

Substitute for Sunbiz.org Screen Shot

Florida Statute 265.32 (attached) provides a process for Florida counties to incorporate a designated local arts agency. Per the Statute, Leon County created COCA in 1985 (see attached Resolution and Interlocal Agreement). Soon after, COCA also received 501(c)3 charitable organization status through the IRS (see attached determination letter and current screen shot.)

Due to being a statutorily-created corporation, we were not required to file articles of incorporation with Florida's Division of Corporations and we are exempt from filing annual corporate reports. As a result, we do not appear in the Division's online database of corporations.

In case of any confusion, COCA's full name as registered with the IRS is Tallahassee Leon County Cultural Resources Commission. Our DBA name, Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) is registered in the Division of Corporations' fictitious name database (see attached screen shot).

We trust this information will be acceptable in meeting the grant's eligibility requirements. If we can provide anything further, please do not hesitate to ask.





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The 2015 Florida Statutes

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Title XVIII Chapter 265 **View Entire** PUBLIC LANDS AND MEMORIALS, MUSEUMS, AND ARTS AND **PROPERTY CULTURE**

2015

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265.32 County fine arts council.—

- (1) COUNTY AUTHORITY TO CREATE; PURPOSE.—Each county of the state is hereby vested with the authority to create a county fine arts council, hereinafter referred to as "council" or "arts council," a public agency corporate and politic, for the purposes of:
- (a) Stimulating greater governmental and public awareness and appreciation of the importance of the arts to the people of Florida.
- (b) Encouraging and facilitating greater and more efficient use of governmental and private resources for the development and support of the arts.
- (c) Encouraging and facilitating opportunities for Florida residents to participate in artistic activities.
- (d) Promoting the development of Florida artists, arts institutions, community organizations sponsoring arts activities, and audiences.
- (e) Surveying and assessing the needs of the arts, artists, arts institutions, community organizations sponsoring arts activities, and people of this state relating to the arts.
- (f) Supporting and facilitating the preservation and growth of the state's artistic resources.
 - (g) Contracting for artistic services, performances, and exhibits.
 - (h) Developing a center or complex of physical facilities for the use of the arts.
- (i) Providing financial and technical assistance to artists, arts institutions, and audiences.
 - (j) Otherwise serving the citizens of the county and state in the realm of the arts.

The purposes provided by this section are hereby deemed to be public purposes.

- (2) MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION.—
- (a) Initial members of the arts council shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners and shall be selected in such manner as to assure that the general arts needs of the people in the county may best be served. It shall be remembered that each council member will be charged with the responsibility of serving the best interests of the arts in the county within the purposes of this act, and no council member shall view his or her role as that of representing any particular geographic area of the county, interest group, arts institution, community organization, or audience. No individual committed to, or owing allegiance to, any particular arts faction shall be eligible to serve on the council.
- (b)1. If a county is creating a council under the provisions of this act, the arts council shall consist of 15 members. Vacancies which exist on the council shall be filled by the

board of county commissioners. However, in filling any vacancy which occurs, the board of county commissioners shall select the replacement council member from a list of three candidates to be submitted by the remaining members of the council. In the event that none of the three candidates suggested meets commission approval, the council shall submit another and entirely different list for commission consideration. This process shall continue until a suitable replacement has been found to fill the existing or anticipated vacancy.

- 2. The council shall make the general public aware of any vacancy which occurs, or which is expected, by complying with the notice and publication requirements established in paragraph (f). The council shall then consider suggestions or recommendations made by members of the public; representative civic, labor, and cultural associations; and groups concerned with encouraging the development and appreciation of the arts before submitting any list of candidates to the board of county commissioners.
- 3. There shall be an ex officio member who shall be a member of the board of county commissioners to be designated by it. The council may authorize additional ex officio members from any municipality within the county which it determines deserves representation, and any such member shall be designated by the city commission from its membership. The council may also authorize other ex officio members from the general public when such membership will serve the best interests of the arts and help carry out the objectives and duties of the council.
- (c) The term of office for each member shall be 4 years. All members of the council shall be qualified electors residing in the county.
- (d) No council member who serves two full terms shall be reappointed to the council during the 2-year period following expiration of his or her term.
- (e) No council member may receive compensation for his or her services, but each member may be reimbursed in accordance with chapter 112 for actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of his or her duties.
- (f) For purposes of this section, notice and publication requirements shall be deemed to have been met by daily advertisement in a newspaper, or in any of the electronic media, with countywide circulation or exposure for a period of 3 days at least 10 days prior to the taking of the intended action.
- (g) Council members may be removed for cause, and continued and unexcused absence shall constitute a form of, but not limit, such cause for removal. The removed member's replacement shall be chosen as provided in paragraph (b). Removal shall only be accomplished by a two-thirds vote of the remaining council members.
- (3) COUNCIL OFFICERS.—The council shall elect annually one of the members of the council to be its chair. No member of the council may serve as its chair for more than two terms. The council may annually elect such other officers as it deems appropriate.
- (4) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The council may appoint an executive director who shall be a full-time employee and shall serve at the pleasure of, and at a salary fixed by, the council. The executive director shall carry out the policies and programs established by the council, shall employ, subject to council approval, such full-time and part-time staff and consultants as appropriate to carry out those policies and programs, and shall be in charge of the day-to-day operations of those policies and programs. The executive director may be empowered by the council to sign contracts, leases, and other agreements on its behalf.
- (5) POWERS OF THE COUNCIL.—Within the limit of funds available to it and the conditions set forth in this act, the council shall have all legal powers necessary and appropriate to effectuate its purposes and duties as set forth in this act and as enumerated

in the bylaws of the council. The council shall adopt at the earliest possible opportunity a set of bylaws enumerating its purposes, duties, powers, and rules of organization and operation, which bylaws shall not be inconsistent with, or exceed the provisions of, this act.

- (6) BONDS AUTHORIZED.—
- (a) Upon resolution of the county commission approving such authority, each county arts council created pursuant to this act shall have the power to issue, refund, or take any other action with respect to revenue bonds to finance or refinance a capital project as part I of chapter 159 authorizes, insofar as the provisions of part I of chapter 159 are applicable. For the purposes of this act, the term "unit," as defined in s. 159.02, shall be deemed to include any county fine arts council created pursuant to this act, and the term "governing body," as defined in s. 159.02, shall be deemed to include any county fine arts council created pursuant to this act.
- (b) Bonds issued under the provisions of this act shall not constitute a debt of the county or any municipality therein or a pledge of the faith and credit of the county or any municipality therein, and a statement to that effect shall be recited on the face of the bonds. However, any county or municipality therein may, by express resolution, assume as its debt, or pledge its faith and credit as a guarantee of, the bonds of the county arts council if such bonds are issued to finance or refinance a capital project authorized by law and are approved by a vote of the electors.
- (7) COUNCIL MEETINGS; PUBLIC HEARINGS; COMMITTEES AND ADVISERS; REPORTS; RULES.—
- (a) The council shall meet at least quarterly pursuant to notice and at such times and places as the council shall determine. One-half of the council membership, plus one, shall comprise a quorum for the transaction of business at council meetings.
- (b) The council shall hold at least one public hearing annually, pursuant to public notice specifying the date and place of hearing and the subjects to be considered, for the purposes of making the council's work known and investigating and assessing the needs and development of the arts in the county. Notwithstanding the publication of an agenda for the annual meeting, the specification of subjects shall not preclude consideration of any other subject pertinent to the above-stated purpose of the meeting if that other subject is raised by any county resident present at the meeting.
- (c) The council may establish such working committees of council members as it deems appropriate to carry out its objectives, duties, and powers.
- (d) The council may convene such advisory panels and may consult with such advisers and experts as it deems necessary and appropriate for carrying out its objectives, duties, and powers.
- (e) The council shall formulate and publish rules setting forth the criteria pursuant to which its financial aid is given and such other rules regarding its activities as it deems appropriate.
- (f) The county arts council may, from time to time and at any time, submit to the Florida Council on Arts and Culture a report summarizing its activities and setting forth any recommendations it considers appropriate, including recommendations with respect to present or proposed legislation concerning state encouragement and support of the arts.
 - (8) ACT FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE; EFFECT ON EXISTING COUNCILS.—
- (a) This act, being for public purpose and for the welfare of the citizens of Florida, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes hereof.
 - (b) Nothing in this act shall affect the operation or structure of any existing arts council

that provides service to any community or county and is so recognized by members of said community or county. Nonetheless, any existing council may be reorganized by resolution of the board of county commissioners into a public agency corporate and politic as provided in subsection (1); however, the council shall conform to the provisions of subsection (2) except as to number of appointed members. In such case, any and all prior enabling legislation pursuant to which said council was established shall be repealed and superseded by this act insofar as it is inconsistent with this act. Council members serving at the time of passage of the hereinbefore mentioned resolution may serve for the remaining portions of their terms. In the event that some council members are elected to their positions, those positions shall continue to be filled by election as they had been previously.

History.—ss. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, ch. 76-244; s. 1, ch. 77-174; s. 129, ch. 83-217; s. 14, ch. 90-267; s. 11, ch. 91-49; s. 156, ch. 95-148; s. 41, ch. 2010-5.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NEED FOR AN ARTS COUNCIL TO FUNCTION IN LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA; ESTABLISHING THE TALLAHASSEELEON COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CONDITIONS FOR THE EXERCISE OF THE COUNCIL'S POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES; NAMING THE INITIAL MEETING OF THE SAID COUNCIL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, finds and declares that there is a need for the establishment of the Tallahassee-Leon County Cultural Resources Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "COUNCIL," within Leon County, which Council is hereby created under authority of \$265.32, Florida Statutes (1983), to function in Leon County.

Section 2. The Council is hereby created and may transact business and perform duties and exercise all the powers authorized and empowered by \$265.32, Florida Statutes, subject to the specific condition that the Council shall consider only such financial undertakings as are provided in the Act as shall be approved by Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Tallahassee and the Leon County Board of County Commissioners.

Section 3. No notes, bonds or any other obligation incurred by the Council shall be deemed a pledge of the faith or credit of Leon County, Florida, or the City of Tallahassee. No ad valorem taxes shall ever be used for the purpose of paying the interest or principal on any bonds issued to finance or refinance a project.

Section 4. The following fifteen (15) persons are hereby designated as members of said Council for the respective terms prescribed below:

- 1. Howard Lewis shall serve for one year
- 2. George T. Riordan shall serve for one year
- 3. Steve Meisburg shall serve for one year

- 4. George L. Waas shall serve for two years
- 5. Douglas C. McCuean shall serve for two years
- 6. William Price shall serve for two years
- 7. Jerome H. Stern shall serve for two years
- 8. Debra Allen Bacon shall serve for three years .
- 9. Robert W. Fichter shall serve for three years
- 10. Dana Preu shall serve for three years
- 11. Curtis Tucker shall serve for three years
- 12. Ellen Ashdown shall serve for four years
- 13. Namette G. Fisher shall serve for four years
- 14. Irving J. Fleet shall serve for four years
- 15. Marsha Orr shall serve for four years

In addition, each of the said members shall further serve until
his successor is appointed and has qualified. Each of the terms
above-described shall commence upon the initial meeting of the
said Council. After the initial term, all members shall serve
four (4) year terms. A member of the Board of County Commissioners
of Leon County, Plorida, and the City Commissioners of the City
of Tallahassee shall serve as ex-officio members of such Council.

Section 5. The initial meeting of said Council shall be at 6:30 o'clock, p.m., on October 30, 1985, at Myers Park Community Room in the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida. If fewer than three (3) of the persons above-named are present at said meeting, those of said persons who are present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until three (3) members shall be present.

Section 6. The Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County shall send a certified copy of this Resolution to each of the above-named members of said Council as official notice of his or her designation as such member. This Resolution shall constitute the Charter of the said Council.

AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 25978, Laws of Florida, Acts of 1949, the City Commission of the City of Tallahassee, Florida, hereinafter the "City", and the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, hereinafter the "County", as governmental units, are authorized to enter into and carry into effect certain contracts and agreements; and,

WHEREAS, promoting awareness, appreciation, and development of the arts, as well as providing service in the realm of the arts, within Tallahassee and Leon County has been determined to be a public purpose; and,

WHEREAS, the City and County have determined that there is a need for the formation of a fine arts council in accordance with the provisions of Section 265.32, Florida Statutes, and have further determined that both the appointment of members to the council and the issuance of revenue bonds by the council should be subject to approval by both the City and the County,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above and other good and valuable considerations, the City and County do hereby agree as follows:

1. The County will, by appropriate resolution, create the Tallahassee-Leon County Cultural Resources Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Council", which shall be a fine arts council formed in accordance with, and having the authority granted by, Section 265.32, Florida Statutes (1983).

- 2. The City and County shall concur in the appointment of all members to the Council, both initial appointees as well as those subsequently appointed to fill vacancies on the Council.
- 3. The Council shall issue no bonds unless such issue shall have been approved by resolution of both the City and the County. Bonds issued by the Council shall not constitute a debt of the City or the County, nor shall such bonds constitute a pledge of the faith and credit of the City or County, unless such assumption or pledge is made by express resolution in accordance with Section 265.32(6)(b), Florida Statutes (1983).
- 4. Neither the City nor the County, either by entering into this Agreement or by creating the Council, are making any committment to present or future funding of the Council.

 However, nothing herein shall preclude the Council from submitting requests for such funding to the City and/or the County.

Approved by the Tallahassee City Commission

Actalus 9,1985

Approved by Leon County Board of Commissioners

October 18, 1985

HURZEY W. RUDD, MAYOR

JAYAE NELSON, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ROBERT B. INZER

CITY TREASURER-CLERK

AFPHOVED ASTU FORM

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

Internal Revenue Service

Date: March 11, 2005

TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
2222 OLD SAINT AUGUSTINE RD
TALLAHASSEE FL 32301-4910 223

Department of the Treasury P. O. Box 2508 Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:

Tracy Garrigus #31-07307 Customer Service Representative

Toll Free Telephone Number:

8:30:a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET 877-829-5500

Fax Number:

513-263-3756

Federal Identification Number:

59-2644263

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of March 11, 2005, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

In November 1989 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,

Jana K. Stufen

Janna K. Skufca, Director, TE/GE Customer Account Services



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Organizations Eligible to Receive Tax-Deductible Charitable Contributions (Pub. 78 data) - Search Results

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Results are sorted by EIN. To sort results by another category, click on the icon next to the column heading for that category. Clicking on that icon a second time will reverse the sort order. Click on a column heading for an explanation of information in that column.

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TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

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TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

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