

1 THE CONSTITUTION OF THE HINDU SOCIETY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC.

2
3 PREAMBLE

4
5 Whereas the need exists for cohesive action to build a place
6 of worship and congregation in Northeast Florida for the practice
7 of the Hindu religion, culture and philosophy and to pass on
8 this age-old, rich tradition to the next generation, it is hereby
9 resolved that a non-profit organization be formed to achieve
10 these goals.

11
12 ARTICLE I.

13 NAME AND STATUS

14 A. The name of the organization shall be: **THE HINDU**
15 **SOCIETY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC.** The organization is herein
16 referred to as "the Society".

17
18 B. The Society shall be non-profit and incorporated in the
19 State of Florida.

20
21 ARTICLE II.

22 DURATION

23 The period of duration is perpetual, unless dissolved
24 according to law. Corporate existence shall commence upon filing
25 the Articles of Incorporation.

26
27 ARTICLE III. PURPOSE

28 A. The general purpose and plan of operation of the Society
29 shall be : to establish a Hindu temple in Northeast Florida,
30 contributions to which are intended to be exempt from federal
31 taxation under S501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as now
32 enforced or afterwards amended; to buy, manage, own and hold real
33 and personal property necessary or convenient for a place of
34 public worship; carry out educational and charitable work and
35 promote social and cultural values under Bylaws, rules and
36 regulations of the Society, hereafter to be adopted by the
37 Society.

38 B. To engage in all lawful activities that are in
39 furtherance of one or more of the general purposes of the Society
40 and are in compliance with this Constitution and the laws of the
41 State of Florida.

42 ARTICLE IV.

43 RESTRICTIONS

44 The following additional provisions are inserted for the
45 regulation of the affairs of the Society:

46
47 A. Legislative and Political Activities. No substantial
48 part of the action of the Society shall consist of attempting to
49 influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise, or directly or
50 indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political
51 campaign on behalf or in opposition to any candidate for public

1 office.

2
3 B. Distribution of Assets on Dissolution. Upon dissolution
4 of the Society, its remaining assets, if any, shall be
5 distributed to one or more organizations organized and operated
6 exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or
7 educational purposes within the meaning of S501© (3) and S170©
8 (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, as now in force or afterwards
9 amended, as the Board of Trustees of the Society shall determine.
10 Any such assets not so distributed shall be distributed by the
11 District Court of the County in Which the registered office of
12 the Society is then located to another organization to be used in
13 such manner as in the judgment of such District Court will best
14 accomplish the general purposes for which the Society was
15 organized.
16

17 C. Prohibited Transactions. The Society shall not engage
18 in any of the prohibited transactions described in S503 © of the
19 Internal Revenue Code as now in force or afterwards amended.
20

21 D. Accumulation of Income. The Society shall not
22 unreasonably accumulate income within the meaning of S504 of the
23 Internal Revenue Code as now in force or afterwards amended.
24

25 E. Trade or Business. The Society shall not be operated
26 for the primary purpose of carrying on an unrelated trade or
27 business as defined in S513 of the Internal Revenue Code as now
28 in force or afterwards amended.
29

30 F. Distribution of Earnings. No part of the net earnings
31 of the Society shall inure to the benefit of any private
32 shareholder or individual within the meaning of S501 © (3) of the
33 Internal Revenue code as now in force or afterwards amended.
34

35 G. Compensation. No compensation shall be paid to any
36 member, officer, director, trustee, creator or organizer of the
37 Society, or substantial contributor to it, except that the
38 Society shall indemnify for losses sustained in the course of his
39 or her authorized work any member for any personal expenses for
40 the Society, if requested, upon proper documentation, unless such
41 loss was occasioned by negligence of the member.

42 H. Public Purpose. The Society is organized to serve
43 public interest. Accordingly, it shall not be operated for the
44 benefit or private interest such as contributors or persons
45 controlled, directly or indirectly, by such private interests.
46

47 I. Products Consumption. In keeping with the Hindu
48 scriptural tenets, no alcoholic or meat products will be allowed
49 to be brought inside the building complex housing the temple or
50 consumed in the open grounds surrounding the temple complex.
51

52 J. Deities. Deities once approved and duly installed may

1 not be removed in perpetuity.
2
3

4 ARTICLE V.

5 MEMBERSHIP

6 Membership of the Society shall be open to any individual of
7 Hindu heritage or anyone having interest in and believing in the
8 Hindu tradition and philosophy, provided that he or she has paid
9 membership dues to the Society.
10

11 ARTICLE VI.

12 GENERAL BODY

13 The General Body shall consist of all dues-paying members of
14 the Society.
15

16 ARTICLE VII.

17 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

18 A. Administration. The Society shall be administered by a
19 Board of Trustees (hereinafter called the "Board"), which shall
20 carry out, oversee and safeguard the goals and objectives of the
21 Constitution and Bylaws of the Society; foster and protect the
22 spirit in which the Society was founded and the fiscal soundness
23 of the Society; and be responsible for long-range planning.
24

25 B. Membership of the Board. The Board of Trustees shall
26 consist of ~~nine (9)~~ twelve (12) members who will be elected to
office in the
27 manner prescribed in the Bylaws of the Society and who will
28 perform the duties described in those Bylaws.
29

30 C. The Board will set policy to be carried out by the
31 officers of the Society and will consult with and advise those
32 officers.
33

1 ARTICLE VIII.
2 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION
3 ~~This Constitution may be amended only by the eighty percent~~
4 ~~(80.0%) majority vote of the Board; provided, however, that any~~
5 ~~such change in the Constitution may be overridden by the vote of~~
6 ~~seventy-five percent (75.0%) of the members present at a meeting~~
7 ~~where a quorum of sixty percent (60.0%) of the membership is~~
8 ~~established.~~

1st Amendment to Constitution of HSNEF Attached

9
10 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, for the purpose of forming this
11 non-profit organization, the undersigned have executed this
12 Constitution on behalf of the Society on this ____ day of
13 _____, 19____.
14
15
16 _____
17 RAMU PATEL
18 _____
19 V. RAMAMURTHI
20 _____
21 SUDHIR AGARWAL
22
23
24
25

26 STATE OF FLORIDA
27 COUNTY OF DUVAL
28

29 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this
30 ____ day of _____, 199____, by BALWANT PATEL, who is
31 personally known to me or who produced _____
32 as identification.
33

34 Notary Public, State and County
35 Aforesaid (Signature)
36
37 _____
38 Name of Notary Public
39 (Typed, Printed or Stamped)
40 My Commission Expires: _____
41
42

1 STATE OF FLORIDA
2 COUNTY OF DUVAL
3

4 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this
5 _____ day of _____, 199____, by V. RAMAMURTHI, who is
6 personally known to me or who produced _____
7 as identification.
8
9

10 _____
11
12 County

Notary Public, State and
Aforesaid (Signature)

13
14
15
16 _____
17 Name of Notary Public
18 (Typed, Printed or Stamped)
19 My Commission Expires: _____
20
21
22

23 STATE OF FLORIDA
24 COUNTY OF DUVAL
25

26 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this
27 _____ day of _____
28 199____, by SUDHIR AGARWAL, who is personally known to me or who
29 produced _____
30 as identification.
31
32

33 _____
34
35 County

Notary Public, State and
Aforesaid (Signature)

36
37
38
39 _____
40 Name of Notary Public
41 (Typed, Printed or Stamped)
42 My Commission Expires: _____
43
44
45

R A T I F I C A T I O N

The undersigned Secretary of the Society now certifies that the foregoing Constitution was ratified and adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Society at a meeting duly called for that purpose on _____, 199____, upon the unanimous vote of the Trustees.

Secretary

Amended Article VIII

FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF HSNEF

Section 1: A Preliminary Proposal to amend any part of the Constitution may be made by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee with eighty percent (80%) affirmative vote of the entire Committee, by the Board with eighty percent (80%) affirmative vote of the entire Board or petitioned by 25% or more of the eligible members through a written request, duly signed by the requesting members with a clear name, address and date.

Section 2: Only those who have been the members of HSNEF for the preceding 3 consecutive years shall be eligible to petition for amendment to the Constitution. The 25% eligibility threshold stated in Section one above will be determined by the total number of members that meet the membership criteria over the preceding two consecutive years, and also the current year.

Section 3: If any of the above three criteria are met the proposal for amendment shall be deemed Preliminary Proposal. The Board will then, within the following 14 days, constitute an Ad-hoc Committee with two representatives from the Executive Board, two from the Advisory Council, two from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and one or three at large members in good standing to coordinate further steps, and also appoint a Chair to serve as a coordinator of this Committee.

Section 4: This ad hoc Committee shall notify the Preliminary Proposal to the entire membership meeting eligibility criteria as defined in Section 2 above in the form of a posted notice in the Temple premise and by U.S. Mail and/or email within 30 days. The purpose of this distribution is for the review of the proposal by the eligible membership and to gather their response. The eligible membership will have 30 days from the date of notification to respond in writing to the ad hoc committee.

Section 5: The ad hoc Committee shall consider the responses received and forward its final recommendation to the Board within 30 days of the deadline to receive comments from the membership.

Section 6: The Board must vote on the proposal after reviewing the final recommendation from the Ad-hoc Committee within 30 days. To adopt any change, at least eighty percent (80 %) of the entire Board must vote in favor. If so approved, the proposed amendment will be deemed Final Proposal.

Section 7: If the Board approval of Final Proposal is at least 60 days before the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM), the Final Proposal shall be included as an election ballot. If such approval is less than 60 days prior to the AGM, a Special AGM will be convened with at least fourteen (14) days prior notice of such a meeting, including the agenda, sent to the last mailing address and/or e-mail address on record for the eligible members.

Section 8: The ad hoc Committee will coordinate the voting process.

Section 9: For any Constitution Amendment to be passed more than fifty percent (50%) of the Total eligible members must vote in favor of the Final Proposal. If this criterion is met, the amendment shall become effective immediately once approved.

Section 10: A defeated amendment cannot be reintroduced for at least three (3) years.

Adopted by the members of the HSNEF Constitution & Bylaws Committee.

Name	Signature	Date
Shweta Parikh (Chair)		4-21-22
Anurag Jain		5/1/22
Gyan Joshi		4-21-22
Anshu Kalia		6/12/22
Mani Perumal		4/21/22
Sudhir Prabhu		4/21/22

By The Executive Board:

The foregoing Amendment to HSNEF CONSTITUTION is adopted and ratified by the members of the Executive Board on the date below indicated.

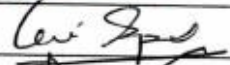
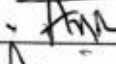
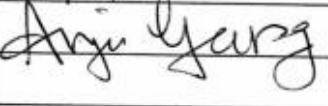
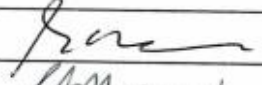
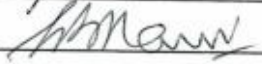
Name	Signature	Date
Anurag Jain Chair		5/1/22
Anshu Kalia Vice Chair		6/12/22
Anju Grag Secretary		5/1/22
Sunil Ancha Treasurer		5/1/22
Srilakhmi Garikipatti		5/1/2022
Gyan Joshi		5/1/2022
Vipin Kalahan		5/1/22
Kavita Parikh		5/1/22
Shweta Parikh		5-1-22
Jayprakash Pokala		5/1/2022
Padma Sikaria		5/1/2022
Parita Warde		6/12/22

SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE HSNEF

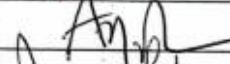
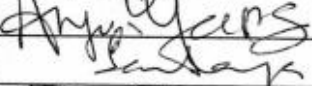

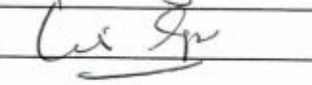
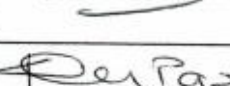
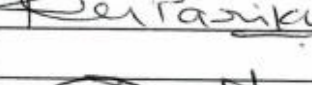
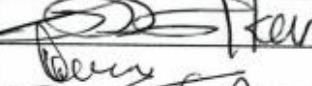
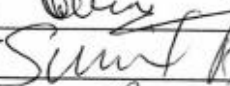
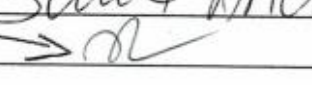

Amended ARTICLE VII B

Membership of the Board. The board of Trustees shall consist of ~~nine (9)~~ twelve (12) who will be elected to office in the manner prescribed in the Bylaws of the HSNEF and who will perform the duties described in those Bylaws

The foregoing amendment to the Constitution of the HSNEF was approved by the members. of the HSNEF Constitution and Bylaws committee on the date below indicated

Name	Signature	Date
Kris Gopal (Chair)		Sep 8th 2023
Anshu Kalia		Sep 8th 2023
Anju Garg		Sep 8th 2023
Padma Mukund		Sep 8th 2023
Shweta Parikh		Sep 8th 2023
Prabhu Sudhir		Sep 8th 2023
Mani Perumal		Sep 10th 2023

The foregoing amendment to the Constitution of the HSNEF is adopted and ratified by the members of the Executive Board on the date below indicated.

Name	Signature	Date
Anshu Kalia (Chair)		9.10.23
Anju Garg (Vice Chair)		9.10.23
Sailaja Ayyagari (Secretary)		9.10.23
Padma Sikaria (Treasurer)		9/10/23
Kris Gopal		9.10.23
Anil Pathak		
Kavita Parikh		09/10/23
Parita Warde		
Senthil Kuar Chokkanatha		9/10/2023
Vipin Kalhan		9.10.23.
Srilakshmi Garikapatti		Sept 10, 2023
Sunil Ancha		09/10/2023