



**State of Rhode Island  
Office of the Secretary of State**

**Fee: \$150.00**

Division Of Business Services  
148 W. River Street  
Providence RI 02904-2615  
(401) 222-3040

**Limited Liability Company  
Articles of Organization**

(Chapter 7-16-6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended)

**ARTICLE I**

The name of the limited liability company is: Sterling Investment Group, LLC

**ARTICLE II**

The street address (post office boxes are not acceptable) of the limited liability company's registered agent in Rhode Island is:

No. and Street: 211 QUAKER LANE, SUITE 201

City or Town: WEST WARWICK

State: RI

Zip: 02893

The name of the resident agent at such address is: ORSON AND BRUSINI LTD.

**ARTICLE III**

Under the terms of these Articles of Organization and any written operating agreement made or intended to be made, the limited liability company is intended to be treated for purposes of federal income taxation as:

*Check one box only*

☐ disregarded as an entity separate from its member ☒ a partnership ☐ a corporation

**ARTICLE IV**

The address of its principal office of the limited liability company if it is determined at the time of organization:

No. and Street: 15 CIRCLE STREET

City or Town: RUMFORD

State: RI

Zip: 02916

Country: USA

**ARTICLE V**

The limited liability company has the purpose of engaging in any lawful business, unless a more limited purpose is set forth in Article VI of these Articles of Organization.

The period of its duration is: ☒ Perpetual ☐

**ARTICLE VI**

Additional provisions, if any, not inconsistent with law, which members elect to have set forth in these Articles of Organization, including, but not limited to, any limitation of the purposes or any other

provision which may be included in an operating agreement:

ADDENDUM TO ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF  
STERLING INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC

6. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS WHICH THE MEMBERS ELECT TO HAVE SET FORTH IN  
THESE ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION:

6.1. THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO GUARANTEE ANY BONDS,  
SECURITIES, OR EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS CREATED BY; OR DIVIDENDS ON;  
OR A

CERTAIN AMOUNT PER SHARE IN LIQUIDATION OF THE CAPITAL STOCK OF ANY  
CORPORATION OR OTHER ENTITY CREATED BY THIS STATE OR BY ANY OTHER  
STATE,

COUNTRY, NATION, OR GOVERNMENT, PROVIDED SUCH CORPORATION OR  
OTHER ENTITY

IS FORMED FOR PURPOSES SIMILAR TO THE PURPOSES OF THIS COMPANY OR IS  
ENGAGED IN THE SAME OR A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR BUSINESS OR  
TRANSACTS

BUSINESS WITH THIS COMPANY OR IS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE SAME OR  
SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR INTERESTS; BUT NOTHING HEREIN CONTAINED SHALL  
AUTHORIZE THIS COMPANY TO CARRY ON THE BUSINESS OF A SURETY OR  
INDEMNITY  
COMPANY.

6.2. THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO GUARANTEE IN ANY WAY  
PERMITTED BY LAW THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY OF THE CONTRACTS OR OTHER  
UNDERTAKINGS IN WHICH THE COMPANY MAY OTHERWISE BE OR BECOME  
INTERESTED, OF

ANY CORPORATION, ASSOCIATION, PARTNERSHIP, FIRM, TRUSTEE, SYNDICATE,  
INDIVIDUAL, GOVERNMENT, STATE, MUNICIPALITY, OR OTHER POLITICAL OR  
GOVERNMENTAL DIVISION OR SUBDIVISION, DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN, AS MAY BE  
PERMITTED BY LAW.

6.3. THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO PROMOTE OR ASSIST,  
FINANCIALLY OR OTHERWISE, CORPORATIONS, SYNDICATES, PARTNERSHIPS,  
TRUSTS,  
TRUSTEES, INDIVIDUALS, OR ASSOCIATIONS OF ALL KINDS, AND TO GIVE ANY  
GUARANTY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH FOR THE PAYMENT OF MONEY OR FOR  
THE  
PERFORMANCE OF ANY OBLIGATION OR UNDERTAKING.

6.4. SECTION 7-16-21 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS (1956), AS  
AMENDED, REGARDING WRITTEN CONSENTS OF MEMBERS AND MANAGERS IS  
HEREBY

ADOPTED.

6.5. THE COMPANY, OR ANY SUBSIDIARY OR AFFILIATED COMPANY THEREOF, SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH PERSON (AND HIS HEIRS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND EXECUTORS) WHO SHALL SERVE AT ANY TIME HEREAFTER AS A MEMBER OR MANAGER OF THE COMPANY OR ANY SUBSIDIARY OR AFFILIATED COMPANY THEREOF FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS AND LIABILITIES TO WHICH SUCH PERSON SHALL BECOME SUBJECT BY REASON OF HIS HAVING HERETOFORE OR HEREAFTER BEEN A MEMBER OR MANAGER OF THE COMPANY OR ANY SUBSIDIARY OR AFFILIATED COMPANY THEREOF, OR BY REASON OF ANY ACTION ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE OR HEREAFTER TAKEN OR OMITTED BY HIM AS SUCH MEMBER OR MANAGER AND SHALL INDEMNIFY EACH SUCH PERSON FOR ALL LEGAL AND OTHER EXPENSES REASONABLY INCURRED BY HIM IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SUCH CLAIM OF LIABILITY; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO SUCH MEMBER OR MANAGER SHALL BE INDEMNIFIED AGAINST OR REIMBURSED FOR ANY EXPENSE INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY CLAIM OR CLAIMS MADE AGAINST HIM, HER, OR IT THAT THE COMPANY HAS REASONABLY DETERMINED TO HAVE RESULTED FROM: (A) ANY BREACH OF SAID PERSON'S DUTIES OF LOYALTY OR FIDUCIARY DUTIES TO THE COMPANY OR ITS MEMBERS; (B) ACTS OR OMISSIONS NOT IN GOOD FAITH OR WHICH INVOLVE WILLFUL MISCONDUCT, GROSS NEGLIGENCE, OR KNOWING VIOLATION OF LAW; OR (C) A TRANSACTION OR TRANSACTIONS FROM WHICH THE PERSON SEEKING INDEMNIFICATION DERIVED IMPROPER PERSONAL BENEFIT. THE RIGHTS ACCRUING TO ANY PERSON UNDER THE FOREGOING PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL NOT EXCLUDE ANY OTHER RIGHT TO WHICH HE OR SHE MAY BE LAWFULLY ENTITLED, NOR SHALL ANYTHING HEREIN CONTAINED RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF THE COMPANY TO INDEMNIFY OR REIMBURSE SUCH PERSON IN ANY PROPER CASE EVEN THOUGH NOT SPECIFICALLY HEREIN PROVIDED FOR. THE COMPANY, ITS

## MEMBERS

AND MANAGERS, SHALL BE FULLY PROTECTED IN TAKING ANY ACTION OR MAKING ANY PAYMENT UNDER THIS ARTICLE, OR IN REFUSING SO TO DO, IN RELIANCE UPON THE ADVICE OF COUNSEL.

6.6. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH IN THE OPERATING AGREEMENT OF THE COMPANY, NO MEMBER SHALL SELL, TRANSFER, ASSIGN, OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF ALL OR ANY PART OF HIS, HER, OR ITS MEMBERSHIP INTEREST NOW OR HEREAFTER OWNED AT ANY TIME TO ANY PERSON WITHOUT THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS OF THE MEMBERS AND THE COMPANY UNLESS THE MEMBER DESIRING TO MAKE SUCH TRANSFER OR OTHER DISPOSITION (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "TRANSFEROR") SHALL HAVE FIRST MADE AN OFFER TO SELL SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST TO THE OTHER MEMBERS AND, IF APPLICABLE, TO THE COMPANY IN THE MANNER HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

6.6.1. IF ANY MEMBER SHALL AT ANY TIME DESIRE TO GIVE OR TO SELL ALL OR ANY PART OF HIS/HER/ITS MEMBERSHIP INTEREST, HE/SHE/IT SHALL FIRST OFFER THE SAME TO THE OTHER MEMBERS AND SHALL NOTIFY THE OTHER MEMBERS IN WRITING BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, POSTAGE PREPAID, STATING THE AMOUNT OF MEMBERSHIP INTEREST INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED SALE OR TRANSFER, THE TERMS OF SALE (OR TRANSFER IN THE CASE OF A GIFT), THE LOWEST PRICE AT WHICH SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS ARE TO BE DISPOSED OF (IN THE CASE OF A SALE), AND THE NAME OF THE PERSON OR ENTITY TO WHOM OR TO WHICH THEY ARE TO BE SOLD OR TRANSFERRED. WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE RECEIPT OF SUCH NOTICE, THE OTHER MEMBERS, ON A PRO RATA BASIS ACCORDING TO MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS OR SUCH OTHER BASIS AS THE OTHER MEMBERS MAY AGREE IN WRITING, MAY ELECT TO PURCHASE ALL, BUT NOT LESS THAN ALL, OF THE MEMBERSHIP INTEREST OWNED BY THE TRANSFEROR. IF THE OTHER MEMBERS

SHALL ELECT TO PURCHASE THE MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS SO OFFERED, THE OTHER MEMBERS SHALL FORTHWITH AND WITHIN SAID THIRTY (30) DAYS DELIVER IN PERSON TO SUCH TRANSFEROR OR MAIL BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, POSTAGE PREPAID, ADDRESSED TO HIM/HER/IT AT HIS/HER/ITS USUAL POST OFFICE ADDRESS AS STATED ON THE BOOKS OF THE COMPANY, A NOTICE IN WRITING SIGNED BY SUCH MEMBER, OF THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBER TO PURCHASE SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST ON SUCH TERMS AND AT SUCH PRICE (IN THE CASE OF A SALE) OR AT A PRICE EQUAL TO THE BOOK VALUE OF SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST AS OF SUCH DATE OF OFFER AS REFLECTED ON THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE COMPANY (IN THE CASE OF A GIFT). THE MEMBER SHALL HAVE AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SUCH ELECTION TO PURCHASE TO MAKE PAYMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPERATING AGREEMENT OF THE COMPANY. THE TRANSFEROR MAY RECEIVE THE PURCHASE PRICE FOR SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMPANY UPON TRANSFER TO THE MEMBER OF THE MEMBERSHIP INTEREST SOLD.

6.6.2. IF SUCH OFFER IS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE OTHER MEMBERS, THE TRANSFEROR SHALL OFFER THE MEMBERSHIP INTEREST TO THE COMPANY AND SHALL NOTIFY THE COMPANY IN WRITING BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, POSTAGE PREPAID, STATING THE AMOUNT OF MEMBERSHIP INTEREST INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED SALE OR TRANSFER, THE TERMS OF SALE (OR TRANSFER IN THE CASE OF A GIFT), THE LOWEST PRICE AT WHICH SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS ARE TO BE DISPOSED OF (IN THE CASE OF A SALE), AND THE NAME OF THE PERSON OR ENTITY TO WHOM OR TO WHICH THEY ARE TO BE SOLD OR TRANSFERRED. WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE RECEIPT OF SUCH NOTICE, THE COMPANY MAY ELECT TO PURCHASE ALL, BUT NOT LESS THAN ALL, OF THE MEMBERSHIP INTEREST OWNED BY THE TRANSFEROR. IF THE COMPANY SHALL ELECT TO PURCHASE THE MEMBERSHIP

INTERESTS SO OFFERED, THE COMPANY SHALL FORTHWITH AND WITHIN SAID THIRTY

(30) DAYS DELIVER IN PERSON TO SUCH TRANSFEROR OR MAIL BY CERTIFIED MAIL,

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, POSTAGE PREPAID, ADDRESSED TO HIM/HER/IT AT HIS/HER/ITS USUAL POST OFFICE ADDRESS AS STATED ON THE BOOKS OF THE COMPANY, A NOTICE IN WRITING SIGNED BY THE COMPANY, OF THE ELECTION OF THE

COMPANY TO PURCHASE SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST ON SUCH TERMS AND AT SUCH

PRICE (IN THE CASE OF A SALE) OR AT A PRICE EQUAL TO THE BOOK VALUE OF SUCH

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST AS OF SUCH DATE OF OFFER AS REFLECTED ON THE BOOKS AND

RECORDS OF THE COMPANY (IN THE CASE OF A GIFT). THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE AN

ADDITIONAL THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SUCH ELECTION TO PURCHASE TO

MAKE PAYMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPERATING AGREEMENT OF THE COMPANY.

THE TRANSFEROR MAY RECEIVE THE PURCHASE PRICE FOR SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST

AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMPANY UPON TRANSFER TO THE COMPANY OF THE MEMBERSHIP

INTEREST SOLD.

6.6.3. IF THE OFFER TO SELL IS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE OTHER

MEMBERS OR BY THE COMPANY, THE TRANSFEROR MAY MAKE A BONA FIDE TRANSFER TO

THE PROSPECTIVE TRANSFEREE NAMED IN THE STATEMENT ATTACHED TO THE OFFER.

THE TRANSFER TO THE PROSPECTIVE TRANSFEREE SHALL BE MADE ONLY IN STRICT

ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS THEREIN STATED. HOWEVER, IF THE TRANSFEROR SHALL

FAIL TO MAKE SUCH TRANSFER WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION

OF THE APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD FOR THE COMPANY TO ACCEPT AN OFFER TO SELL,

SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST SHALL AGAIN BECOME SUBJECT TO ALL THESE RESTRICTIONS. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, NOTHING CONTAINED HEREIN

SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS RELEASING ANY MEMBERSHIP INTEREST FROM ANY APPLICABLE

STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS OR REGULATIONS CONCERNING TRANSFER OF THE SAME. THE

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST TRANSFERRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPERATING AGREEMENT

SHALL, TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS

HEREOF AND THE TRANSFEREE SHALL BE DEEMED A PARTY HERETO. UPON DELIVERY OF

SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST, SUCH TRANSFEREE SHALL BE BOUND HEREBY AND SHALL,

ON REQUEST OF THE COMPANY, EXECUTE SUCH ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION AS THE COMPANY MAY REQUEST.

6.6.4. IF ANY TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP INTEREST IS MADE OR ATTEMPTED CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPERATING AGREEMENT, THE OTHER

MEMBERS AND THE COMPANY SHALL HAVE THE SAME OPTIONS TO PURCHASE ALL OF THE

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST SO TRANSFERRED OR ATTEMPTED TO BE TRANSFERRED UNDER THE

SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS PROVIDED IN THE OPERATING AGREEMENT. ANY SUCH

OFFER TO SELL OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN MADE WHEN

ALL OF THE OTHER MEMBERS AND THE COMPANY RECEIVE ACTUAL NOTICE OF THE

TRANSFER OR ATTEMPTED TRANSFER. IF THE OTHER MEMBERS AND THE COMPANY DO

NOT EXERCISE THEIR RESPECTIVE OPTIONS REGARDING SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST,

NEITHER THE MEMBER WHO TRANSFERRED OR ATTEMPTED TO TRANSFER SUCH MEMBERSHIP

INTEREST, NOR THE TRANSFEREE OR INTENDED TRANSFEREE, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO

TRANSFER ANY OF SUCH MEMBERSHIP INTEREST TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OR TO THE

COMPANY; PROVIDED; HOWEVER, THAT THE COMPANY MAY REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE ANY

TRANSFEREE AS ONE OF ITS MEMBERS FOR ANY PURPOSE, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION FOR PURPOSES OF DISTRIBUTIONS AND VOTING RIGHTS, AND FOR PURPOSES OF ALLOCATION OF INCOME, LOSSES, AND BUSINESS EXPENSES, UNTIL ALL

APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE OPERATING AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH TO

THE SATISFACTION OF THE COMPANY.

6.7. NO SINGLE MEMBER ACTING ALONE SHALL HAVE THE POWER OR AUTHORITY TO BIND THE COMPANY TO ANY CONTRACT WITH A THIRD PARTY

UNLESS  
SUCH CONTRACT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH THE  
OPERATING AGREEMENT.

#### ARTICLE VII

The limited liability company is to be managed by its \_\_\_ Members\* or X Managers  
(check one)

**\* If you checked to be managed by your MEMBERS (the owners) DO NOT complete the following section. Only complete the following section if you checked to be managed by MANAGERS (Individuals hired by the members with no ownership interest).**

The name and address of each manager:

Title	Individual Name First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country
MANAGER	SHANE M COOPER	15 CIRCLE STREET RUMFORD, RI 02916 USA
MANAGER	ANDREW S COTTON	15 CIRCLE STREET RUMFORD, RI 02916 USA

#### ARTICLE VIII

The date these Articles of Organization are to become effective, not prior to, nor more than 90 days after the filing of these Articles of Organization.

Later Effective Date:

*This electronic signature of the individual or individuals signing this instrument constitutes the affirmation or acknowledgement of the signatory, under penalties of perjury, that this instrument is that individual's act and deed or the act and deed of the company, and that the facts stated herein are true, as of the date of the electronic filing, in compliance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 7-16.*

**Signed this 25 Day of August, 2023 at 12:20:15 PM by the Authorized Person.**

GIOVANNI LA TERRA BELLINA, ESQ.

**Address of Authorized Signer:**

211 QUAKER LANE, SUITE 201 WEST WARWICK, RI 02893



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