

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE

< Insert MVSIA Chapter Name >

The undersigned, acting as incorporators of a corporation under the Not for Profit Corporation Act of the State of Minnesota, adopt the following articles of incorporation for such corporation:

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the corporation, hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation" is < Insert MVSIA Chapter Name >.

ARTICLE II PERIOD, MISSION AND PURPOSE

The period of duration of the Corporation is perpetual.

MISSION

< Insert MVSIA Chapter Name > is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support local Minnesota volunteer Department of Natural Resources (DNR) certified safety education program instructors through its affiliation with the Minnesota Volunteer Safety Instructors Association (hereinafter known as the "Association" or "MVSIA").

PURPOSE and OBJECTIVES

The primary purpose of the Association is to actively participate in and promote the Minnesota DNR safety training education programs. More specifically, the objectives of the Association are:

- 1) To promote recruitment, certification and retention of volunteer safety education instructors.
- 2) To promote the establishment and continued support of state-wide local chapters and mentorship within and between local chapters.
- 3) To facilitate communication between and for local chapters, the MN DNR and the Association.
- 4) To promote adherence to the MN DNR rules and guidelines and the standards for associated chapters as spelled out in the Associations By-Laws.
- 5) To solicit and accept donations and funding for local chapters and the Association in accordance with the 501(c)3 and LG555 filings.
- 6) To foster the availability of the Association resources and benefits for local chapters and members.
- 7) To act as a voice in public forums for issues which pertain to the mission and the purpose of the Association.

ARTICLE III LIMITATIONS

The Corporation may receive and administer funds for educational and charitable purposes, within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to that end, the Corporation is empowered to hold any property, or any undivided interest therein, without limitation as to amount or value; to dispose of any such property and to invest, reinvest, or deal with the principal or the income in such manner as, in the judgment of the directors, will best promote the purposes of the Corporation, without limitation, except such limitations, if any, as may be contained in the instrument under which such

property is received, these Articles of Incorporation, the By-Laws of the Corporation, or any applicable laws, to do any other act or thing incidental to or connected with the foregoing purposes or in advancement thereof, but not for the pecuniary profit or financial gain of its directors or officers except as permitted under the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, officer of the Corporation, or any private individual, except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Corporation affecting one or more of its purposes, and no member, trustee, officer of the Corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in, including the publication or distribution of statements, any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Upon the time of dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be forwarded to MVSIA by the Board of Directors, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all debts, obligations, liabilities, costs and expenses of the corporation. In the event MVSIA has already been dissolved then assets shall be distributed by the Board of Directors for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE IV DIRECTORS/MEMBERS

The qualifications for members and the manner of their admissions shall be regulated by the by-laws.

The corporation shall have a voting membership, and may have classes of same (if any), as defined in the corporation's bylaws. The management and affairs of the corporation shall be at all times under the direction of a Board of Directors, whose operations in governing the corporation shall be defined by statute and by the corporation's by-laws. No member or Director shall have any right, title, or interest in or to any property of the corporation.

ARTICLE V DEBT OBLIGATIONS AND PERSONAL LIABILITY

No member, officer or Director of this corporation shall be personally liable for the debts or obligations of this corporation of any nature whatsoever, nor shall any of the property of the members, officers or Directors be subject to the payment of the debts or obligations of this corporation.

ARTICLE VI INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE

The initial street address of the initial registered office of the Corporation is <enter secretary's address here> and the name of the initial registered agent at such address is <enter secretary's name here>.

ARTICLE VII INITIAL/INTERIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The initial board of directors shall consist of <enter # here> members, who need to meet the volunteer instructor qualifications as directed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

The names of the persons who shall serve as interim directors until the first annual meeting of members, or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified as directed by the corporation's by-laws, are as follows:

<name>, President
<name>, Vice President
<name>, Secretary
<name>, Treasurer
<name>
<name>
<name>, DNR Liaison

ARTICLE VIII INITIAL INCORPORATORS

The name and address of the initial incorporators are as follows:

<name>, President
<president's address>

<name>, Secretary
<secretary's address>

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have made and subscribed to these Articles of Incorporation at

<location and /or address of notary> on <month> <day>, <year>.

<President's Name>

<Secretary's Name>

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF <County>

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this <month> <day>, <year>.

Name: _____, Notary Public
State of MINNESOTA

My Commission Expires: _____