# Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of Oaks on the Bluff Estates

INSTRUMENT # 00989374
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## State of Louisiana Parish of Ascension

## Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of Oaks on the Bluff Estates

BE IT KNOWN that on this  $\underline{4}^{\mu}$  day of March, 2020, before me, the undersigned notary public, and in the presence of the undersigned competent witnesses, personally came and appeared:

Overall Development, L.L.C., a Louisiana limited liability company, represented herein by its Manager, whose mailing address is 1111 Claiborne Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810 (the "Declarant");

who did depose and say that:

#### Recitals

- A. Declarant is the owner of the real property (the "Property") shown on the map entitled, "Final Plat of Oaks on the Bluff Estates, Private Subdivision, Being Portions Of The Andrew Green Estate, The Mrs. B. Smith Tract, W. Vallery Tract & Lot DM-1 Of The Daniel G. Melancon Property, Located In Sections 10 & 60, T-9-S, R-2-E, Southeastern Land District, East of the Mississippi River, Ascension Parish, Louisiana, For Overall Development, LLC", made by Centerline Engineering & Land Surveying, LLC, dated February 24, 2020 and recorded with the Clerk and Recorder of Mortgages for Ascension Parish, Louisiana on February 27, 2020 as Instrument No. 00988946, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" ("Final Plat") and made a part of this Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of Oaks on the Bluff Estates (as may be amended from time to time, this "Declaration");
- B. Declarant subdivided and developed the Property as a planned residential community known as Oaks on the Bluff Estates as shown on the Final Plat;
- C. Declarant believes that the establishment of a uniform plan of development affecting the Property according to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, reservations, rights-of-way, servitudes and other provisions of this Declaration will enhance the value of the Property; and
- D. Declarant intends that the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, reservations, rights-of-way, servitudes and other provisions of this Declaration shall run with the Property, and shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of all parties having any right, title or interest in the Property, and their heirs, successors and assigns.

Therefore, in consideration of the premises, the provisions hereinafter contained, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Declarant executes this Declaration affecting the Property, and by this Declaration, imposes upon the Property the restrictions, conditions, liens and servitudes hereinafter set forth.

#### Article 1 General

This Article describes the reasons for the restrictions on the Property and declares that the restrictions will remain forever, regardless of who acquires the Property in the future.

- 1.1 Purpose. The residential community developed on the Property shall have a uniform plan of development pursuant to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, servitudes, easements, reservations, liens and charges stated in this Declaration. The plan is established to enhance the property values and amenities of Oaks on the Bluff Estates, insure the best use and most appropriate development and improvement of each Lot, protect the Owners of Lots against use of surrounding Lots that depreciates the value of their Property, preserve, so far as practicable, the natural beauty of the Property, prevent construction of poorly-designed or proportioned structures on the Property, obtain harmonious color schemes, prevent haphazard and inharmonious Improvements of Lots, secure and maintain setbacks from streets, provide for adequate rights of way and fencing on the Property, and generally provide for quality Improvements on the Property, thereby enhancing the value of investments made by purchasers of Lots therein.
- 1.2 Declaration Running with Land. The covenants, conditions and restrictions of this Declaration shall run with and shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon (a) the Property; (b) the Declarant and its successors and assigns; (c) the Association; and (d) all persons having or hereafter acquiring any right, title or interest in a Lot or Lots and their respective heirs and personal representatives. These covenants, conditions and restrictions shall be building restrictions in accordance with Louisiana Civil Code Article 775 et seq. and predial servitudes, with each Lot being a dominant estate and a servient estate in accordance with Louisiana Civil Code Article 646 et seq, or servitudes by destination of owner under Louisiana Civil Code Article 741.
- 1.3 Development of Property. The Property (and each resubdivided Lot) shall be owned, held, transferred, conveyed, sold, leased, rented, hypothecated, encumbered, used, occupied, maintained, altered and improved subject to the covenants, conditions and restrictions set forth in this Declaration.

#### **Article 2 Definitions**

This Article defines the capitalized terms used throughout the document.

- 2.1 Appointment Period. "Appointment Period" shall mean the period of time commencing as of the date of Recordation of this Declaration and continuing until the earlier of (a) the date on which Declarant voluntarily relinquishes (in writing) both its right to appoint members of the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 3.5 and its right to appoint the members of the Review Board in accordance with Section 8.12, or (b) the moment after all Lots in the Property have been conveyed by Declarant to non-Declarant Owners.
- **2.2** Articles of Incorporation. "Articles of Incorporation" shall mean the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, as amended from time to time.
- **2.3** Assessment. "Assessment" shall mean an assessment for costs incurred by the Association as set forth in this Declaration, including but not limited to annual Assessments, Special Assessments, and Individual Assessments.
- **2.4** Assessment Year. "Assessment Year" shall mean the calendar year or such other twelve (12) consecutive calendar month period selected by the Board of Directors of the Association for the levying, determining and assessing of the annual Assessments under this Declaration.
- **2.5 Association**. "Association" shall mean Oaks on the Bluff Estates Property Owners Association, Inc.
- 2.6 Board of Directors or Board. "Board of Directors" or "Board" shall interchangeably mean the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 2.7 Budget. "Budget" shall mean a written, reasonably itemized estimate of the expenses to be incurred by the Association in performing its functions under this Declaration prepared pursuant to Article 4 and the By-Laws.
- **2.8 By-Laws**. "By-Laws" shall mean the By-Laws of the Association adopted by the Board of Directors, as amended from time to time.
- 2.9 Common Area. "Common Area" or "Common Areas" shall mean that portion of the Property which are designated as common areas by Declarant, which may include, but shall not be limited to, Tract A, Tract B, Tract C, Tract D, Tract E, Tract F, Tract "PS", the Park, the Ponds, and the Private Servitudes of Passage, as shown on the Final Plat. "Common Area" or "Common Areas" also includes any Improvements on that immovable property and all servitudes designated as common areas by Declarant. Declarant reserves the right to modify the Common Areas as indicated on a Final Plat from time to time. The Declarant reserves the right to dedicate Common Areas to the public or to grant servitudes for public use.
- 2.10 Declarant. "Declarant" shall mean Overall Development, L.L.C., its successors and assigns. A person shall be deemed a "successor and assign" of the Declarant only if specifically designated in a duly recorded written instrument as a successor or assign of

Declarant, and then only as to the particular rights or interests of Declarant under this Declaration. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a successor of Overall Development, L.L.C. receiving all or substantially all of the Property owned by Declarant by reason of a foreclosure, dation en paiement, merger or consolidation, shall be deemed a successor and assign of Declarant.

- **2.11 Declaration**. "Declaration" shall mean this Declaration, as amended from time to time.
- 2.12 **Dwelling Unit**. "Dwelling Unit" shall mean a residential building designed for human occupancy, not including any accessory building or garage.
- 2.13 Final Plat. "Final Plat" shall mean the document styled "Final Plat of Oaks on the Bluff Estates, Private Subdivision, Being Portions Of The Andrew Green Estate, The Mrs. B. Smith Tract, W. Vallery Tract & Lot DM-1 Of The Daniel G. Melancon Property, Located In Sections 10 & 60, T-9-S, R-2-E, Southeastern Land District, East of the Mississippi River, Ascension Parish, Louisiana, For Overall Development, LLC", made by Centerline Engineering & Land Surveying, LLC, dated February 24, 2020 and recorded with the Clerk and Recorder of Mortgages for Ascension Parish, Louisiana on February 27, 2020 as Instrument No. 00988946, and attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
- 2.14 First Mortgage and First Mortgagee. "First Mortgage" shall mean the unreleased Mortgage of record encumbering a Lot which has the first lien priority over all other unreleased Mortgages of record encumbering the Lot. "First Mortgagee" shall mean the Mortgagee under a First Mortgage.
- 2.15 Improvements. "Improvements" shall mean all residences, Dwelling Units, improvements, buildings or other structures and any appurtenances thereto of every type or kind as are constructed or located on a Lot. Improvements shall include without limitation, fences, gates, walls, screening walls, pools, patios, patio covers, awnings, decorations, exterior surfaces, additions, walkways, garden sprinkler systems, utility connections, pools, fountains, mailboxes, garages, carports, roofs, chimneys, skylights, sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, screening walls, retaining walls, stairs, decks, fixtures, landscaping, lighting, antennae, satellite dishes, reception devices, solar panels or collectors, hedges, exterior air conditioning and heating units, pumps, wells, tanks and reservoirs, equipment, pipes, lines, cables, meters, towers, facilities used in connection with water, sewer, gas, electric, telephone, television or other utilities or services and the painting or redecorating of such. Improvements shall not include impermanent seasonal decorations.
- 2.16 Lake Vista Drive. "Lake Vista Drive" shall mean the 50' private servitude of passage shown as Lake Vista Drive on the Final Plat.

- 2.17 Lot. "Lot" shall mean any lot or parcel of land within the Property which may be sold or conveyed without violation of the provisions of Louisiana law pertaining to the subdivision of land and has been designated as a Lot on the Final Plat. The term "Lot" shall include Lots 1-45 (inclusive) as shown on the Final Plat.
- 2.18 Manager. "Manager" shall mean any person or persons designated as Manager and employed by the Association to perform any of the duties, powers or functions of the Association.
- 2.19 Mortgage. "Mortgage" shall mean any unreleased mortgage or other similar instrument of record, given voluntarily by an Owner, encumbering the Owner's Lot to secure the performance of any obligation or the payment of a debt and which is required to be released upon performance of the obligation or payment of the debt. "Mortgage" shall not include a judgment lien, mechanic's lien, tax lien or other similar involuntary lien or involuntary encumbrance upon a Lot.
- **2.20** Mortgagee. "Mortgagee" shall mean the Person who is the mortgagee under a Mortgage and the successors and assigns of such Person as holder of the Mortgage interest.
- **2.21** Notice and Hearing. "Notice and Hearing" shall mean a written notice and a public hearing before the Board of Directors or a tribunal appointed by the Board of Directors, in the manner provided in the By-Laws.
- 2.22 Oaks on the Bluff Estates. "Oaks on the Bluff Estates" means the property shown on the Final Plat of Oaks on the Bluff Estates.
- 2.23 Owner. "Owner" shall collectively mean a Person or all Persons (including Declarant) who hold full or partial title of Record to a Lot, including sellers under executory contracts of sale and excluding buyers thereunder.
- **2.24 Person**. "Person" shall mean a natural person, a corporation, a partnership or any other entity.
- **2.25 Pond**. "Pond" or "Ponds" shall mean any or all of the "Pond" situated on Tract A, the "Pond" situated on Tract B, and/or the "Prop. Pond" situated on Tract D, each as shown on the Final Plat.
- **2.26** Private Servitudes of Passage. "Private Servitudes of Passage" shall mean the private servitudes of passage shown on the Final Plat, which include Lake Vista Drive and Royal Oak Drive.

- **2.27 Record, Recorded or Recordation**. "Record" or "Recorded" or "Recordation" shall interchangeably mean the filing for record of any documents in the mortgage and/or conveyance records of Ascension Parish, Louisiana.
- 2.28 Review Board. "Review Board" shall mean Oaks on the Bluff Estates Architectural Review Board as appointed by the Board of Directors from time to time pursuant to this Declaration.
- **2.29 Royal Oak Drive**. "Royal Oak Drive" shall mean the 50' private servitude of passage shown as Royal Oak Drive on the Final Plat.
- 2.30 Rules and Regulations. "Rules and Regulations" shall mean the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time pursuant to this Declaration.
- **2.31 Special Assessment**. "Special Assessment" shall mean a charge against an Owner and such Owner's Lot representing a portion of the costs to the Association for the purpose of funding major capital repairs, maintenance, replacements and Improvements.

## **Article 3 Association Operations**

This Article explains how the Association is managed and the voting rights of Owners.

- **3.1 Association**. The Association is a Louisiana corporation formed under the Louisiana Nonprofit Corporation Act. The Association shall have the duties, powers and rights set forth in this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws.
- 3.2 Board of Directors. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors. Except during the Appointment Period as stated below, the numbers, term, election and qualifications of the members of the Board of Directors shall be fixed in the Articles of Incorporation and/or the By-Laws. The Board of Directors may, by resolution, delegate portions of its authority to an executive committee or to other committees, to tribunals, to Managers, to officers of the Association or to agents and employees of the Association, but such delegation of authority shall not relieve the Board of Directors of its responsibility for management of the affairs of the Association. Action by or on behalf of the Association may be taken by the Board of Directors or any duly authorized executive committee, officer, Manager, agent or employee without a vote of Owners, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration.
- 3.3 Membership in Association. The Owners of a Lot shall collectively and automatically constitute a single member of the Association by virtue of and to the extent of the Owner's ownership of the Lot, there being one membership in the Association for each Lot. The membership shall automatically pass with the ownership of the Lot. Persons may hold separate memberships in the Association by virtue of their ownership of separate Lots. Membership in

the Association shall not be assignable and shall not pass separate and apart from ownership of a Lot.

- 3.4 Voting Rights of Members. The rights and privileges of membership, including the right to vote and to hold an office in the Association, may be exercised by any Owner, but in no event shall more than one vote be cast for each Lot. When more than one person holds an interest in any Lot, the vote for such Lot shall be exercised as those Owners of such Lot themselves determine and advise the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Association prior to any meeting. In the absence of such advice, the vote appurtenant to such Lot shall be suspended in the event more than one Person seeks to exercise it. The voting weight appurtenant to each Lot shall be equal and each Lot shall have one vote.
- 3.5 Membership of Board of Directors. During the Appointment Period, the Board of Directors shall consist of up to three (3) directors, and Declarant shall have and hereby reserves the continuing right to appoint and remove (at any time and in its sole discretion) the directors during such Appointment Period. Following the Appointment Period, the Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) directors.

#### Article 4 Duties and Power of Association

This Article explains the authority of the Association, the extent of its powers, the guidelines it must follow in carrying out its responsibilities, and the levying of Assessments.

- 4.1 General Duties and Powers of Association. The Association has been formed to further the common interests of the Owners. The Association, acting through the Board of Directors or through Persons to whom the Board of Directors has delegated such powers, shall have the duties and powers hereinafter set forth and, in general, the power to do anything that may be necessary or desirable to further the common interests of the Owners, to maintain, improve and enhance the Common Areas.
- 4.2 Acceptance of Property. The Association shall accept title to any Common Areas without any warranty whatsoever.
- 4.3 Management and Care of Common Areas. The Association shall manage, operate, care for, maintain and repair the Common Areas, and the servitudes provided for in Article 5 and all improvements thereon, including but not limited to the Private Servitudes of Passage, Tract "PS" and any sewer treatment facilities located thereon, the Park, the Ponds, walls, and fences (unless such items are donated to the public by Declarant), and keep the same in a safe, attractive and desirable condition for the use and enjoyment of the Owners, or may delegate this responsibility to others. This duty of the Association to manage and care for the Common Areas shall in no way limit or waive the right of the Association to seek indemnity from any Owner for any damages caused by the negligence of individual Owners or their contractors, guests or invitees within Oaks on the Bluff Estates.

- 4.4 Budgets and Assessments. The Association shall adopt Budgets and levy and collect Assessments as required by the By-Laws or otherwise in a manner consistent with this Declaration and with the careful customs and practices of similar organizations in Ascension Parish, Louisiana.
- 4.5 **Duty to Provide Financial Reports**. The Association shall provide for annual reports of the Budget, the Assessments and the accounts of the Association. Copies of the report shall be made available to any Owner who requests a copy of the same upon payment of such Owner of the reasonable cost of copying the same.
- **4.6 Architectural Approvals**. The Association shall assist the Review Board in connection with architectural approvals as provided in this Declaration.
- 4.7 Rules and Regulations. The Association may from time to time adopt, amend, repeal and enforce Rules and Regulations as may be deemed necessary or desirable with respect to the interpretation and implementation of this Declaration or any amended Act, the operation of the Association, the use and enjoyment of Common Areas and the use of Lots. Any Rules and Regulations shall be reasonably and uniformly applied. Rules and Regulations shall be effective only upon adoption by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the event of any conflict between the Rules and Regulations and this Declaration, this Declaration shall prevail. The Association shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this Declaration, and the Rules and Regulations and shall take such action as the Board of Directors deems necessary or desirable to cause such compliance by each Owner.
- 4.8 Private Servitudes of Passage. Declarant transferred fee title to the Private Servitudes of Passage to the Association. The Private Servitudes of Passage shall remain private access drives and shall be maintained and repaired by the Association at the expense of the Owners. Declarant hereby reserves the right and shall have the sole authority to grant servitudes, permits and licenses of access, utility, drainage, water facility and other servitudes in, on, over, across or under the Private Servitudes of Passage.
- 4.9 Builders, Contractors and Architects. The Review Board will review and approve, on a case by case basis and in its sole discretion, all chosen builders, contractors and architects. It is the responsibility of the Owner of the Lot to comply with all building and design guidelines set forth in this Declaration, regardless of which builder, contractor or architect is chosen. The Review Board shall have the power to determine that any builder, contractor or architect is unsuitable for construction work on the Property and to prohibit the builder, contractor or architect from working on any project on the Property, or on any Lot. All builders, contractors and architects must be experienced custom home builders, and must be licensed and approved by the Association.
- 4.10 General Corporate Powers. The Association shall have all of the ordinary powers and rights of a Louisiana corporation formed under the Louisiana Nonprofit Corporation Act, including, without limitation, the power and right to enter into partnerships and other

agreements, to hire employees, agents, consultants, subject only to such limitations upon such powers as may be set forth in this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation or the By-Laws. The Association shall also have the power to do any and all lawful things which may be authorized, required or permitted to be done under this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, the By-Laws or Rules and Regulations and to do and perform any and all acts which may be necessary or desirable for, or incidental to, the exercise of any of the express powers or rights of the Association under this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, the By-Laws or the Rules and Regulations.

4.11 Design Guidelines. The Association may from time to time adopt, amend, repeal and enforce the Design Guidelines. In the event of any conflict between the Design Guidelines and this Declaration, this Declaration shall prevail. The Association shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this Declaration, and the Design Guidelines and shall take such action as the Board of Directors deems necessary or desirable to cause such compliance by each Owner.

## **Article 5 Servitudes Over The Property**

This Article provides a right for the Owners and the Association to use portions of Lots and to use the Common Areas. Various other servitudes are granted herein, including servitudes for access, drainage, fencing, and utilities. Finally, the Declarant reserves the right to allow the public to use all of the servitudes mentioned above.

- 5.1 Servitudes for Access and Sidewalks. Declarant hereby grants to the Association, the Owners and their respective successors and assigns, (a) a non-exclusive predial servitude and right of use upon, over, and across the sidewalks constructed on each Lot along Royal Oak Drive and Vista Drive; and (b) a non-exclusive servitude of pedestrian and vehicular access over the Private Servitudes of Passage, subject to this Declaration and the Rules and Regulations. To the extent that these non-exclusive servitudes and rights of use exist in favor of the Owners, it shall be appurtenant to each Owner's Lot and shall automatically pass with the title to the Lot. The sidewalks located on a Lot shall be maintained by the Owner of the Lot on which it is located.
- 5.2 Servitude for Access and Fences in Favor of Owners. Declarant hereby grants for the benefit of all Lot Owners, their guests, contractors and invitees, a nonexclusive predial servitude and right of use upon, over and across the perimeter of all Lots in order to construct, repair, replace and maintain a fence around Oaks on the Bluff Estates. Each Lot Owner shall maintain the fence on its Lot in good condition. In the event that the Declarant constructs the fence around Oaks on the Bluff Estates, each Lot owner must maintain, repair, and replace such fence and may not change the aesthetics or type of fence. "Good Condition" for purposes of the fence, means that the fence shall be painted or otherwise maintained in a neat appearance, and broken or rotten material shall be periodically replaced, with mildew and dirt periodically removed. In the event that an Owner fails to maintain, repair or replace the fence on his Lot in

good condition, the Association shall have the right to maintain, repair and replace the fence at the Owner's cost and assess the same to the owner as an Individual Assessment.

- 5.3 Public Utility Servitude. Declarant hereby grants a twelve foot (12') public utility servitude upon, over and across each Lot as shown on the Final Plat. This servitude is for the benefit of the Parish of Ascension and will allow the necessary infrastructure to be constructed so that all Lots may utilize this utility servitude.
- **5.4** Additional Servitudes. This is hereby reserved for the benefit of the Association and granted by Declarant to the Association, the Owners and their respective successors and assigns, those servitudes evidenced on the Final Plat.
- 5.5 Sewer Treatment Plant Servitude. Declarant hereby grants for the benefit of each Lot (and any operator of the sewer treatment plant located thereon), a nonexclusive predial servitude of utilities, access and passage over and across Royal Oak Drive and the portion of Tract D marked as "Gravel Access Drive" on the Final Plat for purposes of utilities and vehicular and pedestrian access to Tract "PS".

## Article 6 Declarant's Rights and Reservations

This Article reiterates that the Declarant is entitled to special privileges with regard to the Association during the Appointment Period and with regard to the Declaration. The Declarant is not required to pay Assessments on Lots owned by it during the Appointment Period.

6.1 Declarant's Rights. Notwithstanding any other language or provision to the contrary in this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws or Rules and Regulations of the Association, at any time prior to the expiration of the Appointment Period, Declarant may amend or supplement this Declaration (including but not limited to the Design Guidelines) in its sole discretion, at any time, without the approval of any Person, Owner or Mortgagee, by recording an instrument in the Records of the Office of the Clerk of Court in Ascension Parish, Louisiana. Any amendment or supplement made pursuant to this Section shall be certified by Declarant as having been duly approved by Declarant, and shall be effective only upon recordation or at such later date as shall be specified in the amendment itself. The rights and reservations of Declarant set forth in this Declaration shall be deemed reserved in each conveyance of property by Declarant to the Association and in each deed or other instrument by which any property within the Property is conveyed by Declarant, whether or not specifically stated therein. The rights and reservations of Declarant shall be superior to any other rights or provisions of this Declaration or any Association documents and may not be modified, amended, rescinded or affected by any amendment of this Declaration, including any amendment of this Section, without the written consent of the Declarant. Declarant's written consent to any one (1) such amendment shall not be construed as consent to any other or subsequent amendment. Declarant shall have and hereby reserves the right to modify, amend and supplement the Final

Plat, including but not limited to layout, design, locations, enlargement, reduction and/or removal of Lots and Common Areas.

- 6.2 Declarant's Rights to Use Common Areas in Promotion and Marketing of the Property. Declarant shall have and hereby reserves the right to use of Common Areas and of services offered by the Association in connection with the development, construction, promotion, marketing, sale, leasing and management of Lots. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Declarant may erect and maintain on any part of the Common Areas such signs, temporary buildings, and other structures, including sales offices and Improvements, as Declarant may deem necessary or proper in connection with the development, construction, promotion, marketing, sale, leasing and management of Lots.
- 6.3 Assessment for Unsold Lots. Notwithstanding any other language or provision to the contrary in this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws or Rules and Regulations of the Association, with respect to each Lot owned by Declarant or its affiliates, for so long as Declarant or its affiliates retains title to such Lot, whether improved or unimproved, Declarant and its affiliates shall not be obligated to pay any Assessments on such Lot. To the extent that Declarant or its affiliates voluntarily decide to pay all or any portion of an Assessment on a Lot it owns, Declarant or its affiliates shall have the option, at its sole discretion, to either pay Assessments on such Lot, which shall be assessed, for Assessment purposes, at a rate equal to the Assessment rate which would otherwise be applicable to such Lot if it were owned by a non-Declarant Owner or to fund, on a non-reimbursable basis, any deficit which may exist between Assessments and the annual budget of the Association, or to fund all or any portion, on a reimbursable or loan basis, any deficit which may exist between Assessments and the annual budget of the Association.

#### Article 7 Assessments

This Article describes the procedure the Association must follow to levy Assessments and declares that if the Assessment remains unpaid, it will accrue interest at a yearly rate of 12%. It also explains the privilege granted to the Association to file a lien on the Property if the Assessment is delinquent. Only a First Mortgage will outrank this lien, and the Association is permitted to recover attorney's fees if necessary to collect the unpaid amount. Finally, the lien provides the Association with the right of foreclosure as a means to collect any delinquency.

7.1 Determination of Assessments. Assessments shall commence as to each Lot, on the date Declarant conveys or transfers a Lot to any Person that is not an affiliate of Declarant and shall be due and payable in such manner and on such schedule as provided in this Declaration or as the Association may provide in its sole discretion. The Association has the specific right to levy and collect (by legal proceedings if necessary) from each Owner an Assessment in an amount it determines is necessary in order to maintain, repair and replace all Common Areas, servitudes and the improvements thereon (unless such items are donated to the public by Declarant), including but not limited to Royal Oak Drive, Vista Drive, the Ponds, the

Park, the sewer treatment facilities, walls, fences, landscaping, and servitudes and provide all other services generally undertaken or furnished by the Association. Annual Assessments shall include an amount equal to Three Hundred Fifty and No/100 (\$350.00) Dollars per Lot per year for the establishment of reserves for maintenance, repair, and replacement of the Private Servitudes of Passage, and such amount may be increased in the future by Declarant or the Board of Directors, as applicable. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Association's annual meeting, to prepare a Budget covering the estimated common expenses during the coming year, such Budget to include a capital contribution or reserve account if necessary for the capital needs of the Association. The Board shall cause the Budget and the proposed total of the annual Assessments to be levied against Lots for the following year to be delivered to each Owner at least fifteen (15) days prior to such meeting. The Budget and the annual Assessments shall become effective unless disapproved at the annual meeting by either (i) Declarant during the Appointment Period, or (ii) following the Appointment Period, by a vote of the majority of the votes of the Owners who are voting in person or by proxy at such meeting (provided that it shall require a vote of at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the total membership to disapprove the Budget). Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Association fails for any reason to determine the Assessments for the succeeding year, then and until such time as the Assessments shall have been determined as provided herein, the annual Assessments in effect for the then current year shall be increased by the factor provided in the Consumer Price Index (all Urban Consumers, United States City Average, All Items 1967-69 = 100), or its successor index, and such increased Assessments shall be implemented for the succeeding year, until the new Assessments shall have been approved as provided above. The approval of the Assessment shall include the right to commence legal enforcement action without separate approval. Except for the rights of the Declarant during the Appointment Period, Assessments shall be in equal amounts per Lot and shall be made in writing directed to the Owner of the Lot. In addition to using the revenue for the purpose specified herein, the Board of Directors may use the revenue for such purposes as will, in the opinion of the majority of the Board of Directors, benefit all of the Owners. Only a First Mortgage will outrank any lien for unpaid Assessments, and the Association is permitted to recover attorneys' fees if necessary to collect the unpaid amount. The amount of the initial Assessment shall be determined at the first meeting of the Board of Directors. Assessments may subsequently be increased in accordance with the By-Laws.

7.2 Individual Assessments. The Association may levy an Assessment against any Owner if the misconduct or negligent failure of such Owner (or the contractors, family, tenants, agents, guests, or invitees of any Owner) to comply with this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Design Guidelines or Rules and Regulations shall have resulted in the expenditure of funds by the Association to remedy a problem or to cause such compliance. Such Assessment shall be known as an "Individual Assessment". The amount of the Individual Assessment shall be due and payable to the Association thirty (30) days after notice to the Owner of the decision of the Association that the Individual Assessment is owing. The Association reserves the right to establish reasonable fines for failure to comply with any obligations imposed on Lot owners as described herein and such fines may be assessed as an Individual Assessment.

- 7.3 Special Assessments. The Association may levy an Assessment against each Owner for the purpose of funding major capital repairs, maintenance, and replacements of the Common Areas and the improvements thereon (including resurfacing streets) or shortfalls in the approved Budget. Such Assessment shall be known as a "Special Assessment". The amount of the Special Assessment shall be due and payable to the Association thirty (30) days after notice to the Owner of the decision of the Association that the Special Assessment is owing.
- 7.4 Interest on Unpaid Assessments. All Assessments that have been levied shall bear interest at the rate of twelve (12%) percent per annum from date due until paid and shall be subject to late charges as assessed by the Association from time to time.
- Lien to Enforce Assessments. In the event an Owner fails to pay an Assessment on the date due, the Association may elect to file a claim of lien against the Lot of an Owner by recording a notice setting forth: (a) the amount of the claim of delinquency; (b) the late charges, interest and costs of collection (including reasonable attorneys' fees) which have accrued thereon; (c) the legal description and municipal address of the Lot against which the lien is claimed; and (d) the name of the Owner of the Lot as shown upon the records of the Association. The notice of lien shall be signed and acknowledged by an officer of the Association or other duly authorized agent of the Association. The lien shall be prior to any declaration of homestead rights and any other lien, encumbrance or Mortgage encumbering the Lot; provided, however, that a previously recorded First Mortgage encumbering the Lot shall be and remain prior and superior in all respects to the lien created by the notice of lien. The lien shall secure all amounts set forth in the notice of lien, as well as all subsequently accruing amounts (including reasonable attorneys' fees). The lien shall continue until the amounts secured by it and all subsequently accruing amounts (including reasonable attorneys' fees) are fully paid or otherwise satisfied. When all amounts claimed under the notice of lien and all other costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees) and Assessments which have accrued subsequent to the filing of the notice of lien have been fully paid or satisfied, the Association shall execute and record a notice releasing the lien. Unless paid or otherwise satisfied, the lien may be foreclosed in the manner for foreclosure of mortgages in the State of Louisiana. The lien shall not be affected by any sale or transfer of the Lot, except that any such sale or transfer pursuant to a foreclosure of a previously recorded First Mortgage shall extinguish the lien, but it shall not relieve the purchaser or the transferee of the Lot from liability for, or the Lot from the lien of, any Assessments, late charges. interest and costs of collection (including reasonable attorneys' fees) made thereafter. Any delinquent Assessments and costs of collection (including reasonable attorneys' fees) which are extinguished by the foregoing provision may be reallocated by the Association and assessed to all Lots as a common expense.

Each Assessment, together with interest, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees, shall also be the personal obligation of the person who was the Owner of such Lot at the time when the Assessment became due (and if the Lot is co-owned the obligation shall be an in solido obligation for all Owners). The act of acquiring a Lot against which such a privilege and lien

shall have been recorded shall constitute an assumption by the person so acquiring the Lot of the indebtedness represented thereby and shall become the personal contractual obligation of such person, and subject him to a personal action thereon, in solido, with the former delinquent Owner.

## Article 8 General Restrictions Applicable to Property

This Article details the specific use restrictions and design guidelines applicable to all Lots in Oaks on the Bluff Estates. It also describes the procedures by which the Architectural Review Board performs its functions.

- **8.1** Restrictions on Use. The following restrictions on use shall apply equally to the Property and each Lot:
  - 8.1.1 Residential Use Only. Lots shall be used for single family residential purposes only. No part of any Lot shall be used for commercial uses, live/work units, apartment houses, group homes, offices, for the conduct in the home of occupations such as medical, real estate or other offices or shops of any kind. No school, church, assembly hall or group home of any kind (including without limitation any "community home" as defined in La R.S. 28:477) shall be built or permitted to be built on any Lot nor shall any Lot or existing structure be permitted to be used as such. No Lot may be utilized as a "short-term" or "day-to-day" rental, and Owners shall be prohibited from listing any Dwelling Units on rental platforms such as Airbnb, VRBO, or other similar platforms offering such temporary leasing arrangements.

- **8.1.2** No Temporary Structures. No trailer, basement, shack, garage, barn or other out-building shall at any time be used as a residence, temporarily or permanently. Temporary structures are permitted only in connection with the construction of Improvements on the Property and must be removed within one hundred twenty (120) days from being placed on the Property. Improvements may not be occupied until completed in accordance with approved plans and specifications.
- 8.1.3 Free of Debris. No Lot shall be used or maintained as 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 clean and sanitary condition. Upon completion of the Improvements, all debris shall be removed from the Lot immediately. 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. No building materials may be kept on site except in connection with the construction of Improvements approved by the Review Board. Each Owner of a Lot shall provide an area visually screened from the street for the storage of garbage cans, wood piles, materials and supplies, and/or any equipment which is stored outside. Items will be considered screened only if they are not visible from the street or adjacent properties.
- 8.2 Solar Panels and Skylights. No Owner shall install outside any Improvements on a Lot any solar panels or solar collectors of any kind, without the prior written permission of the Review Board. To the extent permitted, solar panels and solar collectors shall be placed within the rear yard or attached to the rear roof of Improvements on a Lot and shielded from view unless another location is approved in writing by the Review Board. To the extent that another location is permitted by the Review Board, the location shall be an inconspicuous location on a Lot that minimizes the view of such panels or collectors from Royal Oak Drive. The Review Board may adopt reasonable rules for the location, appearance, camouflaging, installation, maintenance, and use of such panels or collectors to the extent permitted by law. Skylights shall not be located on the front elevation of any Improvements on a Lot. Only flat skylights are allowed. No bubble skylights will be permitted.
- **8.3** Electrical and Sound Equipment. No Owner shall install outside any Improvements on a Lot any radio, television, antenna, or other electrical equipment, fixtures or items of any kind, without the prior written permission of the Review Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in order to comply with the Telecommunications Act promulgated by the FCC, nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit or impair the installation, maintenance or use of the following:
  - a. antennas that (i) are one meter or less in diameter, and (ii) are designed to receive direct broadcast satellite service, including direct-to-home satellite service, or to receive or transmit fixed wireless signals via satellite;
  - b. antennas that (i) are one meter or less in diameter or diagonal measurement, and

- (ii) are designed to receive video programming services via broadband radio service (wireless cable) or to receive or transmit fixed wireless signals other than via satellite;
- c. antennas that are used to receive local television broadcast signals; or
- d. a mast supporting any of the antennas described in sections (a), (b) or (c) above;

provided, however, that such items shall only be allowed to be placed within the rear yard or attached to the rear roof of Improvements on a Lot and shielded from view unless another location is approved in writing by the Review Board. To the extent that the rear yard location unreasonably prevents reception or imposes unreasonable expenses upon the Lot Owner when compared to another location, the Review Board shall approve another location such as a side yard but may designate a side yard location that may not be viewed from the street in front of the Lot. If the side yard also unreasonably prevents reception or imposes unreasonable expenses the front yard shall be approved but the Review Board shall have the right to designate an inconspicuous location in the front yard of a Lot that minimizes the view of such device from Royal Oak Drive. The Review Board may adopt reasonable rules for the location, appearance, camouflaging, installation, maintenance, and use of such devices to the extent permitted by law.

All radio, television antenna or other electrical equipment of any kind or nature installed or used in or outside each Improvements on a Lot shall fully comply with all rules, regulations, requirements or recommendations of the public authorities having jurisdiction, and the Owner alone shall be liable for any damage or injury caused by any radio, television or other electrical equipment installed in or outside such Improvements. Satellite reception devices other than those described above are prohibited, except as the Review Board may approve.

- 8.4 Combination of Lots. Subject to the prior approval of the Review Board, nothing in this Declaration shall prohibit an Owner of any two adjoining Lots having frontage on the same street from erecting an Improvement on the two Lots, which, with the exception of Assessments and voting rights, shall be considered, for the purpose of this Declaration, as one Lot. However, the Improvements must be on a scale comparable to other houses in the subdivision. The adjacent Property is to be used for a yard or accessory buildings.
- 8.5 No Resubdivision. No Lot or Lots shall be sold except with the description as shown on the Final Plat. No Lot may be subdivided or re-platted without the written consent of the Declarant and the Review Board.
- 8.6 Outside Lighting, Etc. Outside lighting, outside music or sound producing devices, and any other mechanical devices shall be subject to the approval of the Review Board, and any standard adopted respecting any restrictions in this regard shall be final. Lighting shall be shielded and contained completely on the Lot. Any permitted music devices shall be kept at a reasonable level that cannot be heard from an adjoining Lot.

- 8.7 No Signs. No signs of any kind, except standard real estate signs, seasonal decorations or signs required by law to be posted, shall be displayed to the public view on or from any Lot without the prior consent of the Review Board. For those signs permitted herein, the maximum size shall be twenty inches (20") by thirty inches (30") and shall not exceed a total of one sign per Lot. During the period of construction of a Dwelling Unit only, the Association may grant contractor's the right to install approved signage on a Lot pursuant to signage specifications and requirements determined by the Association.
- 8.8 No Noxious Activity. No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on, nor shall anything be done which may be or become an annoyance or nuisance to the other Owners of Lots. No offensive or unlawful use, including but not limited to excessive on-street parking, shall be made of any Lot, the Common Area, nor any part thereof. All valid laws, zoning ordinances and regulations of all governmental bodies having applicable jurisdiction thereof shall be observed. The responsibility of meeting requirements of governmental bodies which require maintenance or modification, are enforceable in the same way as the responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the Lot concerned.
- 8.9 Common Areas. Nothing shall be altered, or constructed in, or removed from, the Common Areas as shown on the Final Plat, except upon the written consent of the Review Board. There shall be no storage or obstructions placed or parking on any Common Area without the prior written consent of the Review Board. Lot Owners shall not be permitted to alter any fence constructed or maintained by the Association. No objects may be placed in a manner that interferes with the appearance, use or maintenance of these fences.
- 8.10 Responsibility for Lots and Mowing. Each Owner shall be responsible for the maintenance of all landscaping on his Lot, and for maintaining his Lot, Improvements, sidewalks 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. Owners shall keep their Lot(s) mowed at all times and free from rubbish, trash, debris and noxious weeds, in default of which the Board of Directors may cause such work to be performed and may demand and sue for reimbursement for such costs and reasonable attorneys' fees. The Association maintains the right to assess a monetary fine against any Lot Owner who violates this provision in an amount determined by the Board of Directors. Any amounts incurred by the Association shall be considered an Assessment and enforced in accordance with Article 7.
- 8.11 Pets. Only customary domestic household animals are permitted (such as dogs, cats and fish), and shall not be of such kind or disposition, or kept in such numbers as to cause a nuisance or danger. Animals shall not roam freely, but must be leashed. No pets, animals or fowl may be kept or maintained for commercial purposes or for breeding, and animals such as chickens (except hens which are permitted), rabbits, fowl, goats, pigs, snakes and reptiles are specifically prohibited (and shall not be deemed customary domestic household animals). No pet shall be allowed to leave its excrement on any Lot or a Common Area. Pets shall not be permitted upon any Lot or Common Area unless accompanied by an adult and unless carried or

leashed. Any Owner who keeps or maintains any pet shall be deemed to have indemnified and agreed to hold the Association and other Owners free and harmless from any loss, claim or liability of any kind or character arising by reason of keeping or maintaining such pet on the Property. The Association may designate specific pet areas in the Rules and Regulations and Owners shall be responsible for cleaning up after their pet. Any animal or pet that creates a nuisance, disturbance, danger or noise may be permanently removed prohibited from the Common Areas and any Lot. All pets shall be subject to the Rules and Regulations. All pets shall be registered and inoculated as required by law. The Association may establish fines and charges for violation of this Declaration and the Rules and Regulations, which shall be an Individual Assessment. The Association reserves the right to remove any pets or animals, or to require any Owner, tenant or occupant to remove pets or animals, which violate this Declaration or the Rules and Regulations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is expressly declared that the Rules and Regulations relative to pets and animals may regulate the number and size of pets, prohibit the keeping of animals other than customary domestic household pets, designate specific areas within the Common Areas where pets may be walked, prohibit pets on other areas, and restrict the rights of tenants to keep pets.

- 8.12 Architectural Review Board. There is hereby created Oaks on the Bluff Estates Architectural Review Board ("Review Board") to be composed of up to three individuals appointed by the Board following the Appointment Period. During the Appointment Period, the Review Board shall be appointed and removed by the Declarant at any time in its sole discretion. Except during the Appointment Period, two of the three members of the Review Board shall be Owners. The members of the Review Board shall serve for three year terms, unless removed (which may occur at any time) by the Board of Directors prior to expiration of the term and shall serve without pay or any other compensation. The first members of the Review Board are:
  - a) Devon Overall
  - b) Bobby Overall
  - c) Day Waggenspack

The Review Board may engage the services of architects and engineers to help in its review of design plans.

- **8.13 Prior Plan Approval**. All plans for the construction or physical alteration of any Improvements to or on a Lot shall comply with the Design Guidelines and shall be submitted to the Review Board in advance according to the following procedures:
  - **8.13.1 Specific Plan Requirements**. No Improvements shall be commenced, erected or maintained, nor shall any addition, change or alteration of any kind thereto be made, on any Lot, until plans and specifications prepared by an approved home designer or architect licensed under the laws of Louisiana or draftsman, 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 in writing by a majority vote of the Review Board and a copy thereof as finally approved lodged permanently with the Review Board; and (b) a complete list of all builders/contractors is submitted in writing by the Owner to the Review Board and approved. The requirement that the plans be prepared by an architect licensed under the laws of the state of Louisiana may be waived by the Review Board in its sole discretion, provided the Improvement that is designed is approved by the Review Board.

- **8.13.2** Number of Plans. One (1) set of electronic plans in PDF format, including plot plan, must be submitted for Review Board approval.
- 8.13.3 Scope of Review. The Review Board shall review the plans to ascertain that the Improvements will strictly comply with all of the restrictions set forth in this Declaration. In order to assure that location and size of Improvements 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 intimate scale of the Improvements, the location of the other houses, large trees, common facilities and similar considerations, the Review Board shall have the absolute and sole right to control and decide the precise site, location, and orientation of any Improvement, dwelling or other structure upon all Lots; provided, however, that such location shall be determined only after reasonable opportunity is afforded the Owner of the Lot to recommend a specific site. The criteria for approval by the Review Board is intended to be subjective and not objective and all criteria for approval or disapproval for proposed plans cannot be determined in advance of presentment. Each Owner hereby agrees to such subjective criteria for approval by the Review Board.
- 8.13.4 Standards for Review. The Review Board shall have the right to approve or disapprove any plans and specifications submitted to it in its sole and uncontrolled discretion, which approval or disapproval may be based upon any grounds, including purely aesthetic considerations which shall be deemed sufficient. The Review Board may issue from time to time a manual containing guidelines for use by builders and Owners in the selection of concepts, design techniques and/or materials/finishes for construction within Oaks on the Bluff Estates. These guidelines shall be utilized by the Review Board in its review of plans and specifications. However, notwithstanding anything contained herein or in any such manual of guidelines, the Review Board may in its discretion approve or disapprove any proposed matter for any reason set forth in these covenants.
- **8.13.5 Finality of Decision**. The decisions of the Review Board shall be in its sole discretion and shall be final, binding and nonappealable.

- **8.13.6 Variances**. The Review Board, at its discretion, has the right to approve any waivers or deviations from the restrictions contained in this Declaration that it deems are appropriate. Further, written approval of the Review Board must be obtained by an Owner for any waiver of the governmental ordinances the Owner seeks to obtain; any waiver granted by a governmental authority without the prior written approval of the Review Board must nevertheless receive Review Board approval. The Review Board shall have the right to enforce its rights contained herein by a suit for injunctive relief or by bringing other legal actions against an Owner to enforce these restrictions.
- 8.13.7 Review Fee. The Review Board shall establish a fee sufficient to cover the expense of reviewing plans and related data and to compensate any consulting architects, landscape architects, urban designers, inspectors, or attorneys retained in accordance with the terms hereof. The fee initially established for such review shall be Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) and the Review Board shall have the right to increase this amount from time to time, and shall have the right to increase the fee should revised plans fail to incorporate comments of the Review Board. The fee shall be due at the time of submission for preliminary review. For subsequent Improvements, changes or alterations of any kind made on the Lot, the amount of the review fee shall be determined by the Review Board.
- 8.13.8 Construction Deposit. Upon submission to the Review Board of the construction plans for approval, the Owner shall make (or the Owner shall cause his builder to make) a One Thousand Hundred Dollar (\$1,000.00) construction deposit payable to the Association ("Construction Deposit"). The purpose of the Construction Deposit is to insure a clean job site, compliance with the covenants, conditions and restrictions contained in this Declaration, overall community appearance and that the structure to be constructed is built according to the approved plans. A written notice will be issued by the Review Board to the Association, and to the Owner, regarding any violations or damage caused by the construction. Examples of damage are the breaking or damaging of any sidewalk or curb in Oaks on the Bluff Estates, "rutting" of any rights of way, servitudes or other Lots in Oaks on the Bluff Estates caused by construction related vehicles, the spilling of concrete or dirt on any streets or other areas of Oaks on the Bluff Estates, damaging landscaping and any trash or debris dispensed in Oaks on the Bluff Estates. If the violation or damage has not been corrected within five (5) days after the date of the notice, the violation or damage may be corrected by the Review Board or the Association and the cost of the same shall be charged to the Owner. Said amount will be deducted from the Construction Deposit until said deposit is exhausted, at which time the Owner will be billed for any additional expense. The Association shall have the right to impose an Individual Assessment against the Lot for such costs, and may file a lien to enforce payment of any amount billed but not collected within thirty (30) days after the date of such bill in the same manner used for collecting Assessments. If no violations or damages occur, the Construction Deposit will be refunded to the original submitter of the

deposit in full after satisfactory completion of construction of Improvements on the Lot in accordance with the approved plans and completion of landscaping as set forth in this Declaration. To the extent any of the Construction Deposit was spent for correction of any violations or damage, any balance will be refunded to the Owner after the satisfactory completion of the Improvements and landscaping.

- **8.13.9 Indemnification**. Each member of the Review Board shall be indemnified by the Owners of Lots and the Association against all liabilities and expenses, including attorneys' fees reasonably incurred or imposed on him in connection with any proceeding to which he may be a party or in which he may become involved by reason of his being or having been a member of the Review Board at the time such expenses are incurred, unless the member of the Review Board is adjudged guilty of willful in the performance of his duties. The above described right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of all other rights to which such member of the Review Board may be entitled but shall be in addition to such other rights.
- **8.13.10 Foundations and Improvements**. Foundations and Improvements shall be designed by the builder, designer or architect of each Lot. The Review Board's approval of construction plans for a Lot is limited to those matters covered in this Declaration and not structural design or engineering, for which the Review Board takes no responsibility.
- 8.14 Restrictions on Improvements. All Improvements on each Lot shall strictly comply with the Design Guidelines (if applicable and in existence) and the following restrictions:
  - **8.14.1 Design Guidelines**. If applicable, the Design Guidelines will provide details regarding materials, colors, configurations and techniques for constructing any Improvements. All Improvements must strictly comply with the Design Guidelines. The Design Guidelines provide, among other things, details on the design, location, colors, style and materials that may be used for chimneys, fireplace flue enclosures, exterior materials, porches, columns, doors, entries, windows, shutters, dormers, roof ventilation, cornices, rakes, gutters, downspouts, equipment, trash receptacles, and lighting.
  - **8.14.2 Building Height and Garages**. No Improvement shall be erected, altered, placed or permitted to remain on any Lot other than one detached single family dwelling not to exceed two (2) stories in height, with a private garage for at least two (2) cars, and other accessories incidental to residential use of the Lot, such as swimming pools, bathhouses and/or gazebos. All garages shall be enclosed with an approved garage door.
  - **8.14.3 Garage**. All garages must be side-loading unless the garage is completely located in the rear of the home. No garage shall directly face the street unless the garage

is completely located in the rear of the home. As a primary feature to the home, side loading front garages must be treated with an added level of detail. The use of double garage doors, wood paneled fronts, extra wall depth or arched top, are examples of the extra attention that must be given to the garage. Due to the intimate scale of the neighborhood, plain or typical garage fronts will not be allowed.

- 8.14.4 Accessory Building. Gazebos, storage buildings, pigeonniers, pergolas, arbors and other detached structures should relate architecturally to the design of the Improvements in both form and material. Portable or pre-fabricated storage buildings will not be allowed. Location of accessory buildings will be individually considered by the Review Board and shall not affect the views of neighboring Properties. Any accessory structure built within the rear setback of the Property must comply with all Parish code requirements. No accessory building will be allowed within the front building setback.
- **8.14.5 Driveways and Walkways**. Driveways shall be constructed of concrete or stamped concrete. Brick aprons are required between the street and sidewalk. Additional details such as brick edging, paving patterns, inlays, etc. are encouraged, and should be considered on an individual basis.
- **8.14.6 Driveway Locations**. In an effort to prevent driveways on adjoining Lots from being located adjacent to each other along a common side Property line, adjoining drives shall be separated by a "green" landscaped area as detailed more fully in the driveway plan to be provided to all Owners by Declarant. These will be reviewed on an individual basis. Paving materials similar to those discussed in Section 8.14.5 are also encouraged in these situations.
- **8.14.7 Parking.** All automobiles owned or used by Owner or occupants of any structure located on any Lot (other than temporary guests and visitors) shall, as far as possible, be parked in garages, carports or in parking spaces constructed on the Lot. No vehicle shall be parked on any street, the Private Servitudes of Passage, or in front or of Lots on a frequent, regular or permanent basis after construction of a residence is completed. No vehicles may be parked on the Private Servitudes of Passage or any other driving surface in any manner that blocks the driving surface of the Private Servitudes of Passage or in any road or private driveway. Any unregistered, unauthorized or illegally parked vehicle of any kind will be towed at the expense of the owner of the vehicle. The Association shall have the authority to promulgate Rules and Regulations to govern vehicle operation and parking in the Property. Furthermore, although not expressly prohibited hereby, the Association may at any time prohibit motorcycles, motorized bicycles, motorized go-carts, and other similar vehicles, or any of them, from being operated upon any portion of the Property. No Owners or other occupants of any structure on any Lot shall repair or restore any vehicle of any kind upon any Lot or within any structure on any Lot, except (a) within enclosed garages or workshops or (b) for

emergency repairs, and then only to the extent necessary to enable the movement thereof to a proper repair facility. Additional parking shall be required for homes with more than two (2) permanent vehicles. This additional space shall be designed to be harmonious with the landscape and drive designs.

- **8.14.8 Minimum Square Footage**. Improvements built on the Lots shall contain a minimum of 2,800 square footage of living (heated and cooled) space, exclusive of all porches, storerooms, garages and carports. On Improvements with more than one level, a minimum of 2,200 square feet shall be located on the ground level.
- **8.14.9 Exterior Materials**. Any Improvement erected, placed or altered shall not be constructed exteriorly of imitation brick, stone, masonite or aluminum/vinyl siding. Alternative exterior materials will be considered on an individual basis and will be allowed within the discretion of the Review Board.
- **8.14.10 Fireplace Material**. Chimneys should be detailed appropriately to the style of the home. All chimney flues must be screened from view. All chimneys must have a bonnet made of slate, copper, or color-clad metal. Chimneys may not be constructed of siding.
- 8.14.11 Doors and Windows. All entry doors shall be constructed of wood, and shall be a minimum height of seven feet (7'). No metal doors will be allowed toward the front of the home. Approved windows are aluminum, wood, clad wood or vinyl. Aluminum windows are not permitted on front facing windows. Any windows viewed from the street must be wood, vinyl clad or solid vinyl with a one and one-half (1 ½) inch brick mold. Synthetic brick mold materials are encouraged for long-term maintenance of the window. Brick mold shall be painted to match the color of the window, not the color of the trim.

At locations where shutters are deemed appropriate, only wood shutters will be allowed. If shutters are to be fixed, one and one-half (1 ½) brick mold shall be constructed around shutters. Shutter width should be sized proportionately to the window. The use of false shutters will be allowed, but should be appropriately detailed.

Interior window coverings will be required at all windows, including garage and false windows, unless approved otherwise. All window coverings shall be lined or constructed with neutral colors so as to not detract from the exterior of the home. The use of foil, sheets, paper or other inappropriate material will not be allowed.

**8.14.12 Gutters**. All gutters and downspouts must comply with the Design Guidelines unless otherwise approved in the sole discretion of the Review Board.

8.14.13 Roof Pitch and Materials. The minimum roof pitch shall be 10/12. Roofing shall be a minimum of an architectural grade composition shingle, in approved colors. Metal roofing, other than accessory uses such as awnings or dormers, will not be allowed. Ridge vents may be used, but must be shingle covered vents.

No roof protrusions shall be allowed on the front or street facing elevations. All effort must be made to minimize viewing of roof protrusions from the street. In unusual cases where a disproportionate number of vents is required, combining vents internally may be required.

- **8.14.14 Ceiling Height**. All residences shall be constructed with a minimum ceiling height of nine (9') feet above the finished floor. The entry façade shall have a plate height of twelve (12') feet above the finished floor, provided that this may be reduced to a minimum of ten (10') feet above the finished floor to the bottom of the porch beam for a house with a full front porch.
- **8.14.15 Color.** Colors selected should be appropriate to the style of the Improvement and should remain harmonious with neighboring homes. Colors and materials selected must be approved by the Review Board prior to installation, preferably at the time of the initial design review. The use of white brick is discouraged. Installation of non-approved colors/materials will result in the automatic forfeiture of the construction deposit. Any changes to colors or materials made after approval has been granted must be submitted for additional review.
- **8.14.16 Remodeling or Additions**. Any and all work done to an Improvement, that affects the exterior appearance of the Improvement must have prior approval from the Review Board. This includes, but is not limited to, painting, additions, landscape features, fencing, etc.
- **8.14.17 Servitudes**. Servitudes for installation and maintenance of utilities and drainage facilities are reserved as shown on the Final Plat.
- **8.14.18 Underground Utilities**. This subdivision will be served by underground utilities only. Electric service from the electric distribution system to each Lot shall be underground.
- 8.14.19 Play Yards. The use of moderately scaled play equipment, play yards or basketball goals are allowed within the community. The location of these features should be carefully considered as to their impact on neighboring views and accessibility, and shall not be visible from any street view. Oversized items such as trampolines will only be allowed if completely concealed from any street view. The addition of fenced areas may be required as part of play yards. Unkept or unsightly play areas will not be tolerated. Play equipment should be constructed of natural materials and should be of

colors to complement the design of the home. These items must be concealed from view and their final placement must be approved by the Review Board prior to installation.

- **8.14.20 Pet Yards**. Pet yards must be carefully considered as to their placement on the Lot. Pet yards should be part of the overall landscape or screened from view from the street. The use of chain-link enclosures is prohibited. Pet yards should be sized accordingly for the size and number of pets contained.
- **8.14.21 Grade Elevation**. The minimum finished grade of elevation of any Improvement constructed within the Property shall be as required by the Parish Department of Public Works.
- 8.15 Drainage. The Owner of a Lot is responsible for providing for "positive" storm water drainage in the direction indicated in the drainage plan for Oaks on the Bluff Estates on file with the Department of Public Works of Ascension Parish. Drainage may be surface and/or subsurface. An Owner shall not impede or modify the natural drainage flow of any Lot in any manner that will adversely affect other Owners. No Owner shall add fill to a Lot so as to adversely affect the drainage of any adjoining Lot or as to increase the cost of installing foundation footings on any adjacent Lot. The Review Board or any other Owner shall have the right to bring legal action to enforce this restriction.
- 8.16 Completion of Improvements. The exterior construction of Improvements started on a Lot shall be diligently pursued to a completion date twelve (12) months following the pouring of the foundation for that building, with the possibility for an extension for good reason, upon approval by the Review Board, but in no event shall the extension be for any amount of time longer than that permitted by the building code. Each Lot shall have minimum standards of landscaping, in accordance with the approved landscaping plan, completed within thirty (30) days of the earlier of: (a) substantial completion of Improvements on the Lot; or (b) the issuance of a certificate of occupancy. If such Improvements and landscaping are not completed within the time period specified in this section, then the Association shall remove the debris from the Lot and restore the landscaping to its original condition. Each Lot Owner grants the Association the unqualified right to enter upon the Lot to complete such landscaping. The Association shall have the right to assess the Owner for all costs of restoration, as well as the right to assess an administrative fee in an amount equal to the restoration costs.
- 8.17 Landscaping. Landscaping plans must comply with the Design Guidelines and must be submitted to the Review Board for approval. The Final Plat require Lot Owners to plant certain trees and shrubs on each Lot. Immediately upon substantial completion of the Improvements on a Lot, required trees and shrubs must be planted on the Lot and the Lot must be sodded with grass and landscaping for the front yard (including required screening) must be installed. Landscaping should include a minimum of two (2) trees, one of which is to be a 2" caliper Live Oak planted between the front sidewalk and the curb of the street, and twenty-five (25) 1-gallon sized (minimum) plants. An additional one (1) tree and twenty (20) 1-gallon sized

plants are required in the rear of Lots with lake frontage. Each Owner's landscape plan shall include minimums as set forth in the Design Guidelines. Each Owner who violates this restriction, knowingly or unknowingly, agrees to pay the Association the sum of Fifty and NO/100 Dollars (\$50.00), as liquidated damages, for each day the required sodding, planted trees, planted shrubs and landscaping remains uncompleted after notice from the Association to the Owner. The obligation to pay such a fine shall be considered an Assessment and enforced in accordance with Article 7. Any plants that die shall be promptly replaced.

- **8.18** Removal of Trees. No tree may be removed from a Lot without the prior written approval of the Review Board. Trees that remain on the Property must be protected during construction. No heavy equipment, material storage nor added topsoil may be placed within the drip-line of the tree. Should the roots require severe pruning or cutting, a licensed arborist must be consulted and his recommendations submitted to the Review Board prior to start of work.
- 8.19 Mailboxes. All mailboxes must be of the same design as selected by the Association. Mailboxes must be installed prior to issuance of the certificate of occupancy from the Association.
- 8.20 Building Setbacks. Setbacks on the Lot shall be in accordance with the Final Plat. In general, a twenty-five foot (25') setback from the front property line is required, twenty (20') setback at the rear, and an eight foot (8') setback at the side of eighty (80') foot lots and nine (9') foot setback at the side of ninety (90') foot lots. No building shall extend beyond these setback requirements, however, covered and unenclosed porches shall extend consistent with the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Ascension.

An additional building setback is also required within the perimeter of the buildable area on the Lot. In an effort to create the more intimate scale of the community, a separation between the garage and the front of the home is required. The setback distance between these shall be stepped a minimum of six feet (6'0"). Further, each Lot shall be subject to those servitudes as set forth on the Final Plat.

- 8.21 Fences and Walls. All fence, gate and wall locations and details must comply with the Design Guidelines and must be submitted to the Review Board for approval prior to construction, including locations and details pursuant to the fencing and wall requirements. The maximum height for fences or wall shall be six (6'0") feet, unless otherwise approved. Height variances for privacy may be considered by the Review Board. Only one fence shall be utilized to separate Lots and such fence shall be placed on the boundary line of such Lots. Fencing shall either be wrought iron or wood picket types. Fences shall also comply with all Ascension Parish code requirements.
- 8.22 Equipment Enclosure. An enclosure for mechanical equipment and garbage cans shall be included in the design of each home. The enclosure shall be a minimum of four feet (4'0") high, and shall be constructed of brick, stucco or approved wood fencing. Ease of

access for the Owner should be considered. Should any equipment be required to be located externally of the enclosure, screening, by either fence or landscaping, will be required. Landscaping must be sized to screen the equipment at the time of planting. Plant materials at these areas must be evergreen.

- **8.23** Basketball Goals. Basketball goals are permitted, however, under no circumstances are basketball goals allowed to be attached to any part of an Improvement or other structure. Any Owner desiring to install a basketball goal must obtain Review Board approval of the location and placement of the same prior to installation.
- 8.24 Trash Cans. Household trash containers may not be placed in front of any Lot before 3:00 P.M. on the day before trash pick-up and all trash containers shall be removed from the front of the Lot by 6:00 P.M. on trash pick-up day. In the event that an Owner fails to comply with these requirements, the Association shall have the right to fine the Owner and such fines may be assessed as an Individual Assessment. Trash cans shall be stored in the enclosure described in Section 8.22.
- **8.25** Clotheslines. Outside clotheslines and other outside facilities for dying or airing clothes are specifically prohibited and shall not be erected, placed or maintained, nor shall any clothing, rug, or other items be hung from any railing, fence, hedge, or wall.
- **8.26** Swimming Pools, Trampolines. No above ground pools or trampolines, swing sets, children's toys or miscellaneous equipment shall be allowed to be placed in the front of any Lot or otherwise such that it may cause a nuisance to surrounding neighbors or is unsightly.
- 8.27 Parking of Mobile Homes, Vehicles and Commercial Vehicles. A motorboat, or other similar water borne vehicle or recreational vehicle may be maintained, stored or kept if completely hidden from view of the street, and only if housed completely within a garage which has been approved by the Review Board. There shall be allowed no overnight parking of school buses, 18-wheeler vehicles or any other type of commercial or work vehicles or trucks of any kind in the driveway of any Lot or on the streets of The Oaks on the Bluff Estates. No non-operable broken vehicles may be visible from the street or adjacent properties.

#### Article 9 Miscellaneous

This Article details the procedures for amending this Declaration, the termination date for the restrictions (as well as the option to renew), and various other topics.

9.1 Term of Declaration. Unless amended as herein provided, all other covenants, conditions, restrictions, servitudes and other provisions contained in this Declaration shall be effective until December 31, 2043, and thereafter, shall be automatically extended for successive periods of ten (10) years each unless terminated by the vote, by written ballot, of Owners holding

at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting power of the Association. The termination of this Declaration shall be effective upon the Recordation of a certificate, executed by the President and the Secretary of the Association, stating that this Declaration has been terminated by the vote of Owners as provided herein.

- 9.2 Amendment of Declaration by Declarant. Notwithstanding any other language or provision to the contrary in this Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Design Guidelines or Rules and Regulations of the Association, at any time prior to the expiration of the Appointment Period, Declarant may amend or supplement this Declaration (including but not limited to the Design Guidelines) in its sole discretion, at any time, without the approval of any Person, Owner or Mortgagee, by recording an instrument in the Records of the Office of the Clerk of Court in Ascension Parish, Louisiana. Any amendment or supplement made pursuant to this Section shall be certified by Declarant as having been duly approved by Declarant, and shall be effective only upon recordation or at such later date as shall be specified in the amendment itself. The rights and reservations of Declarant set forth in this Declaration shall be deemed excepted and reserved in each conveyance of property by Declarant to the Association and in each deed or other instrument by which any property within the Property is conveyed by Declarant, whether or not specifically stated therein. The rights and reservations of Declarant shall be superior to any other rights or provisions of this Declaration or any Association documents and may not be modified, amended, rescinded or affected by any amendment of this Declaration, including any amendment of this Section, without the written consent of the Declarant. Declarant's written consent to any one (1) such amendment shall not be construed as consent to any other or subsequent amendment. Declarant shall have and hereby reserves the right to modify, amend and supplement the Final Plat, including but not limited to layout, design, locations, enlargement, reduction and/or removal of Lots and Common Areas.
- 9.3 Amendment of Declaration by Owners. Following the expiration of the Appointment Period and subject to the rights of Declarant and provisions elsewhere contained herein requiring the consent of Declarant or others, any covenant, condition, restriction, servitude or other provision contained in this Declaration may be amended or repealed at any time and from time to time upon approval of the amendment or repeal by a vote of the members of the Association holding at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting power of the Association, present in person or by proxy at duly constituted meetings.
- 9.4 Priority of First Mortgage Over Assessments. Each First Mortgagee who obtains title to the Lot encumbered by such First Mortgage, pursuant to the remedies provided in such First Mortgage, by judicial foreclosure, dation en paiement or by deed or assignment in lieu of foreclosure, shall take title to such Lot free and clear of all claims for unpaid Assessments or charges against such Lot which accrued prior to the time such First Mortgagee acquires title to such Lot, other than allocation of any deficiency prorated among all Owners of the Association.
- 9.5 Enforcement by Self Help. Declarant or the Association or any authorized agent of either of them, may enforce, by self-help, any of the covenants, conditions, restrictions,

servitudes or other provisions contained in this Declaration, provided such self-help is preceded by Notice and Hearing as set forth in the By-Laws, unless an emergency exists. The Declarant and Association shall have such other enforcement rights as allowed or granted under law.

- 9.6 Remedies Cumulative. Each remedy provided under this Declaration is cumulative and not exclusive.
- 9.7 Costs and Attorneys' Fees. The Association may bring a suit at law, proceeding or other action to enforce any Assessments, fines or other obligations pursuant to the terms of this Declaration. Any judgment rendered in such action shall include any late charge, fine, interest and other costs of enforcement, including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs in the amount as the court may adjudge, against the defaulting Owner.
- 9.8 Limitation on Liability. The Association, the Board of Directors, the Review Board, Declarant, and any Owner, agent or employee of any of the same shall not be liable to any person arising out of the enforcement or failure to enforce any provision of this Declaration if the action or failure to act was in good faith and without malice.
- 9.9 Liberal Interpretation. The provisions of this Declaration shall be liberally construed as a whole to effectuate the purposes set forth herein.
- 9.10 Governing Law. This Declaration shall be construed and governed under the laws of the State of Louisiana.
- 9.11 Severability. Each of the provisions of this Declaration shall be deemed independent and severable and the invalidity or unenforceability or partial invalidity or partial unenforceability of any provision or portion thereof shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision or portion thereof.
- 9.12 Number and Gender. Unless the context requires a contrary construction, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular, and the masculine, feminine or neuter shall each include the masculine, feminine and neuter.
- 9.13 Captions for Convenience. The titles, headings, italicized summaries and captions used in this Declaration are intended solely for convenience of reference and shall not be considered in construing any of the provisions contained herein.
- 9.14 Mergers or Consolidations. Upon a merger or consolidation of the Association with another association, its properties, rights and obligations may, by operation of law, be transferred to another surviving or consolidated Association or, alternatively, the properties, rights and obligations of another association may, by operation of law, be added to the properties, rights and obligations of the Association as a surviving corporation pursuant to a merger. The surviving or consolidated association may administer and enforce the covenants,

conditions, restrictions, easements, reservations, rights-of-way, servitudes and other provisions established by this Declaration governing the Common Areas; together with the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, reservations, rights-of-way, servitudes and other provisions established upon any other property, as one plan.

- 9.15 Conflicts in Legal Documents. In case of conflicts between the provisions in this Declaration and the Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws, this Declaration shall control. In case of conflicts in the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws, the Articles of Incorporation shall control.
- 9.16 Waiver. No restriction, condition, obligation or provision contained in this Declaration shall be deemed to have been abrogated or waived by reason of any failure to enforce the same, irrespective of the number of violations or breaches thereof which may occur.
- 9.17 Waiver of Conflict of Interest. The law firm of Phelps Dunbar LLP represented Declarant in connection with this Declaration and the formation and regulation of the Association. Declarant may request that Phelps Dunbar LLP represent the Association during the Appointment Period, creating a potential conflict of interest. In the event that a dispute arises between Declarant and the Association, Phelps Dunbar LLP shall continue to represent Declarant, and Association shall waive any conflict of interest that may arise.

Signatures on Following Page

**THUS DONE AND SIGNED** by the parties at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on this  $\frac{4^{+h}}{\text{have}}$  day of March, 2020, in the presence of me, Notary, and the subscribing witnesses, who have signed in the presence of the parties and me, Notary Public.

WITNESSES:	DECLARANT:
Day Ch	Overall Development, L.L.C.
Name: LAUREN R. CAMPANELLA	By: Era DIERALL
Name: COURTNEY E. SMITH	Devon Overall, Manager
NOFARY	PUBLIC
No PARY Name: Bar Roll Number:_	DAVID W. CAFELEY OTARY PUBLIC ID A 5772 OTATE OF LOUISIANA

# **EXHIBIT A**

# **Final Plat**

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THE MASS IS WANTED AND THE MASS IS THE MASS IS WANTED THE MASS IS THE M OVERALL DEVELOPMENT, LLC. BLUFF ESTATES OAKS ON THE FINAL PLAT The late of the la 54,1,743 **EXHIBIT** Numberg No. 5208

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