purposes only. No part of any property in this subdivision shall be used for apartment houses, offices, for the conduct in the home of occupations such as medical or other offices or shops of any kind, for schools, churches, or assembly halls of fraternity houses. No residence shall be leased or otherwise rented or let out to a tenant for any period of time. There shall be no raising of livestock such as cows, horses, pigs, sheep, and rabbits, or poultry of any kind. Domestic animals shall not roam freely, but must bre leashed or detained by fences. Domestic animals shall not be of such kind or

disposition, or disposition or kept in such numbers or in a manner as to cause a nuisance. Any structure, pen, or cage used to house domestic animals must not be visible from the street.

- 4.2 Noo Trailer, basement, shack, garage, barn, or other out-building shall any time be used as a residence, temporarily or permanently.
- 4.3 No lot shall be used or maintained as a dumping ground for rubbish, trash, garbage or other waste. All incinerators or other equipment for storage or disposal of such material shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition. Upon completion of a residence, all debris shall be removed from the premises immediately. Debris, trash, and waste caused by any activity occurring on a lot or caused by a natural disaster or other Act of God shall be cleared within a reasonable period of time. Garden compost may be kept in quantities required by one (1) household only, provided it is not visible from the street and is kept free of noxious odors and insects.
- 4.4 The keeping of a mobile home, or similar appurtenance either with or without wheels, on any parcel of property covered by these covenants is prohibited. A motorboat, or recreational vehicle may be maintained, stored or kept on any parcel of property covered by these covenants only if kept completely from view of the street, and only if housed completely within a structure which has been approved by the Council or only if the location on the lot has been approved by the Council in advance.
- 4.5 No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on, nor shall anything be done which may become an annoyance or nuisance to the other owners.
- 4.6 Nothing shall be altered or constructed in or removed from the landscape areas as shown on the final plat area, except upon the written consent of the Council.
- 4.7 There shall be no storage or obstructions placed, or parking on, any landscape area or common area without the prior written consent of the Council.

- 4.8 No offensive or unlawful use shall be made of the subdivision property, nor any part thereof. All valid laws, zoning ordinances and regulations of all governmental bodies having applicable jurisdiction thereof shall be observed.
- 4.9 Each individual lot owner shall be responsible for the maintenance of all landscaping on his lot and for maintaining his lot, residence and driveway in a clean and orderly fashion at all times, and the owner shall be responsible for paying all costs of said maintenance and for any such repairs which may be necessary. Lot owners shall keep their lot(s) mowed at all times and free from rubbish, trash, debris and sue for reimbursement for such costs and reasonable attorney's fees.
- 4.10 Subdivider shall make no warranty as to the soil condition of the property, or the health of the trees and vegetation situated on the property.
- 4.101 Work to clear, grade, fill, or excavate in wetlands on any lots, as indicated on the Final Plat, will require written approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District. This wetland area serves as drainage way for the Bluff Oaks Subdivision as well as other upstream areas. The decisions to issue Department of the Army permits in this wetland area will be based upon many factors, especially those relating to flooding and flood control. Thereof, permits to clear, grade, fill, or excavate in this wetland area may not be issued.
- 4.112 All automobiles, trucks and other licensed vehicles owned or used by any lot owner or their guests shall, to the extent possible, be parked in the garages(s), driveways or parking spaces constructed on the property of the lot owner. No vehicle shall be parked on any street or in front of any lot for an excessive period of time. No automobiles, trucks or other licensed vehicles are allowed to be parked in the grassed areas of the cul-de-sacs or on Bluff Oaks common grounds at any time without the written approval of the HOA. No vehicle owned by a lot owner or their guests or contractors may be parked on the street for any period of time in a manner which impedes the access of emergency vehicles, mail or courier service, or school busses from accessing any part of Bluff Oaks Subdivision. Any illegally parked vehicle of any kind will be towed off the street or property at the expense of the owner of the vehicle.

# 5. LANDSCAPE, PRIVATE FENCE SERVITUDE AND COMMON AREAS

5.1 The landscape, private fence servitude and common areas, if any, shown on the final plat of Bluff Oaks Subdivision are dedicated to the common use of the enjoyment of the lot owners of Bluff Oaks Subdivision, and the care, upkeep and maintenance of these areas are not the

responsibility of the City-Parish Government of Ascension Parish, but shall be the responsibility of the lot owners of Bluff Oaks Subdivision in the proportion of one (1) lot to total number of lots. These landscape areas are not dedicated for use by the general public. The costs of all lighting, except streetlights installed by the utility company are to be borne of the lot owners.

#### 6. COVENANTS FOR MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENTS

- 6.1 The Council has the specific right, upon a majority vote of its members in the manner prescribed in the By Laws of the HOA, to levy and collect (by legal proceedings if necessary) from each lot owner in Bluff Oaks Subdivision an annual assessment in an amount it determines is necessary in order to provide said subdivision with lighting, maintenance of the landscape areas, maintenance of the street signs, gardening and any other services generally undertaken or furnished by private associations of property owners
- In addition to annual assessments used for the ordinary maintenance of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision outlined above, the Council may levy assess, or charge against each lot in the Bluff Oaks Subdivision a Special Assessment only for the purpose of defraying, in whole or in part, the cost of any repair or replacement of capital improvements owned by the HOA, including, without limitation, fixtures and moveable property related thereto, or for any other unanticipated cost incurred by the HOA, provided that any such assessment shall have the approval of a majority of the votes of lot owners voting in person or by valid proxy at a meeting duly called under the By-laws of the HOA for that purpose.
- All cash amounts or cash sums due pursuant to the terms of thise Restrictions is agreement or any assessments that have been levied shall bear interest at the rate of fourteen twelve (14%) (12%) percent per annum, or the maximum rate allowable by law, whichever is greater, from the date due until paid. Any party lot owner who fails to comply with that said party's lot owner's obligations hereunder shall also be liable to pay the HOA's court costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in the collection of any delinquent assessments.
- Any assessments shall be made in writing directed to the property owners, and upon failure to pay within thirty (30) days from the day the notice is given, a copy thereof can be filed with the Statement of Lien and Privilege may be filed with Clerk and Recorder for the Parish of Ascension, Louisiana and will act as a lien an encumbrance ranking from the date of recordation upon the property as assessed in accordance with La. R.S. 9:1141.1 et seq. and La. R.S. 9:1145. In addition to using the revenue for the purposes specified herein, the Council may use the revenue for the purposes as will, in the opinion of the majority of the residents of Bluff Oaks Subdivision on the objectives articulated in Section 1.1 of the Restrictions, provided however, that such assessment shall when filed rank only from the date of recordation. Annual assessments may be increased with agreement of a majority of the lot owners in accordance with the method

prescribed in the By Laws of the HOA. Subdivider shall be specifically exempted from payment of all dues and assessments pertaining to lots owned by it. The initial dues shall not exceed one hundred twenty (\$120) per year until increased as per the restrictions allow.

6.5 The right to collect and administer the maintenance assessments and obligations may upon a vote in writing of a majority of the lot owners <u>conducted in the manner prescribed in the By Laws of the HOA</u>, be transferred to <u>a corporation</u> <u>a third-party entity</u> formed for that and any other purposes.

# 7. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 7.1 The HOA may, in the manner prescribed by this Section, adopt amend, repeal, and enforce rules and regulations ("Rules and Regulations") as may be deemed necessary or desirable in the enforcement of these Restrictions, the operation of the HOA, the preservation of any common areas, and the furtherance of the objectives set forth in Section 1.1. of the Restrictions. Any such Rules and Regulations shall be reasonable and uniformly applied to all lot owners. Rules and Regulations shall be binding upon all lot owners and it shall be the duty of each lot owner to ensure the compliance of the Rules and Regulations by their contractors, invitees, and/or guests.
- Rules and Regulations may be adopted by a simple majority of the lot owners present at a valid meeting called for any purpose under the By-laws of the HOA. Notice of the adoption, amendment or repeal of any Rule and Regulation shall be provided to all lot owners in a manner deemed convenient by the Council. Any adoption, amendment, or repeal of any Rule or Regulation shall be effective thirty (30) days from the date of adoption of the Rule or Regulation.
- 7.3 The Council shall compile and maintain a Fee Schedule of any and all applicable fines or levies associated with the enforcement of the Rule and Regulations. This Fee Schedule shall be illustrative of a typical violation, and the Council may reasonably deviate from the Fee Schedule in the event of a willful, persistent, or egregious violation of these Restrictions or the Rules and Regulations. Fees may be assessed on a frequency and basis as deemed necessary by the Council to adequately enforce the Restrictions and Rules and Regulations. The Fee Schedule shall be adopted, amended, or modified only with the approval of a simple majority of the lot owners present at a valid meeting called for any purpose under the By-laws of the HOA.
- 7.2 Once a fine or levy has been assessed on any lot owner for a violation of the Restrictions or Rules and Regulations, any sums owed shall be payable within thirty days. Any delinquent fine or levy shall be treated as a delinquent assessment subject to the terms of Section 6 of the Restrictions.
- A written copy of all currently effective Rules and Regulations and Fee Schedule shall be made available to any lot owner upon request within a reasonable time. A written copy of the

Rules and Regulations and Fee Schedule shall be circulated to all lot owners at least once annually within thirty (30) days of the annual meeting of the HOA.

# **8. ENFORCEMENT**

- 8.1 The HOA shall have the power to enforce the provisions of the Restrictions and the Rules and Regulations in any manner allowed by law and shall take such action as the Council deems necessary or desirable maintain compliance by each lot owner of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing or any other provision of these Restrictions, the HOA shall have the power to enforce the provisions of the Restrictions and the Rules and Regulations by any one or more of the following means:
- a. by assessing any applicable fines and levies as provided for in the HOA's Fee Schedule as set forth in Sections 6 and 7 of the Restrictions with the Clerk and Recorder for the Parish of Ascension, Louisiana;
- b. by the recordation of a Statement of Claim and Privilege in the for any delinquent assessment, fine, or levy;
- c. by commencing and maintaining legal action to in any court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin any breach or threatened breach of the provisions of the Restrictions or Rules and Regulations;
- d. by commencing and maintaining legal action in any court of competent jurisdiction to recover damages for any breach of any of the provisions;
- e. by suspending the voting rights of any lot owner until any ongoing violation is remedied or until any delinquent assessments, fines, or levies are paid in full; or
- f. by the HOA taking action itself to correct or abate the violation and the charge any expenses incurred by the HOA in exercising such remedy.
- Any lot owner in violation of the Restrictions or Rules and Regulations shall be liable to the HOA for interest on any delinquent sums owed at a rate of twelve (12%) percent per annum, or the maximum rate allowable by law, whichever is greater, from the date the assessment became delinquent until paid, plus any court costs and attorney's fees incurred by the HOA in the enforcement of the Restrictions or Rules and Regulations. For the purposes of enforcing the Restrictions and Rules and Regulations, each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate violation.
- 8.3 Before the HOA may invoke the remedies provided above, it shall give written notice of the violation to the lot owner and afford the lot owner a reasonable amount of time, within the Council's discretion, to remedy the violation. Within seven (7) days from the date of receipt of such notice, a lot owner may appeal the violation to the Council. Such appeals shall be held at a place, time, and in a manner deemed reasonable by the Council. If, after such an appeal is heard,

a violation is confirmed to exist, the HOA's right to proceed with the remedies articulated above and elsewhere in these Restrictions shall become absolute.

8.4 The failure of the HOA to take any action upon any breach or default with respect to any violation of the Restrictions or Rules and Regulations shall not be deemed a waiver of its right to take enforcement action thereafter or upon a subsequent breach or default.

# 97. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 97.1 These stipulations and restrictions are to run with the land and shall be binding on all parties and all persons claiming under them for a period of twenty-five (25) years from the date these covenants are recorded, after which time said covenants shall be automatically extended for successive periods of ten (10) years each unless an instrument signed by a majority of the then owners of the lots shall have been recorded agreeing to change said covenants in whole or in part. Notwithstanding the foregoing, these restrictions may be amended in whole or at any time by an instrument signed by the owners of seventy-five (75%) percent of the lots of the Bluff Oaks Subdivision in said subdivision.
- 97.2 If the parties hereto, or any of them or their heirs or assigns, shall violate or attempt to violate any of the provisions hereof, it shall be lawful for any other person or persons owning any portion of the properties or any lot, or for the Subdivider or the Council, to prosecute any proceedings at law or in equity against the person or persons violating or attempting to violate any such covenant, and to prevent him or them from so doing or to recover damages or other amounts for such violation. Any first or subsequent purchaser of any lot in Bluff Oaks Subdivision shall be entitled to sue for his own account or for the account of the other parties similarly involved or situated or both, or to seek both of these types of relief or such other relief as may be available. Failure of any person, firm, or corporation to enforce any covenant or restriction herein contained shall in no event be deemed a waiver of the right to do so thereafter.
- 97.3 In the event of knowing or intentional violation of these restrictions or in the event of a continuing violation of these restrictions after receipt by the violator or the owner of the lot on which the violation occurs of written notice of violation, the party bringing a successful action to enforce these restrictions by injunction, declaratory judgement or otherwise shall be entitled to recover from the violator or lot owner reasonable attorney fees to be fixed and awarded by the Court.
- <u>97.4</u> Invalidation of any one of these restrictions, or part thereof, by judgement or Court Order, or as herein provided shall in not way affect any other provision herein contained, which other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, at my office in B presence of the undersigned competent witnesses	
Witnesses:	-
Witnesses:	-