



**PLAN OF OPERATION
AND
ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
OF
ALABAMA INSURANCE
UNDERWRITING ASSOCIATION**

EFFECTIVE 01-01-2021

PLAN OF OPERATION

The Alabama Insurance Underwriting Association has been established to provide a method whereby Wind, Hail and Hurricane Coverage, and in limited circumstances, Fire and Extended Coverage may be provided in the Eligible Areas of Baldwin and Mobile Counties of Alabama. This Plan of Operation as amended shall become effective January 1, 2021.

Section I – Purposes of the Association

The purposes of the Association are:

1. To provide an equitable plan to assure a market for Wind, Hail and Hurricane Insurance in the Eligible Areas of Baldwin and Mobile Counties of Alabama.
2. To provide Wind, Hail and Hurricane coverage in the eligible areas to enable owners of insurable property to obtain financing for their property.
3. To perform all acts that relate to the function and purpose of the Association.

Section II – Definitions of Terms

1. "Association" means the Alabama Insurance Underwriting Association.
2. "Board" means the Board of Directors elected in accordance with the terms of Section X hereof.
3. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Insurance of the State of Alabama.
4. "Eligible Areas" means areas south of the 31st parallel in Baldwin and Mobile Counties of Alabama.
5. "Fire and Extended Coverage" means insurance against direct physical loss to property as defined and limited in the Fire and Extended Coverage policy and forms

approved by the Commissioner. Commencing January 1, 2017, the Association will issue Fire and Extended Coverage policies only on a limited basis for Insurable Properties continuously insured by the Association under a Fire and Extended Coverage policy before and after January 1, 2017.

6. "Insolvency" means written notice, directed to the Association, has been received from the Commissioner that a Member is insolvent or in receivership.
7. "Inspector" means the Association and any other organization designated by the Association to make underwriting inspections and perform other duties authorized by the Association.
8. "Insurable Property" means improvements to real property, including mobile and manufactured homes, at fixed locations in the Eligible Areas, and tangible personal property thereon, determined by the Association, after inspection and pursuant to the Association's underwriting standards, to be in an insurable condition. "Insurable Property" shall not include any property deemed ineligible.
9. "Insured Location" means the insured building described on the declaration page of the policy and any other eligible structures located within fifty (50) feet of the insured building.
10. "Member" means an insurer licensed to transact property insurance on a direct basis in Alabama and includes all insurers who were Members of the Association as of the original effective date of this Plan of Operation and all insurers who thereafter have become licensed.
11. "Members Surplus" means any Net Income of the Association for any fiscal year that, pursuant to a majority vote of the Board, is not retained by the Association.

12. "Net Direct Premiums" means gross direct premiums written for Fire, Extended Coverage, and Vandalism/Malicious Mischief insurance (including those components of Homeowners, Mobile and Manufactured Homeowners, and Commercial Multiple Peril Package Policies), excluding premiums for policies that do not include coverage for the peril of wind, return premiums upon cancelled contracts, dividends paid or credited to policyholders on the unused or unabsorbed portion of premium deposits, and premiums on ineligible properties.
13. "Net Participation" means the extent to which a Member shall participate in the Association's writings, Net Income, losses, and Members Surplus, as determined by the proportion that the Net Direct Premiums of a Member written in the State during the preceding calendar year bears to the aggregate Net Direct Premiums written in the State by all Members of the Association in the preceding calendar year, factored as prescribed by the Board.
14. "Net Income" means the Net Underwriting Gain or Loss, Year-To-Date, plus or minus the Income or Loss from Other Income (Expense), Year-To-Date, reflected in the Statement of Operations and Surplus as of a fiscal year ending October 31, which is compiled by the certified public accountant for the Association.
15. "Plan of Operation" means the written Plan of Operation, as amended, promulgated by the Association and approved by the Commissioner.
16. "Producer" means a person or entity licensed by the Alabama Department of Insurance for the sale and servicing of property and casualty insurance policies and who has been authorized to transact business with the Association or who has requested such authorization.

17. "Retained Surplus" means any Net Income of the Association for any fiscal year that, pursuant to a majority vote of the Board, is retained by the Association.
Retained Surplus and any earnings therefrom shall not be reflected in Members Surplus but shall be deposited for the exclusive use and purposes of the Association as provided in the Plan of Operation and applicable State law.
18. "State" means the State of Alabama.
19. "Surplus" means the account reflected in the Financial Statements of the Association for a fiscal year, as compiled by the certified public accountants for the Association, presented in accordance with statutory accounting principles. Surplus is calculated as admitted assets minus (-) total liabilities. Upon a majority vote of the Board, Surplus may be treated as Members Surplus or Retained Surplus, as provided in this Plan of Operation and applicable State law.
20. "Vacancy" means unoccupied, the building is left unfurnished/empty or contains limited personal property or power and/or water has been disconnected.
21. "Wind, Hail and Hurricane Coverage" means insurance against direct physical loss to property as defined and limited in the Wind, Hail and Hurricane insurance policy and forms approved by the Commissioner.
22. "Zone Gulf Front," "Zone B1," "Zone B2," "Zone B3," "Zone B4," "Zone B5," "Zone M1," "Zone M2," "Zone M3," "Zone M4," and "Zone M5" means all of the areas so designated by the Alabama Insurance Underwriting Association, and approved by the Commissioner.

Section III – Underwriting

1. In the event the risk fails to meet the Association's underwriting standards, the Association shall notify the producer. The Association's underwriting standards include, without limitation, the following:
 - a) whether the amount of insurance applied for, combined with other insurance on the property, bears a reasonable relation to the actual cash value or replacement cost of the property;
 - b) the physical condition of the property, such as its construction, heating, wiring, maintenance and general condition;
 - c) the condition of its present use, such as poor upkeep, vacancy, overcrowding, storage of rubbish or flammable materials;
 - d) circumstances involving violation of law, public policy, morals, or the character and integrity of the property owner or occupant;
 - e) in situations where initial application or rewrite application is made for Wind, Hail and Hurricane Coverage only, the applicant shall provide proof of insurance, for the essential underlying fire and extended coverage;
 - f) where initial or rewrite application is made to the Association for insurance in special 100-year flood zones (any zone classification with an "A" or "V" in its designation by the National Flood Insurance Program) in the Eligible Areas, the applicant shall provide proof of appropriate flood insurance in an amount no less than the AIUA policy limits or the maximum available by the National Flood Insurance Program. However, flood insurance is not a prerequisite on

contents located above the second level of any multi-level building, except in CBRA Zones;

g) where initial or rewrite application is made to the Association for insurance covering property located in areas designated by as protected by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA Zones), the applicant shall provide proof of appropriate flood insurance in an amount no less than the AIUA policy limits or the maximum available by the National Flood Insurance Program.

2. Any dwelling or structure or building constructed in substantial compliance with the Southern Standard Building Code, including the design-wind requirements, which is not otherwise rendered uninsurable by reason of condition or occupancy, shall be an Insurable Property within the meaning of this Plan. Any structure commenced on or after January 1, 1971, not constructed in substantial compliance with the Southern Standard Building Code, including the design-wind requirements therein, shall not be an Insurable Property.
3. Each risk will be considered on its own merit. Decisions regarding acceptance will be made in accordance with sound underwriting judgment and guidelines established by the Association.

Section IV – Inspection Procedures

1. Any person having an insurable interest in insurable property in the Eligible Areas that has applied to the Association for insurance coverage or that is insured through the Association will have an underwriting inspection(s) completed of the property.
 - a) An underwriting report shall be made for each property inspected.

- b) The underwriting inspector shall be provided full access to the property, but the presence of the owner is not required.
 - c) The report shall cover pertinent structural and occupancy features as well as the general condition of the property.
 - d) Photographs of the property will be taken during the inspection.
 - e) All such underwriting reports shall be available for review by Members, applicants, Producers, and the Commissioner upon reasonable request.
2. The manner and scope of the underwriting inspection shall be prescribed by the Association with the approval of the Commissioner.
 3. In any case where a risk, not accepted because the property does not meet the Association's underwriting standards, can be improved to meet such standards, the Association shall advise the producer what improvements, noted in the underwriting report, must be made to the property to make the risk acceptable. Upon notice to the Association of completion of such improvements by submittal of satisfactory evidence, and if, after of review of such evidence, the property appears to meet the underwriting requirements, the Association shall notify the producer that a new application may be submitted.

Section V – Standard Policy Coverage

1. Upon approval by the Association of an application for insurance and receipt by the Association of the full amount of the required premium, the Association shall issue a policy of insurance as provided in AIUA Rules and Procedures for Submitting Applications. Policies will be issued in the usual and customary manner so the public

will be assured of prompt coverage.

2. The Association shall, on behalf of its Members, write insurance up to the reasonable insurable value of the property, subject to a maximum of \$500,000 Residential Dwelling on all interests on or in any one building or fire division, \$250,000 on personal property contained in such Residential Dwelling, and \$1,000,000 Commercial, on all interests on or in any one (1) building or fire division, not to exceed \$3,000,000 at any one insured location.
3. All policies issued for insurance in the Eligible Areas shall be on standard policy forms for a term of one (1) year only.
4. Any policy issued pursuant to the provisions of this Plan of Operation may be rewritten annually, upon application therefore and payment of the full amount of the renewal premium, as long as the property satisfies the definition of Insurable Property and the Association's underwriting standards. No policy of the Association shall provide for automatic renewal.

Section VI – Cancellation or Rescission

1. All statements and descriptions in any application for an insurance policy, or in negotiations therefore, by or on behalf of the insured, shall be deemed representations and not warranties.
2. The Association may cancel or rescind a policy of insurance upon occurrence of any of the following:
 - a) Non-payment of premium, including non-payment from insufficient funds (NSF) check, resulting in cancellation of policy ab initio;
 - b) Evidence of incendiaries;
 - c) Any misrepresentation or omission of fact that is fraudulent;
 - d) Any misrepresentation, omission, concealment of fact or incorrect statement that is material either to the acceptance of the risk or to the hazard assumed by the Association;
 - e) Any misrepresentation, omission, concealment of fact or incorrect statement such that, if the true facts were known to the Association, the Association would either not have issued the policy or contract, or would not have issued the policy or contract at the premium rate as applied for, or would not have issued a policy or contract in as large an amount, or would not have provided coverage for the hazard resulting in the loss;
 - f) Any cause arising subsequent to the underwriting inspection which would have been grounds for non-acceptance of the risk had such cause existed at the time of acceptance;
 - g) Where Wind, Hail and Hurricane Coverage is in place, failure to

maintain essential underlying fire and extended coverage.

- h) Failure to maintain flood insurance in an amount no less than the limits provided under the Association policy or the maximum available by the National Flood Insurance Program in areas where flood insurance is required by the Association; or
 - i) Any failure of the insured to fully adhere to “AIUARules & Procedures for Submitting Applications” and/or other policy provisions.
3. Notice of cancellation, together with a statement of the reason therefore, shall be sent to the insured as required by the terms of the policy and State law. Such notice shall include information concerning the insured’s right to appeal and procedures therefore.

Section VII – Appeals

- 1. Any applicant for insurance, any person insured by the Association, any producer, and any member may appeal to the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days after any ruling, action, or decision of the Association on any matter adversely affecting the appealing party’s interests, except matters involving underwriting decisions relating to insurance-to-value, vacancy and flood insurance requirements. The Board of Directors shall consider and determine such appeal within thirty (30) days after the same is filed, or such other time as may be agreed upon by the Association and the appealing party. A final decision on appeal by the Board of Directors may thereafter be appealed to the Commissioner within thirty (30) days.
- 2. An Appeals Committee selected pursuant to Section XI may be designated to review

and provide non-binding recommendations regarding any appeal hereunder. All final decisions on appeal shall be made by the Board of Directors.

3. Orders of the Commissioner shall be subject to judicial review as provided by State law.
4. The Board and any committee of the Board shall be relieved from all judicial formalities and procedures in reviewing appeals, provided that fairness and consideration shall be observed so that each party may have an opportunity to present its views. The Plan of Operation, Articles of Agreement and rules of the Association shall, in all appeals, be construed as binding on the Association and its Members.

Section VIII – Association Participation

1. The Association shall, on behalf of its Members, be authorized to issue policies or certificates of insurance on eligible risks. It is also authorized to purchase reinsurance on behalf of its members, provided such reinsurance is authorized by a majority vote of the Board.
2. Each Member shall participate in the Association's writings, Net Income, losses, and Members Surplus (except as otherwise provided herein) in the proportion that the Net Direct Premiums of such Member written in the State during the preceding calendar year bears to the aggregate Net Direct Premiums written in the State by all Members of the Association factored as prescribed by the Board. A Member shall, subject to compliance with all applicable Association rules and procedures, receive annual credit (factored as prescribed by the Board) for property insurance including the peril of wind, voluntarily written on Insurable Property in the Eligible Areas of Alabama,

and its annual participation in the Association shall be adjusted accordingly.

3. Any insurer newly authorized to write and engage in writing property insurance after the effective date of this Plan shall become a Member of the Association on the November 1 immediately following such authorization, and determination of such Member's participation in the Association shall be made as of the date of such membership in the same manner as for all other Members of the Association.
4. The Board of Directors, acting on behalf of the Association, is authorized to make a preliminary assessment upon all Members and such further assessments as may be deemed necessary.
5. The assessment of each Member shall be based on its Net Participation as reflected on the books of the Association at the time of the loss.
6. In the event of catastrophe loss requiring assessment, a first partial loss assessment will be limited to not exceed \$2 million per Member.
7. A penalty or late charge of one (1) percent shall be added to the assessment each full week that a Member's assessment, or any part thereof, is not paid within twenty (20) calendar days from the date the notice of assessment is mailed by the Association.
8. A Member may recoup an assessment the Member has paid to the Association in the manner authorized under State law.
9. At such time as the Board determines to distribute Members Surplus from a prior fiscal year, the Board shall then determine which current and former Members shall participate in that distribution and the proportion of such participation.
10. Notwithstanding the other paragraphs of this Section VIII, or elsewhere in this Plan of

Operation, or in any rules or procedures of the Association, the Board, acting on behalf of the Association, is authorized to determine on an annual basis, with respect to each fiscal year of the Association, whether to retain all of or any portion of the Net Income of the Association or to distribute it to the Members in accordance with this Section VIII. If the Board determines to retain all of or any portion of the net income of the Association with respect to the fiscal year, such Retained Surplus shall be held for the exclusive use of the Association. The Members with respect to such fiscal year shall have no right, title or claim to Retained Surplus, whether as a Member, a former Member or otherwise. Any interest or investment income of the Association, regardless of source, less the management fees and expenses attendant thereto, shall be deposited to the credit of the Association in Retained Surplus. Retained Surplus shall be used for the purpose of assisting the Association in defraying expenses, paying claims, paying reinsurance costs, and performing all acts that relate to the function and purpose of the Association, as determined by a majority vote of the Board.

Section IX – Commissions

1. Commission to the licensed Producer designated by the applicant shall be as determined by the Board of Directors and approved by the Commissioner.
2. In the event a policy is cancelled, or an endorsement is issued which requires premium to be returned to the insured, the Producer shall refund to the Association commissions on the unearned portion of canceled liability and on reductions in premiums at the same rate such commissions originally were paid.

Section X – Board of Directors

1. This Plan shall be administered by a Board of Directors of the Alabama Insurance Underwriting Association, subject to the review of the Commissioner.
2. The Board shall consist of thirteen (13) members, four (4) of which shall be a representative of the local business community. The Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI), American Insurance Association (AIA) and National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) shall be represented on the Board, but the Board shall not be limited to companies belonging to those Trade Associations. If there are no member companies willing to serve in order to achieve this diversity, selection will be based on the greatest votes obtained during the Board election process. Nine Board Members shall be elected annually by cumulative voting by the Members of the Association, whose votes in such election shall be weighted in accordance with the proportion each Member's Net Direct Premiums written in the State during the most recent calendar year for which data is available bears to the aggregate Net Direct Premiums written by all Members. Voting may be in person or by proxy. Nominations for election to the Board of Directors as prepared by the Nominating Committee shall be distributed to Members at least sixty (60) days prior to the election, and nominations will be held open another thirty (30) days to allow nominations from the general membership. Thirty (30) days prior to the election, all nominations will be closed and the nominees will be placed on the ballot and distributed to the membership. Not more than one (1) insurer in a group under the same management or ownership shall serve on the Board at the same time. Four (4)

Board Members shall be appointed annually by the Alabama Commissioner of Insurance for a term of one (1) year. Appointed Board Members, two (2) from Baldwin County and two (2) from Mobile County, shall be residents of Alabama, preferably with business experience, having lived/worked in the area they represent for ten (10) or more years. The Association shall present a slate of candidates meeting the qualifications for appointment from which the Commissioner will select appointed Board Members annually, or at any time that a vacancy may occur.

Section XI – Annual and Special Meetings

1. The annual meeting of Members for the election of the Board and such other business as may be necessary shall be held in the state of Alabama at a time and place to be determined by the Board each year. At any regular or special meeting at which the vote of the Members is or may be required on any proposal, voting may be in person or by proxy. Voting at regular or special meetings of Members, or any vote of the Members which may be taken by mail, shall be cast and counted on a weighted basis in the same proportion as each Member's Net Direct Premiums written bears to the aggregate Net Direct Premiums written by all Members, as factored by the Board. A proposal shall become effective when approved by the majority of the votes cast on such weighted basis.
2. As soon as practicable after election to membership on the Board, and thereafter from time to time as it may elect, a Member may designate a qualified representative and an alternate of such representative to serve for it and shall immediately notify in writing the Secretary/Manager of the Association of such designation.

3. Officers – The Board shall elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Secretary/Manager.
- a) The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the Board and all meetings of the Members. The Chairperson shall discharge such other duties as may be incidental to that office or which shall be required by the Board, the Plan of Operation, the Articles of Agreement, or the rules and procedures of the Association.
 - b) The Vice-Chairperson shall preside at any meeting of the Board in the absence of the Chairperson. In the event of death, incapacity, disability, or departure of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson until such office has been filled by the Board.
 - c) The Secretary shall issue all notices of meetings, record minutes of all meetings, keep the records of the Board, and discharge such other duties as may be incidental to that office or which shall be required by the Board, the Plan of Operation, the Articles of Agreement, or the rules and procedures of the Association.
 - d) The Treasurer shall discharge such duties as may be incidental to that office or which shall be required by the
 - e) Board, the Plan of Operation, the Articles of Agreement, or the rules and procedures of the Association.
 - f) The Secretary/Manager shall discharge such duties as may be incidental to that office or which shall be required by the Board, the Plan of Operation, the Articles of Agreement, or the rules and procedures of the Association.

4. Special Meetings – Special meetings of the Board or of the Members may be held upon the call of the Chairperson or, in the event of his resignation, death or incapacity, upon the call of the Vice-Chairperson. Any six (6) Members of the Board, acting by their designated representatives may request that the Chairperson call a meeting of the Board or of the Members at such time and place and for such purposes as may be specifically stated in writing in such request. Should the Chairperson decline to call such meetings, the same may be called by the six members making the request. Such special meetings may be held at the principal office of the Association or at such other place within or without the State of Alabama as may be designated in the call.
5. Notices of Meetings – Notices of all meetings shall be given by the Secretary to the Board of Directors, and in the case of meetings of the Members, to the Members and shall state the time and place and the principal purposes therefore. Such notice may be given by telephone, electronic mail, or regular mail, directed to the “attention” of each Member’s designated representative within a reasonable time prior to the scheduled meeting, and in the case of meetings of the Members at large, notice shall be mailed no later than ten days before the meeting. Any Member or the designated representative of any Member may waive notice of any meeting, and the presence of such representative at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice as to such insurer.
6. Advance Agenda – The Secretary, after consultation with the Chairperson, shall prepare in advance of each meeting of the Board and each meeting of the Members an agenda which shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors and/or to the Members, as the case may be, in advance of any such meeting.

7. Committees – Subject to the Articles of Agreement, the Chairperson of the Board may appoint, or the Board may elect, such standing committees or such temporary or special committees as are deemed necessary for the transaction of its business. Unless otherwise specified herein, members of such committees need not be members of the Board. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Chairperson may appoint, or the Board may elect a committee of not less than three (3) members of the Board (one of whom shall be designated the chairperson) who shall have such authority as provided under Section XI hereof.
8. Ex-Officio Members – The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board shall be ex-officio members of all standing or special committees, with the right to vote.
9. Ballot by Board – Voting by mail, e-mail, or telephone is permitted by the Board and any matter thus submitted shall be carried provided it receives an affirmative vote from a majority of the members of the Board.
10. The Board of Directors of the Association may, at their discretion, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, amend the Plan of Operation at any time.

Section XII – Powers and Duties of the Board

1. The Board shall meet as often as may be necessary to perform the general duties of the administration of the Plan or at the request of the Commissioner. Seven members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
2. The Board shall be empowered to appoint or otherwise contract for the services of a Secretary/Manager; to budget expenses, levy assessments including preliminary assessments; disburse funds; and to establish such other rules and perform all other

duties necessary or incidental to administration of the Plan. The adoption of substantive changes in pension plans or employee benefit programs shall be subject to the approval of the Members. Assessments upon Members shall be levied as described in Section VIII.

3. Annually the Secretary/Manager and Treasurer shall prepare an operating budget, which shall be subject to approval of the Board. Any contemplated expenditure in excess of or not included in the annual budget shall require prior approval of the Board.
4. The Board shall furnish to the Commissioner a written report of operations annually on or before July 1 in such form and detail as the Commissioner may determine. A copy of such report shall be furnished to all Members.

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

The purpose of these Articles of Agreement is to evidence agreement by the Alabama Insurance Underwriting Association to administer the Plan of Operation.

ARTICLE I

Name

This organization shall be known as the Alabama Insurance Underwriting Association, an unincorporated nonprofit association.

ARTICLE II

Governing Rules

The Association shall be governed by the Plan of Operation, the Articles of Agreement, and other rules established by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

Objects

The objects of the Association shall be: (1) to administer the Plan of Operation (2) to provide Wind, Hail and Hurricane Insurance in the Eligible Areas of Baldwin and Mobile Counties of Alabama in accordance with the Plan of Operation; (3) to assume and cede reinsurance on behalf of Member Insurers in accordance with the Plan; (4) to provide a method whereby Members voluntarily writing Extended Coverage including the perils of Wind and Hail in the Eligible Areas will be relieved wholly or partially from

participation in the Association’s gains or losses; and (5) to do and perform such acts and things as shall be necessary or proper to effectuate the foregoing.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

- 1. Membership - Every Insurer licensed to write property insurance or Wind and Hail Coverage on a direct basis in the State shall be a Member of the Association and shall be referred to herein as a Member.
- 2. Termination - Membership of any Member shall terminate when such Member is no longer licensed to transact property insurance in the State. Any member whose membership in the Association has been terminated shall, nevertheless, continue to be governed by these Articles of Agreement and the Plan of Operation in order to complete its obligations with regard to any assessments, losses, expenses, contracts or undertakings under the Plan of Operation which arose prior to such termination.

ARTICLE V

Syndicate Policy

- 1. Form and Liability - The Association is authorized to issue policies or certificates of insurance on property in such form that each Member of the Association shall be a direct Insurer thereunder in such proportion as it participates in the writings, expenses, profits and losses of the Association. Liability of each Member shall be several, each for itself, and not joint, and no Member shall be liable under such policy or certificate for the liability of any other member thereunder, except as provided in Article IX of the

Articles of Agreement.

2. Attorney-in-Fact - Members of the Association shall be deemed to have authorized the Secretary/Manager of the Association to act as attorney-in-fact for all Members to execute policies on behalf of the Members. Any policy or certificate of insurance issued pursuant to this Article may be executed on behalf of the Members by an attorney-in- fact appointed hereunder. Where authorized by the Board of Directors, such attorney- in-fact shall pay, on behalf of such Members, premium and other taxes related to Association business on terms and conditions agreeable to the taxing authority involved. In the event of death, resignation, or incapacity of said attorney-in-fact, the Board of Directors shall nominate and appoint his successor. No policy or certificate of insurance shall be affected or invalidated by any change of the attorney-in-fact who, at the time such policy or certificate of insurance was issued, shall have duly acted pursuant to the powers then vested in him.

ARTICLE VI

Association Office

The principal office the Association shall be in the State of Alabama.

ARTICLE VII

Administration

The Association shall be administered by a Board of Directors in accordance with the Plan of Operation.

ARTICLE VIII

Indemnification

1. Right of Indemnification - The Association shall indemnify: (a.) each member of a governing committee (or other board or committee empowered to act in the capacity of the Board of Directors), each member of any other committee or any subcommittee of the Board, each officer and employee of the Association, and estate, executor, administrator, heirs, legatees and devisees of any such person; (b.) every Member of the Association, both as a Member and by reason of such Member having one (1) or more of its personal representatives or employees serving in any of the capacities or positions specified, in clause (a.) hereinabove; and (c.) every officer and employee of the Association, and the estate, executor, administrator, heirs, legatees or devisees of such person; against all judgments, including interest, fines, amounts paid or agreed upon in settlement, reasonable costs and expenses including attorney's fees, and any other liability that may be incurred as a result of any claim, action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or other, prosecuted or threatened to be prosecuted, for or on account of any act performed or omitted or obligation entered into, if done or omitted in good faith without intent to defraud and within what he/she reasonably believed to be the scope of his/her employment or authority and for a purpose which he/she reasonably believed to be in the best interest of and connection with the administration, management, conduct or affairs of the Association, and with respect to any criminal actions or proceedings, in addition had no reasonable cause to believe that such conduct was unlawful. Provided, however, that if any such claim, action, suit or proceeding is

compromised or settled, it must be done so with the prior and express approval of the Board of Directors.

2. Time of Indemnification - Such indemnification shall not depend upon whether such Insurer is a Member of the Board, Association, or any committee, at the time such claim, action, suit, or proceeding is begun, prosecuted or threatened, nor upon whether the liability to be indemnified was incurred, or the act or omission occurred, prior to the adoption of this Article.
3. Effect on Other Rights - The right of indemnification hereunder shall not be exclusive of other rights such person or Member may have as a matter of law or otherwise.
4. Questions Involving Indemnification - In each instance in which a question of indemnification hereunder arises, determination in the first instance of the right to indemnification hereunder, and of the time, manner, and amount of payment thereof, shall be made by the Board. In the event that a majority of the Members of the Board are seeking indemnification hereunder as a result of the same occurrence, such determination in the first instance shall be made by vote of the Membership of the Association taken on a weighted basis as provided in the Plan of Operation. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to make an adverse determination finally binding upon the person or Insurer seeking indemnity under this section, or to preclude any such person or Insurer from appealing an adverse determination, or from instituting legal proceedings to enforce a right of indemnification under this Article.
5. Expense of Indemnification - The indemnification provided for in this Article shall be deemed an expense of the Association to which all Members of the Association shall contribute in the proportion that each member participates in the Association's

writings, expenses, profits and losses.

ARTICLE IX

Insolvency

1. Insolvency of a Member - In the event any Member fails, by reason of Insolvency, to pay its proportion of any expense or loss incurred by the Association under the Plan of Operation, such unpaid loss or expense shall be paid by the remaining Members, each contributing in the manner provided for the distribution of expenses and losses under Section VIII of the Plan of Operation, deleting therefrom the participation of the defaulting Member. The Association shall be subrogated to the rights of the remaining Members in any liquidation proceeding and shall have full authority on their behalf to exercise such rights in any action or proceeding.
2. Expense of Proceeding - The expenses incurred by the Association in such action or proceeding as referred to in Part 1 hereinabove shall be chargeable, subject to the approval of the court, against the insolvent Member as part of the expense of conservation or liquidation to the extent of a pro-rata share of the benefit which may accrue to such Member solely as a result of the defense undertaken by the Association.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

These Articles of Agreement may be amended by the Members with the approval of the Commissioner. The procedure of amendment shall be prescribed in

Section XI of the Plan of Operation.

ARTICLE XI

Effective Date

These Articles of Agreement, as amended, are subject to approval by the Commissioner and shall become effective on January 1, 2021.

ARTICLE XII

Citation to the Commissioner

Failure of any Member to comply with the Articles of Agreement, Plan of Operation, or any rules prescribed thereunder by the Board of Directors, or to pay any assessment levied within thirty (30) days thereof, shall be grounds for citation of such Member to the Commissioner.

ARTICLE XIII

Appeal to the Commissioner

Any applicant for insurance, any person insured by the Association, any Producer, or any Member aggrieved by any ruling, order, decision, action, or refusal to act by the Association concerning any matter, except matters involving underwriting decisions relating to insurance to value requirements, vacancy, and flood insurance requirements, may appeal to the Commissioner as provided in Section VII of the Plan of Operation.

ARTICLE XIV

Termination of the Association

This Association shall terminate upon action of the majority of the Board of Directors, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, who shall approve such termination only if he is reasonably satisfied the reasons necessitating the establishment of the Association no longer exist. In no event shall the Association exist beyond October 31, 2023 except by a vote of the Members to amend this Article.

ARTICLE XV

Acceptance of the Articles of Agreement

Acceptance of the Articles of Agreement on behalf of each new Member shall be made by its President or Vice President, and attested by its Secretary or Assistant Secretary, on the attached form entitled "Membership Agreement".

ARTICLE XVI

Definitions

All defined terms in the Plan of Operation used in these Articles of Agreement, shall have the meanings ascribed under Section II of the Plan of Operation.

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