

## Articles of Incorporation of a Nonprofit Religious Corporation

To form a **nonprofit religious corporation** in California, you can fill out this form or prepare your own document, and submit for filing along with:

- A **\$30** filing fee.
- A separate, non-refundable **\$15** service fee also must be included, if you **drop off** the completed form or document.

**Important!** Nonprofit corporations in California **are not** automatically exempt from paying California franchise tax or income tax each year. For information about tax requirements and/or applying for tax-exempt status in California, go to [https://www.ftb.ca.gov/businesses/exempt\\_organizations](https://www.ftb.ca.gov/businesses/exempt_organizations) or call the California Franchise Tax Board at (916) 845-4171.

Note: *Before submitting this form*, you should consult with a private attorney for advice about your specific business needs.

This Space For Office Use Only

**For questions about this form, go to [www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/filing-tips.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/filing-tips.htm)**

**Corporate Name** (List the proposed corporate name. Go to [www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/name-availability.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/name-availability.htm) for general corporate name requirements and restrictions.)

- ① The name of the corporation is \_\_\_\_\_

### Corporate Purpose

- ② This corporation is a **Religious Corporation** and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law exclusively for religious purposes.

**Service of Process** (List a California resident or an active [1505](#) corporation in California that agrees to be your initial agent to accept service of process in case your corporation is sued. You may list any adult who lives in California. You may **not** list your own corporation as the agent. **Do not** list an address if the agent is a 1505 corporation as the address for service of process is already on file.)

- ③ a. \_\_\_\_\_  
*Agent's Name*
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ **CA**  
*Agent's Street Address (if agent is not a corporation) - Do not list a P.O. Box City (no abbreviations) State Zip*

### Corporate Addresses

- ④ a. \_\_\_\_\_  
*Initial Street Address of Corporation - Do not list a P.O. Box City (no abbreviations) State Zip*
- b. \_\_\_\_\_  
*Initial Mailing Address of Corporation, if different from 4a City (no abbreviations) State Zip*

**Additional Statements** (The following statements are for tax-exempt status in California.)

- ⑤ a. The specific purpose of this corporation is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. This corporation is organized and operated exclusively for **religious** purposes within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).
- c. No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office.
- d. The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to **religious** purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private person.
- e. Upon the dissolution or winding up of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for **charitable, educational and/or religious** purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

This form must be signed by each incorporator. If you need more space, attach extra pages that are 1-sided and on standard letter-sized paper (8 1/2" x 11"). All attachments are made part of these articles of incorporation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Incorporator - Sign here*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Print your name here*

Make check/money order payable to: **Secretary of State**  
Upon filing, we will return one (1) uncertified copy of your filed document for free, and will certify the copy upon request and payment of a \$5 certification fee.

**By Mail**  
Secretary of State  
Business Entities, P.O. Box 944260  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2600

**Drop-Off**  
Secretary of State  
1500 11th Street, 3rd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814



# Mail Submission Cover Sheet

**Instructions:**

- Complete and include this form with your submission. **This information only will be used to communicate with you in writing about the submission.** This form will be treated as correspondence and will not be made part of the filed document.
- Make all **checks or money orders** payable to the Secretary of State.
- Do not include a \$15 counter fee when submitting documents by mail.
- Standard processing time for **submissions** to this office is approximately 5 business days from receipt. All **submissions** are reviewed in the date order of receipt. For updated processing time information, visit [www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/processing-times](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/processing-times).

**Optional Copy and Certification Fees:**

- If applicable, include optional copy and certification fees with your submission.
- For applicable copy and certification fee information, refer to the instructions of the specific form you are submitting.

**Contact Person:** (Please type or print legibly)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Entity Information:** (Please type or print legibly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Entity Number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Return Address:** For written communication from the Secretary of State related to this document, or if purchasing a copy of the filed document enter the name of a person or company and the mailing address.

Name: [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

Company:

Address:

City/State/Zip: [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

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