

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
Lillie Mae Merritt Education & Scholarship Fund**

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**Michael G. Adams**  
**Kentucky Secretary of State**  
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**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME**

The name of this corporation is Lillie Mae Merritt Education & Scholarship Fund hereafter "Corporation". The principal office or headquarters for the transaction of business shall be located at 1006 E 13th St, Hopkinsville, located within the County of Christian and State of Kentucky. The Lillie Mae Merritt Education & Scholarship Fund shall have and shall continuously maintain corporation status in the State of Kentucky as a registered office and agent.

**ARTICLE II**  
**DURATION**

The period of duration is perpetual.

**ARTICLE III**  
**PURPOSE**

The purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to engage to provide support to the youth of Christian County and surrounding areas to seek and excel in the next level of higher education, trade schools and/or military service to promote excellence and success.

The purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to engage in any such lawful act and/or activity under the General Law of Kentucky other than the banking business, trust company business or the practice of a profession not permitted to be incorporated by and pursuant to the Kentucky Corporations Statute.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**REGISTERED OFFICE/AGENT**

The street address of the initial registered office is 1006 E 13th St, Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240. The name of the initial registered agent at said address is Centhia Helvie.

**ARTICLE V**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The initial **four** Board of Directors and the names of the persons who are to serve as Directors or until such time as their successors are elected and qualified are as follows:

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>President:</b>      | Marcus Merritt<br>,  |
| <b>Vice President:</b> | Felicia Merritt<br>, |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>      | Shelia Mitchell<br>, |
| <b>Secretary:</b>      | Centhia Helvie       |

**ARTICLE VI**

**DISSOLUTION**

The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever ensure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private person.

Upon dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed 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 state or local government for public purpose. Any such asset not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purpose or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**ARTICLE VII**

**INDEMNIFICATION**

The Corporation does hereby indemnify any and all Directors, Officers, employees, Incorporators and/or Shareholders of the corporation from any and all liability with regards to the corporation and the business of the corporation, unless the person fraudulently and intentionally violated the law and/or maliciously conducted acts to damage and/or defraud the corporation, or as otherwise provided under applicable Kentucky State Corporation Statute.

**ARTICLE IX**

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

All other matters regarding Corporation's rules of corporate governance are contained within Corporation's bylaws.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, for the purpose of forming this Corporation under the laws of the State of Kentucky, we the undersigned, constituting the Directors & Incorporators of this Corporation, have executed these Articles of Incorporation on **March 12, 2025**.

**Members of the Board of Directors & Incorporators:**

**Marcus Merritt  
Felicia Merritt  
Shelia Mitchell  
Centhia Helvie**

*Marcus Merritt*

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(President)

*Felicia Merritt*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Vice President)

*Shelia Mitchell*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Treasurer)

*Centhia Helvie*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary & Registered Agent)