CITY OF ROCKWALL,
ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS

August 15, 2001

TABLE OF CONTENTS

•	ABLISHMENT	1
Section 1.1	Establishment of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions	1
Section 1.2	Definitions	1
ACC.		1
	ssments	
Assoc	ciation	2
Board	I <u></u>	2
Builde	er	2
City		2
Comn	non Area	2
Decla	rant	2
Desig	n Guidelines	2
HUD.	***************************************	2
Lot		2
Mana	ging Agent	2
Owne	 {	3
Perso	n	3
Phase	9	3
Plat		3
Resid	ence	3
Street	 	3
Struct	นเล	3
VA	***************************************	3
Vehic	le	3
	PROVISIONS	
	Permitted Uses	
Section 2.2	Prohibited Uses and Activities	
	Floribited Oses and Activities	4
	STRUCTION PROVISIONS	5
Section 3.1	STRUCTION PROVISIONS Plan Approval Required	5 5
Section 3.1 Section 3.2	Plan Approval Required	5 5
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process	5 5 5
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3	Plan Approval Required	5 5 5
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials	5 5 6 7
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions	5 5 6 7
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions	5 5 6 7 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7 Section 3.8	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions Construction Period and Process	5 5 6 7 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions	5 5 6 7 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7 Section 3.8 Section 3.9	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions Construction Period and Process Declarant Rights	5 5 6 7 9 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7 Section 3.8 Section 3.9 ARTICLE 4: MAIN	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions Construction Period and Process Declarant Rights	5 5 6 7 9 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7 Section 3.8 Section 3.9 ARTICLE 4: MAIN Section 4.1	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions Construction Period and Process Declarant Rights ITENANCE PROVISIONS Owner's Obligation to Maintain	5 5 6 7 9 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7 Section 3.8 Section 3.9 ARTICLE 4: MAIN Section 4.1 Section 4.2	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions Construction Period and Process Declarant Rights TENANCE PROVISIONS Owner's Obligation to Maintain Damaged Improvements	5 5 6 7 9 9 9
Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.7 Section 3.8 Section 3.9 ARTICLE 4: MAIN Section 4.1	Plan Approval Required Establishment of ACC Approval Process Specific Construction Provisions Construction Materials Height Restrictions Roof Restrictions Construction Period and Process Declarant Rights ITENANCE PROVISIONS Owner's Obligation to Maintain	5 5 6 7 9 9 9

ARTICLE 5: OWN	ER'S ASSOCIATION	
Section 5.1	Establishment	
Section 5.2		
Section 5.3	Officers	
Section 5.4		
ARTICLE 6: ASSE		
Section 6.1	Power to Establish Assessments	13
Section 6.2	Commencement of Assessments	
Section 6,3	Regular Annual Maintenance Assessments	
Section 6.4	Special Assessments	
Section 6.5	Liability for and Enforcement of Assessments	14
ARTICLE 7: COM	MON AREA	16
Section 7.1		
Section 7.2	Specific Facilities	
Section 7.3	Maintenance of Common Areas	
Section 7.4	Risk of Loss - Use of Common Areas	
Section 7.5	Conveyance of Common Area to Association	
ADTIOL F. O. CDFC	NEW SEALANANT SIGNIFO	
	RIFIC DECLARANT RIGHTS	
Section 8.1	Rights to Annex	
Section 8.2	No Duty to Annex	17
Section 8.3	Effect of Annexation on Class B Membership	
Section 8.4	Specific Declarant Rights to Amend Declaration	
Section 8.5	Easement/Access Right	
Section 8.6	Assignment of Declarant Rights	18
Section 8.7	Declarant's Right to Install Improvements	
0	in Setback and Other Areas	
Section 8.8	Replatting or Modification of Plat	
	Limitation of Declarant Liability	
Section 8.10	Termination of Declarant's Responsibilities	 19
ARTICLE 9: MISC	ELLANEOUS PROVISIONS	19
Section 9.1	Term and Renewal	
Section 9.2	Enforcement	
Section 9.3	General Easement for Encroachments,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	Access, Maintenance and Utilities	20
Section 9.4	Amendment of Declaration	
Section 9.5	City Provisions	
	FHAVA Approval	
Section 9.7	Notices	
Section 9.8	Indemnification	
Section 9.9	Severability	
	Acceptance by Owners of Rights and Obligations	21
	Disclosure by Declarant	
	Arbitration of Disputes Involving Declarant	

LIST OF DEFINED TERMS

ACC	4
Assessment Lien	I 4 A
Assessments	14
Association	!
Board	.2
Builder	. 2
City	.2
Common Area	.2
Covenants	-2
Declarant	- 1
Design Guidelines	. Z
Declaration	-2
HUD	- 1
HUD	.2
Lot	.2
Maintenance Assessment	13
Managing Agent	. 2
Owner	.3
Person	.3
Phase	. 3
Plat	. 3
Property	. 1
Residence	.3
Special Assessments1	4
Street	3
Structure	3
VA	3
Vehicle	3

DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR HICKORY RIDGE

STATE OF TEXAS

3

KNOW BY ALL THESE PRESENT:

COUNTY OF ROCKWALLS

This **Declaration** (herein so called) is executed effective as of August 15, 2001 by **HICKORY RIDGE, LTD.**

RECITALS:

- A. Declarant is the owner of the real property in Rockwall County, Texas described on Exhibit A attached hereto, which Declarant is developing as an addition to the City of Rockwall to be known as Hickory Ridge (the "Property").
- B. Declarant desires to establish a planned residential community of single family detached homes on the Property and, accordingly, has executed this Declaration to impose the covenants, conditions, restrictions, and easements herein described upon the Property.

ARTICLE 1 ESTABLISHMENT

- Section 1.1 <u>Establishment of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions.</u>

 Declarant hereby imposes upon the Property the covenants, conditions, restrictions, liens and easements set forth in this Declaration (the "<u>Covenants</u>") for the purposes of establishing a general scheme for development of the Property, enhancing the value of the Lots and Residences (defined below), and establishing restrictions for residential use for the benefit of Declarant and the Owners (defined below). Declarant does not guarantee that all of these purposes will be accomplished through the creation and imposition of the Covenants. The Covenants touch and concern title to the Property, run with the land and shall be binding upon all persons hereafter acquiring any portion of the Property.
- Section 1.2 <u>Definitions.</u> The terms set forth below shall have indicated meanings when used in this Declaration; other terms are defined elsewhere herein and shall have the meaning given to them in this Declaration.
- "ACC" means the architectural control committee established pursuant to this Declaration.
- "<u>Assessments</u>" means the Maintenance Assessments and Special Assessments provided for in Article 6.

"Association" means the Hickory Ridge Homeowners' Association, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation, or such other homeowners' association name selected and available at the time of formation and established as provided in this Declaration.

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Association.

"Builder" means any homebuilder constructing the initial Residence upon a Lot in the normal course of conducting its business for profit.

"City" means the City of Rockwall, Texas.

"Common Area" means those portions of the Property as described in or on the Plat that do not constitute Lots, Streets, roads, or alleys. Accordingly, the Common Area means those portions of the Property designated as such on the Plat, including any recreational centers or similar areas. The Common Area also includes: (i) any areas within the Property owned by the City, the Association, or any other governmental entity, but which are required to be maintained by the Association; (ii) any landscape, wall maintenance, or maintenance easements reflected on the Plat or recorded by separate instrument; and (iii) those areas, if any, which are owned by an Owner, but on which are located monuments, signs, fences, landscaping, or other improvements that may be maintained by the Association. The Common Area shall also include all improvements on or to any portion of any of the areas described in the preceding sentence. Declarant shall at all times have and retain the right, but without obligation whatsoever, to effect minor redesigns or reconfigurations of the Common Area and to execute any open space declarations applicable to the Common Area which may be permitted in order to reduce property taxes, and to take whatever steps as may be appropriate to lawfully avoid or minimize the imposition of federal and state ad valorem and/or income taxes.

"<u>Declarant</u>" means HICKORY RIDGE, LTD. including any affiliate of any Partner thereof and any other person or entity who is designated as a successor Declarant in writing pursuant to the provisions of this Declaration.

"<u>Design Guidelines</u>" shall mean and refer to those particular standards, restrictions, guidelines, recommendations and specifications applicable to all aspects of construction, placement, location, alteration, maintenance and design of any improvements within the Property, and all amendments, modifications, supplements and interpretations thereof.

"HUD" means the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"Lot" means any of the individual platted building lots reflected on the Plat that are to be used for residential purposes as herein described.

"<u>Managing Agent</u>" means any Person who has been engaged and designated by the Board to manage the daily affairs and operations of the Association.

"Owner" means any Person owning fee title to any Lot, but excluding any mortgagee or beneficiary under a deed of trust until such time as it acquires legal title to a Lot.

"<u>Person</u>" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership or other entity of any kind or types whatsoever.

"Phase" means a particular phase developed upon the Property. Declarant may impose, as provided in Section 3.3(d), additional or different restrictions on each Phase. If Declarant annexes additional property into the Property as provided in Section 8.1, it may designate the area annexed as a particular Phase, and may impose, as provided in Section 3.3(d), additional or different restrictions on such area.

"Plat" means (i) initially, the Preliminary Plat for any Phase of the Property submitted to and approved by the City, or any other applicable governmental entity; (ii) after recordation thereof, the final Plat for any Phase of the Property as recorded in the Records of Rockwall County, Texas; and, (iii) any replat of, or amendment to, the foregoing made by Declarant in accordance with this Declaration. The term "Plat" shall also include the final recorded plat of any additional property annexed into the Property pursuant to Section 8.1.

"Residence" means a single family detached residence constructed upon a Lot in conformance with this Declaration.

<u>"Street"</u> means any paved road, but not alleys, that is typically within a fifty foot (50') or sixty foot (60') right-of-way and serves the front of a Lot upon which a Residence is constructed.

"Structure" means any structure (other than a Residence), fence, driveway, sidewalk, planting, landscaping, sprinkler system, wall, tennis court, swimming pool, outbuilding, playground equipment, or other improvement of any kind or type.

"VA" means the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

"Vehicle" means any vehicle of any kind or type whatsoever, including any automobile, truck, motorcycle, boat, mobile home, motor home, boat trailer, or other kind of trailer.

ARTICLE 2 USE PROVISIONS

Section 2.1 Permitted Uses.

(a) Lots Limited to Residential Use. Except as otherwise provided in this Declaration, Lots shall be used only for single family, private residential purposes and activities reasonably related thereto. Additional uses for purposes such as schools, churches, or similar activities may be permitted within the Property, provided such use has received the prior written approval from the Board of the Association or the Declarant, (but only so long as the Class B membership status exists).

- (b) <u>Common Area Uses.</u> The Common Area designated as the recreational center on the Plat shall be used only for recreational and other similar purposes as approved by the Declarant or the Association. The Common Area consisting of landscaping, maintenance, wall maintenance easements, or similar areas shall be used for such purposes or similar purposes as approved by the Declarant, but only so long as the Class B membership status exists, or the Board of the Association.
- (c) <u>Sales Offices and Similar Uses.</u> Declarant may maintain one or more signs, sales offices, or trailers on Lots for the purpose of facilitating sales of Residences on the Property. Declarant or the ACC may also grant the right to maintain construction trailers on the Lots and to use Lots for signage, sales offices, and similar purposes to other Persons constructing Residences on the Property by written designation.

Section 2.2 Prohibited Uses and Activities.

- (a) No Further Subdivision. No Lot may be further subdivided without the written consent of the Declarant or the ACC. Lots may be combined for the purpose of constructing a single residence on more than one Lot only upon written approval of the Declarant or the ACC. Without regard to any such permitted subdivision or combination, the Lots involved shall continue to be treated as single individual Lots hereunder for all other purposes, including voting in the Association and assessing and collecting Assessments.
- stored or placed so as not to be visible from any Street or from ground level view from an adjoining Lot, except for temporary parking in the driveway constructed on a Lot. On-Street parking shall be limited to temporary parking of guests or invitees of Owners during parties, delivery of services, and similar limited (no more than twelve (12) hours) time periods. Trucks with tonnage in excess of one ton and Vehicles with signage or advertising displays shall not be permitted to park overnight on the Streets, driveways, or other areas within the Property. No Vehicle that transports inflammatory or explosive cargo may be parked or stored within the Property. No inoperative or unlicensed Vehicles may be parked or stored, other than in an enclosed garage, within the Property. All work on Vehicles (other than routine maintenance) shall be performed only in an enclosed garage. The foregoing provisions shall not restrict the parking of trucks and other Vehicles as necessary in connection with construction of Residences or other Structures on Lots.
- (c) <u>Specific Use Restrictions.</u> The Property is restricted solely to residential and related uses; accordingly, no industrial, business, commercial, professional, manufacturing, mineral or other similar use shall be permitted on any part of the Property. This Section shall not be construed so as to prohibit the conduct of a reasonable amount of in-home work, such as computer work or similar activities, provided that such work or activity does not involve the parking of Vehicles of employees, consultants, or other parties other than the occupants of the Residences in question, and does not involve the delivery or pick-up of any materials or services. Unless expressly permitted by the Declarant or the Board of the Association, no church may be maintained on the Property.
- (d) Pet and Animal Restrictions. Only regular household pets such as cats and dogs shall be permitted on the Property and then only for personal use and not for any business use such as breeding, kennel operations and the like. No other animals shall be permitted to be maintained upon the Property, including the following: cows,

horses, bees, hogs, sheep, goats, poultry, or skunks. No more than four (4) domesticated household pets are permitted in any Residence. All pets shall be kept within the fenced-in area of an Owner's Lot and shall not be permitted to run free through the Property.

- (e) <u>Outdoor Burning Restrictions.</u> Outdoor burning of trash, leaves, and other items is prohibited. This restriction shall not be construed as prohibiting outdoor cooking on barbecue grills in connection with use of a Residence.
- (f) <u>Trash/Garbage Disposal.</u> Trash, garbage and other waste shall at all times be kept in clean, well maintained, sanitary containers for regular scheduled pickup for removal of such items. Trash, garbage or other waste shall not be dumped on the ground of any Lot or in any Common Area.
- (g) Occupancy. Each Lot shall be improved with a single family detached Residence. No Person shall occupy any garage or other outbuilding at any time.
- (h) <u>Projections from Structures.</u> Window air conditioning units and other similar projections are prohibited. Any projection through the roof of any structure on the Property shall require the prior written approval of the Declarant or the ACC.
- (i) <u>Private Water/Sewer Systems.</u> Each Residence shall be connected to the City water and sanitary sewer system, and no private water well or water, sanitary or storm sewer system is permitted within the Property unless the Declarant constructs it.
- (j) <u>Changes in Grade.</u> Except for such changes as are reasonably necessary to facilitate construction of a Residence on a Lot, no Owner shall change the grade of any Lot except in compliance with all applicable laws.
- (k) <u>Visible Activities Outdoors.</u> Outdoor drying of clothes is prohibited. Lawn mowers, rakes, carts, and other yard equipment shall be stored from view from adjoining Lots and Streets when not in use.
- (I) <u>General Restriction Nuisances.</u> In general, no condition shall be allowed to exist on a Lot which, by sight or smell (as determined exclusively by the ACC), shall constitute a public or private nuisance or unreasonably disturbs any other Owner in the use and enjoyment of its Lot or the Common Area.

ARTICLE 3 CONSTRUCTION PROVISIONS

Section 3.1 <u>Plan Approval Required.</u> No Residence or Structure shall be constructed, placed, or installed within the Property until the plans thereof have been approved in writing by the ACC or Declarant as provided in this Article 3.

Section 3.2 Establishment of ACC.

- (a) <u>Initial Appointment.</u> The ACC shall consist of three (3) members; the initial members of the ACC shall be appointed by the Declarant.
- (b) <u>Term and Subsequent Appointments.</u> The members of the ACC shall serve until they resign or are removed by the party appointing them to the ACC (which the appointing party may do at any time). Subsequent appointments to the ACC shall be made by the Declarant until such time as the Declarant either relinquishes such power by written notice to the Board, or the Declarant no longer owns any Lot; thereafter appointments to and removals from the ACC shall be made by the Board. The ACC or Declarant may engage the services of a third party to review plans and specifications pursuant to this Article.

(c) <u>Compensation; Fee for Review.</u> No member of the ACC shall be entitled to compensation for its services. The ACC may impose a reasonable charge for reviewing plans.

Section 3.3 Approval Process.

- any Structure on the Property shall submit two (2) copies of complete plans and specifications thereof to the ACC for its approval prior to commencing construction. Such plans and specifications shall include engineering information, landscaping description, and construction plans showing the location and elevations of the proposed Residence or Structure and the materials to be used in constructing the same, alt in sufficient detail to enable the ACC to evaluate the proposed Structure or Residence. The ACC may request additional information, including samples of proposed materials to aid it in its decision process. After receipt of a complete set of plans and specifications, the ACC shall promptly review the same and notify the Person submitting whether it approves the plans or whether it requires changes thereto. Alternately, the ACC may disapprove a set of plans by so noting thereon and returning it to the Person submitting, accompanied by a statement of the reasons for disapproval. No construction shall be commenced on any portion of the Property unless and until the plans for the Residence or Structure in question have been approved in writing by the ACC or Declarant.
- plans submitted for construction within thirty (30) days after the date it receives a complete set of plans and specifications therefore; if the ACC fails to specifically approve or disapprove of any plans within such thirty (30) day period, then the ACC shall be deemed to have approved the plans submitted. Under no circumstances shall the ACC's failure to respond within the thirty (30) day period constitute deemed approval of or the granting of a variance for any aspect of construction, use of materials, or location of improvements which would otherwise constitute a violation of the Covenants or the Design Guidelines.
- (c) <u>Review Standards.</u> The ACC, in reviewing and approving plans for construction of Structures or Residences, shall use commercially reasonable efforts to promote and ensure a high level of taste, design quality, aesthetic harmony, and conformity throughout the Property, consistent with the standards established by this Declaration and the Design Guidelines.
- (d) <u>Design Guidelines/Building Standards.</u> The Declarant or the ACC may but is not required to, from time to time, establish specific guidelines and building standards to assist Persons in determining the type of Structures and Residences, which may be constructed on the Property. Pursuant to Section 8.1, Declarant may annex additional Property to become a portion of the Property, and may develop the overall Property in various Phases. Declarant may establish differing restrictions, guidelines and building standards for each such Phase of the Property, which may impose more restrictive or tess onerous building standards with respect to a particular Phase. The ACC or Declarant may amend or modify such guidelines or standards from time to time in its sole discretion. Such guidelines or standards shall supplement this Declaration and be general guides to permitted construction within the Property, but shall not diminish the authority of the ACC and Declarant to approve plans as otherwise herein provided.
- (e) <u>Failure to Obtain Approval</u>. The construction, repair, replacement, installation, or placement of any Structure or improvement of any type on a Lot without the prior written approval from the ACC shall constitute grounds for the imposition by the ACC

or the Association of an automatic fine against the Owner of said Lot not to exceed Five Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$500.00). A fine levied under this Section shall be charged to the Owner's assessment account, payable upon demand and secured by the lien created in Article 6.

Limitation of Liability. Neither the Declarant, its officers, directors. **(f)** partners, agents, employees, representatives, parent or subsidiaries, nor the Association, the Board, or the ACC, including any of its respective members, shall be liable to any Person for any official act of the ACC in connection with submitted plans and specifications. Notwithstanding any approval by the Declarant or the ACC, neither the Declarant nor the ACC shall be responsible or liable to any Person with respect to any loss, liability, claim or expense which may arise by reason of such approval or the construction of a Residence or Structure related thereto. Neither the Declarant, the Association, the Board nor the ACC shall be responsible in any way for any defects in any plans or specifications submitted, reviewed or approved in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration, nor for any structural or other defects in any work done according to such plans or specifications. No approval of any plans by either the ACC or the Declarant shall be construed to mean that the plans comply with any applicable law, building code, or governmental regulation, it being the responsibility of the Person submitting any plans to assure compliance with all applicable laws. Conversely, the issuance of a building permit or any approval from any governmental authority shall not, under any circumstance, constitute any evidence that construction of a Residence or a Structure complies with the terms and conditions contained in this Declaration or the Design Guidelines. Declarant and members of the ACC shall have no liability for decisions made by them regarding the approval or disapproval of plans, so long as the decisions are made in good faith and are not discriminatory, arbitrary, or capricious.

Section 3.4 Specific Construction Provisions.

- (a) <u>Setbacks.</u> All Residences and other Structures shall be constructed in conformity with the setback requirements of the City and the building lines reflected on the Plat.
- (b) <u>Structure Size and Type.</u> Each Residence shall have the minimum number of square feet of enclosed air-conditioned area as set forth by the City in the applicable zoning ordinance. Each Residence shall be of new construction on a Lot and no mobile homes or manufactured housing shall be permitted on the Property except on a temporary basis in connection with construction or sales activities.
- (c) Garage Requirements. Each Residence shall have at least a two car attached garage constructed as a part thereof.
- (d) <u>Drive/Walkway Requirements.</u> All driveways and sidewalks shall conform to applicable City and other governmental specifications and regulations.
- (e) <u>Ancillary Structure Provisions.</u> All ancillary Structures (as described below) shall conform to the requirements of this Section:
 - placement or installation of any television, radio, or other electronic tower, serial, antenna, satellite dish or device of any type for the reception or transmission of radio or television broadcasts or for any means of communication upon a Lot or upon any improvement thereon is prohibited except as provided for herein. This prohibition shall not apply to those antennae specifically covered by 47 C.F.R. Part 1, Subpart S, Section 1.4000 (or any successor provision) promulgated pursuant to

the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended from time to time. The ACC or the Declarant shall be empowered to adopt rules governing the types of antennae that are permissible hereunder and establishing reasonable, non-discriminatory restrictions relating to safety, location and maintenance of antennae. All television antennas and other antennas and aerials shall be located inside the attic of the residence constructed on the Lot. Amateur radio towers and antennas (whether for reception or transmission) are specifically prohibited. No exterior television, radio or other antenna of any type shall be placed, allowed or maintained upon any Lot, Residence, or Structure without prior written approval and authorization of the ACC.

- (2) Fences and Walls. All fences and walls (excluding retaining walls described in (7) below) shall be at least six feet (6'0") in height and shall have a maximum height of eight feet (8'0"), and shall be located in an area and constructed of materials in accordance with the provisions therefore contained in the Design Guidelines. No fence or wall may be constructed, repaired, rebuilt, or relocated if it impedes or obstructs drainage. Prior written approval from the ACC is required for any construction, placement or repair of fences or walls on any Lot.
- (3) Outbuildings. Outbuildings shall not extend above the fence such that they are visible from any public street, alley or adjacent lot when standing at ground level. The location, installation and screening of an outbuilding requires, without exception, the prior written approval from the ACC.
- (4) <u>Trash Containers.</u> All trash containers shall be screened from view from Streets.
- (5) Hedges. Hedges shall be maintained at a height that is in conformity with the height of fences and walls. No hedge shall be maintained in a manner that obstructs any sidewalk or the visibility of intersections of Streets and/or alleys.
- (6) <u>Servant's Quarters.</u> Servant's quarters may be constructed, provided the plans therefore are approved by the ACC as herein provided.
- (7) Retaining Walls. Retaining walls, other than those constructed by the Declarant, require prior written approval by the ACC to ensure conformity with the requirements contained in the Design Guidelines with respect to location, construction, and materials. Except for those built by Declarant or its affiliates, any retaining walls which generally face an alley or are either between Residences or along or adjacent to the side or rear property lines of Lots shall be constructed of C.C.A. treated lumber or stone materials unless the ACC has otherwise provided prior written approval. Except for those built by Declarant or its affiliates, any retaining walls which generally face a Street or are along or adjacent to the front property lines of Lots shall be constructed of stone materials unless the ACC has otherwise provided prior written approval.
- (8) <u>Mailboxes.</u> Mailboxes shall be of a design and constructed of materials approved by the ACC and shall conform to the standard attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u>, United States Postal Service regulations and the Design Guidelines.
- (9) <u>Tennis Court/Swimming Pool/Recreational Facilities.</u> A tennis court, swimming pool, and/or recreational facilities may be constructed within any Lot provided the plans therefore are approved by the ACC prior to commencement of construction to ensure compliance with the requirements contained in the Design Guidelines with respect to location and screening. Above ground pools are prohibited.

(10) Signage. Except for Declarant's signs, no signage may be maintained on any Lot other than signs which do not exceed 6 sq. ft., of tasteful design, which advertise a Lot or Residence for sale or rent. Political signage is allowed so long as it strictly complies with the conditions set forth in the Design Guidelines as to number, location, when such signs are allowed prior to the election and the time period after the election upon which the signs shall be removed. Spirit signs (announcing the involvement of teenagers in athletics or school programs) shall only be allowed if provided for and in strict compliance with the Design Guidelines. Such advertising and spirit signs shall be subject to approval of the ACC. All signs must be professionally produced and manufactured. Each Owner hereby grants permission to the ACC (or its duly authorized agents) to enter upon a Lot or any part of the Property and remove any sign, billboard or advertising structure that does not comply with the above requirements and, in doing so, shall not be subject to any liability to any Person whatsoever for trespass, conversion, or any claim for damages in connection with such removal. The ACC's cost to remove any sign shall be added to the Owner's assessment account, be payable upon demand and secured by the lien created in Article 6.

Section 3.5 <u>Construction Materials.</u> All construction materials shall conform to the following provisions:

- (a) <u>Exterior Materials</u>. All exterior construction materials shall be subject to approval by the ACC in accordance with the provisions therefore in the Design Guidelines as to aesthetic appearance and shall conform to any and all City ordinances.
- (b) <u>Roof Materials.</u> Minimum twenty (20) year warranty shingle roof or equivalent is required. All roofing materials must be fireproof and conform to City requirements, and are subject to ACC approval.

Section 3.6 <u>Height Restrictions.</u> All Structures shall conform to the height restrictions of the City.

Section 3.7 <u>Roof Restrictions.</u> All roofs shall have at least a 6-foot to 12-foot pitch on the main structure and on garage structures unless otherwise approved by the ACC.

Section 3.8 <u>Construction Period and Process.</u> Construction of any Residence shall be pursued with all due diligence and, in any event, shall be completed within nine (9) months after commencement. Construction of any other Structure shall be completed within the time periods specified in the plan approval process. All areas under construction shall be maintained in a clean, safe condition, and debris, trash, and rubble shall be stored in appropriate containers and promptly removed from the Property.

- (a) <u>Landscaping.</u> All Lots shall be appropriately landscaped, including planting of grass and other plants in conformity with the Design Guidelines and other improvements on the Property. In addition to complying with City requirements, all Lots with a Residence thereon shall include at least three (3) trees with 3" caliper in the area of the Lot between the front property line and the front building line.
- (b) Right to Waive or Modify Specific Instruction Provisions. The ACC shall have the right, in its discretion, to grant reasonable waivers of the construction

provisions set forth in this Declaration, and any such waiver shall not entitle any other person to a similar waiver.

Section 3.9 <u>Declarant Rights.</u> So long as Declarant owns any Lot, Declarant may exercise any of the rights of the ACC under this Article 3.

ARTICLE 4 MAINTENANCE PROVISIONS

Section 4.1 Owner's Obligation to Maintain. Each Owner shall maintain its Lot and the Residence and other Structures thereon in a clean, first class condition. Each Owner shall regularly mow grass and maintain the landscaping on its Lot in good condition at all times. Each Owner shall maintain the exterior of all Residences and Structures in good condition and shall make such repairs and replacements as necessary to maintain good order and the aesthetic harmony of the Property.

Section 4.2 <u>Damaged Improvements.</u> If any Residence or Structure is damaged in any way, the Owner shall immediately repair such damage or, in the case of substantial damage when the Owner does not wish to rebuild, raze the damaged Structure or Residence and remove the same and leave the surface of the Lot in good order.

Section 4.3 <u>Declarant/Association Right to Perform.</u> If any Owner fails to maintain the condition of its Lot, the landscaping thereon, including the prompt removal of deceased trees and shrubs, or the Residence or other Structures thereon as contemplated by this Article 4 and fails to take action to correct such defect within ten (10) days after the Declarant or the Association has furnished written notice thereof to such Owner, then the Owner of such Lot hereby grants permission to the Declarant or Association (or its duly authorized agents) to enter upon such Lot and perform those duties which the Owner failed to perform without liability whatsoever to such Owner or any Person for trespass, conversion, or any claim for damages. The cost of performing such duties shall be added to the Owner's assessment account and shall bear interest at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum (but not in excess of the lawful maximum rate), be payable upon demand, and shall be secured by the lien provided for in Article 6.

Section 4.4 Easement Maintenance. Each Owner grants to the Association, the Board, and the Declarant the right to access, repair, and maintain all facilities and improvements within any wall, entry, fence, landscape, or other similar easement as recorded on any Plat (including, but not limited to, any Plat attached hereto as Exhibit C), especially, without limitation to, the following: Hickory Ridge Phase One Plat: Lots 1 and 29 of Block A and Lot 1 of Block M. By acquisition of a Lot, each Owner hereby grants, creates and conveys unto the Association, the other adjacent Owners and the Declarant a perpetual Drainage Easement (herein so called) over, through, under and across the Owner's Lot for the purpose of permitting runoff and/or storm water to drain from other adjacent Lots over, through, under and across the Owner's Lot(s). Without limiting the foregoing, in order to facilitate drainage from the Property subject to the Declaration over, through, under and across the Owner's Lot, each Owner hereby agrees that the Declarant or the Association, as the case may be, shall have the right to enter onto the Owner's Lot at any time to (i) prevent possible interference with the Drainage Easement and to remove

possible hazards from the Drainage Easement area, (ii) prevent the construction or placement of any building, structure or other obstruction within the Drainage Easement area which may endanger or interfere with the efficient and convenient use of the Drainage Easement, (iii) grade, improve, construct, reconstruct, repair and perpetually maintain swales within the Drainage Easement area, and (iv) or regrade portions of the Drainage Easement area necessary or appropriate to permit drainage as generally described herein or as approved or required by appropriate governmental authorities. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing rights of the Association or the Developer, each Owner hereby agrees to maintain the Drainage Easement area at such Owner's sole cost and expense. If any structures or other obstructions are constructed, created or placed by any Owner within the Drainage Easement area without the prior written consent of the Board or the Declarant, the Declarant or the Association shall have the right to remove such structure or obstruction at the sole cost of such Owner. The cost to remove the structure or the obstruction shall be charged to the Owner's assessment account, be payable on demand, and shall be secured by the lien provided for in Article 6.

ARTICLE 5 OWNER'S ASSOCIATION

Section 5.1 <u>Establishment.</u> The Association has heretofore been or will hereafter be created as a Texas non-profit corporation. Each Owner of a Lot shall be a member in the Association and such membership is appurtenant to and shall not be separated from ownership of a Lot. Upon the transfer of a Lot, the new Owner shall automatically become a member of the Association. The term of existence of the Association and other matters pertaining to its operation are set forth in its Articles of Incorporation (attached hereto as Exhibit D) and the By-Laws (attached hereto as Exhibit E). The Association is established to enforce this Declaration and the Covenants, to promote the interests of the Owners as residents of the Property, and to enhance the value of the Lots as a part of a harmonious, high quality, residential subdivision.

Section 5.2 <u>Voting Power.</u> The Association shall have two classes of voting membership as follows:

- (a) Class A. The Class A Member shall be all Owners other than Declarant and shall be entitled to one vote for each Lot owned. If more than one person owns an interest in a Lot, they shall combine their vote in such way as they see fit, but there shall be no fractional votes, and no more than one vote with respect to any Lot.
- (b) Class B. The Class B Member shall be the Declarant who shall be entitled to fifteen (15) votes for each Lot owned by Declarant. Subject to the conditions set forth in the remainder of this paragraph, the Class B membership shall be converted to Class A membership upon the earlier of (i) the total votes outstanding in the Class A membership equaling the total votes outstanding in the Class B membership, (ii) June 1, 2010, or (iii) the recording in the Records of Rockwall County, Texas of a notice signed by Declarant terminating the Class B membership. In determining the number of Lots owned by Declarant for the purpose of Class B membership status hereunder, the total number of

Lots covered by this Declaration, including all Lots annexed thereto in accordance with Section 8.1 herein, shall be considered. In the event the Class B membership has previously lapsed as provided in (i) above, but annexation of additional property restores the ratio of Lots owned by Declarant to the number required for Class B membership status, such Class B membership shall be reinstated until it expires pursuant to the terms hereof.

- (c) <u>Board of Directors Election.</u> The Board shall be elected as provided in the articles and bylaws of the Association. The Board shall act by majority vote as provided in the bylaws.
- (d) <u>Specific Powers of Board.</u> Without limiting the authority granted to a board of directors under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, the Board shall have the following specific powers on behalf of the Association:
 - (1) to enforce the provisions of this Declaration;
 - (2) to enter into contracts;
 - (3) to retain third parties, as necessary, to assist the Board in carrying on the Association's activities, including engineers, accountants, lawyers, architects, land planners, professional management, and other consultants;
 - (4) to take such action as necessary to maintain the Common Area in good order and condition;
 - (5) to acquire property, services and materials to carry out its duties;
 - (6) to purchase insurance covering potential liability for use of the Common Area and for other risks;
 - (7) to borrow money for Association purposes;
 - (8) to initiate and defend litigation, arbitration and other similar proceedings;
 - (9) to promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for access to and use of Common Areas and governance of the Association, as well as a policy establishing a schedule and procedures by which the Board may assess fines against Owners or invoke self-help remedies for violations of the Covenants, the By-Laws, rules and regulations or the Design Guidelines;
 - (10) to establish and collect reasonable fees for the use of any recreational facilities on the Common Area; and
 - (11) to establish and collect a reasonable fee for copying and furnishing copies of the Association's governing documents and furnishing a Resale Certificate as required by law. This function and the authority to collect and receive such fees may be delegated or assigned by the Board to the Association's Managing Agent.
 - (12) to enforce any provision of the Declaration, the By-laws, the Design Guidelines, or the rules and regulations of the Association through self-help procedures, after prior written notice to the Owner of the Lot at issue, or by suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to recover monetary damages or both or an action to foreclose the lien against any Lot without the necessity or compliance with the procedure set forth above. In any such action, to the maximum extent permissible, the Owner or occupant responsible for the violation of which abatement is sought shall pay all costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses actually incurred.

Section 5.3 Officers. The Association will have such officers as are set forth in the bylaws.

Section 5.4 <u>Dissolution</u>. So long as Declarant owns record title to any Lot, the Association shall not be dissolved. Once Declarant is divested of all ownership interest in the Property, the Association may be dissolved upon the written consent of Owners owning at least seventy percent (70%) of the Lots. Upon such dissolution, the assets of the Association shall be donated to a nonprofit organization with purposes similar to the Association and selected by a majority of the Board.

ARTICLE 6 ASSESSMENTS

Section 6.1 Power to Establish Assessments. The Association is empowered to establish and collect Assessments as provided in this Article 6 for the purpose of obtaining funds to maintain the Common Area, perform its other duties, and otherwise preserve and further the operation of the Property as a first quality residential subdivision. The purposes for which Assessments may be used include, without limitation, maintaining, operating, managing, repairing, replacing or improving the Common Area or any improvements thereon; mowing grass and maintaining grades and signs; paying legal fees and expenses incurred in enforcing this Declaration; paying expenses incurred in collecting and administering assessments; paying insurance premiums for liability and fidelity coverage for the ACC, the Board and the Association; satisfying any indemnity obligation under the articles or bylaws; and for any other purpose that furthers or serves the interests of the Association. The Board may reject partial payments and demand payment in full of all amounts due and owing the Association. The Board is specifically authorized to establish a policy governing how payments are to be applied.

Section 6.2 Commencement of Assessments.

- (a) Owner other than Declarant. Unless otherwise provided by separate agreement by and between Declarant and any Person, the Assessments shall commence as to each Lot upon its conveyance by Declarant to any Person that is not an affiliate of Declarant.
- (b) <u>Declarant.</u> Declarant shall not be liable for Assessments for any Lots it owns. Declarant may, but shall have no obligation to, subsidize the Association from time to time. In the event Declarant decides to subsidize the Association and any shortfall in the operating budget of the Association is due in part to the failure of the Association to collect delinquent Assessments, then the Association shall immediately and vigorously pursue collection of such delinquent Assessments through foreclosure, if necessary, and shall reimburse the Declarant the amounts, if any, so collected.

Section 6.3 Regular Annual Maintenance Assessments.

(a) Annual Budget. For each calendar year or a part thereof during the term of this Declaration, the Board shall establish an estimated budget of the expenses to be incurred by the Association for the forthcoming year in performing its duties. Based upon such budget, the Association shall then assess each Lot an annual fee (the "Maintenance Assessment") which shall be paid by each Owner in advance as follows: quarterly on the first day of each January, April, July and October, unless the Board

- determines a different schedule. The Association shall notify each Owner of the Maintenance Assessment for the ensuing year by December 15 of the preceding year, but failure to give such notice shall not relieve any Owner from its obligation to pay Maintenance Assessments. Any Maintenance Assessment not paid within thirty (30) days of the date due shall be delinquent and shall thereafter bear interest as provided in Section 6.5(f). As to any partial year, Maintenance Assessments on any Lot shall be appropriately prorated.
- (b) Limits on Maintenance Assessments. The initial Maintenance Assessment for each Lot shall not exceed Fifty Dollars and 00/100 Cents (\$50.00) per month. Thereafter the Board may increase the Maintenance Assessment annually to meet the anticipated needs of the appropriate budget, but the Maintenance Assessment may not be increased in any year by an amount in excess of twenty percent (20%) above the previous year's Maintenance Assessment, unless such increase is approved by a majority vote of those members of the Association present at a meeting, in person or by proxy, where a quorum exists.
- (c) <u>Uniform Assessments.</u> Maintenance Assessments for all Lots shall be uniform.

Section 6.4 Special Assessments. The Association may impose special assessments ("Special Assessments") to make capital improvements to the Common Area, to satisfy its indemnity obligations under the articles or bylaws, or for other similar purposes. Any Special Assessment proposed by the Association must be approved by a majority vote of those members of the Association present at a meeting, in person or by proxy, at which a quorum exists. At least fifteen (15) days prior to any meeting of the Association called to consider any Special Assessment, the Board shall notify each Owner thereof by written notice specifying the total amount of the Special Assessment required, the amount thereof imposed on each Lot (which shall be uniform), the purpose for such Special Assessment, and the time and method of payment thereof. The time for paying any Special Assessment (which may be in installments) shall be as specified in the approved proposal therefore.

Section 6.5 Liability for and Enforcement of Assessments.

- (a) <u>Personal Liability.</u> Each Owner shall be personally liable for all Assessments imposed during the time it owns a Lot.
- Lien. Declarant hereby reserves for the benefit of itself and the Association, a lien (the "Assessment Lien") against each Lot to secure payment of (1) the Assessments imposed hereunder; (2) the payment of fines imposed under Section 3.3 (e) and Section 9.2 hereof or Section 3.18 of the By-Laws; (3) the cost to remove unauthorized signage under Section 3.4 (9) hereof; (4) the cost to perform a defaulting Owner's obligations under Section 4.3 hereof; (5) the cost to remove any structure or obstruction from the Drainage Easement area under Section 4.4 hereof; and (6) attorneys' fees incurred by the Association in collecting Assessments or other charges added to an Owner's account and to enforce the Declaration. Each Owner, by accepting conveyance of a Lot, shall be deemed to have agreed to pay the Assessments, along with fines, costs for remedial measures and attorneys' fees as herein provided for and to the reservation of the Assessment Lien. The Assessment Lien shall be subordinate to the liens of any valid first lien mortgage or deed of trust encumbering a particular Lot. Sale or transfer of any Lot shall not affect the

Assessment Lien. However, the sale or transfer of any Lot pursuant to a first mortgage or deed of trust foreclosure (whether by exercise of power of sale or otherwise) or any proceeding in lieu thereof, shall only extinguish the Assessment Lien as to payments which became due prior to such sale or transfer. No sale or transfer shall relieve such Lot from Liability and the Assessment Lien for any Assessments thereafter becoming due. The Assessment Lien may be non-judicially foreclosed by power of sale in accordance with the provisions of Section 51.002 of the *Texas Property Code* (or any successor provision) or may be enforced judicially. Each Owner, by accepting conveyance of a Lot, expressly grants the Association a power of sale in connection with the foreclosure of the Assessment Lien. The Board is empowered to appoint a trustee, who may be a member of the Board, to exercise the powers of the Association to non-judicially foreclose the Assessments Lien in the manner provided for in Section 51.002 of the *Texas Property Code* (or any successor statute). The Association, through duly authorized agents, shall have the power to bid on the Lot at foreclosure sale and to acquire and hold, lease, mortgage and convey the same.

- Association's attorney or Declarant may file notice of any delinquency in payment of any Assessment in the Records of Rockwall County, Texas. Upon the timely curing of any default for which a notice was recorded by the Association, the Association through its attorney is hereby authorized to file of record a release of such notice upon payment by the defaulting Owner of a fee, to be determined by the Association but not to exceed the actual cost of preparing and filing a release. Upon request of any Owner, any title company on behalf of such Owner or any Owner's mortgagee, the Board through its agents may also issue certificates evidencing the status of payments of Assessments as to any particular Lot (i.e., whether they are current or delinquent and if delinquent, the amount thereof). The Association or its Managing Agent may impose a reasonable fee for furnishing such certificates or statements.
- (d) <u>Suit to Recover.</u> The Association may file suit to recover any unpaid Assessment and, in addition to collecting such Assessment and interest thereon, may also recover all expenses reasonably expended in enforcing such obligation, including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs.
- Late Charges and Collection Fees. If any Assessment or any part thereof remains unpaid after thirty (30) calendar days from and after the due date established by the Board, a late charge shall be assessed against the non-paying Owner for each month or any part thereof, that any portion of any Assessment remains unpaid. Should any Assessment be payable in installments, the Association is authorized to accelerate the entire Assessment and demand immediate payment thereof. The late charge shall be in the amount of Twenty-five and No/100 Dollars (\$25.00) per month. The Association's Managing Agent shall be entitled to charge an Owner a monthly collection fee to compensate Managing Agent for its administrative costs and efforts to collect and process the late payment of Assessments. A service charge in the amount of Twenty And No/100 Dollars (\$20.00) shall be charged for each check that is returned because of insufficient funds or any other reason. The amount of late charges and service charges may be adjusted, from time to time, by the Board consistent with any changes in the administrative costs to collect unpaid Assessments or the Association's bank charges. All late charges, collection fees, service charges and attorneys' fees assessed or incurred due to late payment of Assessments shall be charged to an Owner's Assessment account which shall be part of the delinquent Assessment and shall be payable and secured in the same manner as herein provided with regard to Assessments.

- (f) <u>Interest on Past Due Amounts.</u> All Assessments past due more than thirty (30) days, unpaid fines and other amounts owed to the Association by any Owner which are not paid when due shall bear interest from the date due until paid at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum, but not in excess of the maximum rate allowed by applicable law.
- (g) <u>Suspension of Right to Use Common Area.</u> In addition to the other powers herein granted, the Board may suspend the right of Owner to use any of the Common Area during the time that such Owner is delinquent in paying any Assessment.
- (h) <u>Suspension of Voting Rights.</u> No Owner who is delinquent in paying its Assessments shall have the right to vote as a member of the Association while such delinquency continues; an Owner may cure a delinquency at a meeting to regain the right to vote by paying all outstanding amounts (including interest, fines, and penalties) by cashier's or certified check or other good funds acceptable to the Board.
- (i) <u>Working Capital Contributions</u>. Upon acquisition of record title to a Lot by any Owner other than Declarant or a Builder, a contribution shall be made by or on behalf of such first Owner to the working capital of the Association in an amount equal to One Hundred Dollars and 00/100 Cents (\$100.00). This amount is not refundable, shall be in addition to, not in lieu of, the Maintenance Assessment levied on the Lot and shall not be considered an advance payment of any portion thereof. This amount shall be deposited into escrow and disbursed therefrom to the Association or to the Declarant if the Association is not yet established and shall be used for covering operating and other expenses incurred by the Association pursuant to the terms of this Declaration and the bylaws of the Association.
- Board may, at its sole discretion, enter into contracts with third parties to oversee the daily operation and management of the association. These third parties may, and probably will, have fees, which will be charged to an Owner for the transfer of a significant estate or fee simple title to a Lot and the issuance of a Resale Certificate. The Association or its agent shall not be required to issue a Resale Certificate until payment for the cost thereof has been received by the Association or its agent. Transfer fees and fees for the issuance of a Resale Certificate are not refundable and may not be regarded as a prepayment of or credit against regular or special assessments, and are in addition to the Working Capital Contribution in Section 6.5(i) above. This Section does not obligate the Board or any third party to levy such fees.

ARTICLE 7 COMMON AREA

Section 7.1 Right to Use Common Areas. Each Owner, the members of that Owner's immediate family, and the Owner's guests (provided guests are accompanied by an Owner) shall have the right to use the Common Area for its intended purposes as herein provided. The Declarant and the Association shall have the right to enter on and use the Common Areas at all times to exercise their rights or (in the case of the Association) perform its duties hereunder.

Section 7.2 <u>Specific Facilities</u>. Specific facilities, if any, to be located in the Common Area shall be determined by Declarant. The Declarant and the Board may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for use of these facilities.

Section 7.3 <u>Maintenance of Common Areas.</u> The Association shall be sollely responsible for all maintenance, repair, replacement, and improvement of the Common Areas, utilizing the Assessments for such purposes as herein provided. Declarant shall have no responsibility for maintenance, repair, replacement, or improvement of the Common Area after initial construction.

Section 7.4 Risk of Loss - Use of Common Areas. Each Owner shall be individually responsible and assume all risk of loss associated with its use of the Common Area and use by its family members and guests. Neither the Association nor Declarant shall have any liability to any Owner or their family members or guests, or to any other Person, arising out of or in connection with the use, in any manner whatsoever, of the Common Area or any improvements comprising a part thereof from time to time.

Section 7.5 <u>Conveyance of Common Area to Association.</u> Declarant shall convey the Common Area to the Association, free and clear of any liens, claims or encumbrances, not later than sixty (60) days after Declarant no longer owns a Lot in the Property.

ARTICLE 8 SPECIFIC DECLARANT RIGHTS

Section 8.1 Rights to Annex. Declarant may annex additional property to become a portion of the Property and thereafter be subject to the terms, provisions and conditions of these Covenants, provided that so long as the Class 8 membership provided for in Section 5.2(b) exists, any such annexation by Declarant shall require the prior approval of HUD or VA. Declarant may exercise such right by recording a supplement to this Declaration in the Records of Rockwall County, Texas subjecting such additional property to the terms and conditions hereof. No further action or approval shall be required or necessary for the Declarant to annex additional properties into the Property for the purpose of subjecting it to the Covenants. Any document subjecting additional property to the Declaration may also impose additional restrictions not found in this Declaration upon such additional property. Upon the annexation and platting of any additional property as herein provided, each lot described therein shall become a "Lot" for all purposes hereunder.

Section 8.2 No Duty to Annex. Nothing herein contained shall establish any duty or obligation on the part of Declarant or any member to annex any property to this Declaration and no owner of the property excluded from this Declaration shall have any right to have such property annexed thereto.

Section 8.3 <u>Effect of Annexation on Class B Membership.</u> In determining the number of Lots owned by Declarant for the purpose of Class B membership status according to Section 5.2 hereof, the total number of Lots covered by this Declaration, including all Lots annexed thereto, shall be considered. If Class B membership has previously lapsed but annexation of additional property restores the ratio of Lots owned by Declarant to the number required by Class B membership, such Class B membership shall be reinstated until it expires pursuant to the terms of Section 5.2.

Section 8.4 <u>Specific Declarant Rights to Amend Declaration.</u> Declarant, without joinder of the Board, the Association, or the other Owners may amend this Declaration to correct any errors or to cause the Declaration to be in compliance with any City or other governmental requirement (including any requirements imposed by the Federal Housing Administration, the Veterans Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or the Government National Mortgage Association).

Section 8.5 <u>Easement/Access Right.</u> Declarant reserves a general easement over all Streets, roads, rights of way, alleys and utility, maintenance, landscaping, wall and other easements in the Property and over the balance of the Common Area for access for the purpose of finishing development of the Property as a subdivision and as otherwise reasonably necessary to effect Declarant's rights hereunder. Such easements and rights shall expire at such time that Declarant no longer owns a Lot.

Section 8.6 <u>Assignment of Declarant Rights.</u> Declarant may assign its rights to a successor Declarant hereunder by execution of a written document, recorded in Records of Rockwall County, Texas specifically stating that Declarant has assigned its rights as such to a designated assignee and declaring such assignee to be the new "Declarant" hereunder.

Section 8.7 Declarant's Right to Install Improvements in Setback and Other Areas. Declarant, in connection with development of the Property and construction of homes thereon, reserves the right but shall have no obligation to install or construct walls, fences, sprinkler systems and other improvements in the setback areas (being the area on, along and/or between the boundary line of a Lot and the building or setback lines applicable to such Lot) and/or the following described areas: Hickory Ridge Phase One Plat: Lots 1 and 29 of Block A and Lot 1 of Block M. If Declarant exercises such right in a setback area, then such wall, fence, sprinkler system, or other improvement shall be the property of the Owner(s) of the Lot(s) upon which or adjacent to these are located, and such Owner(s) shall maintain and repair any such improvement unless Declarant or the Association, by and through the Board, shall advise the Owner(s) in writing of its intent to assume such maintenance and repair obligations. If Declarant exercises such right in the above-described non-setback areas, then such wall, fence, sprinkler system, or other improvement shall be the property of the Association. So long as it owns any Lot, Declarant shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain and repair any such nonsetback area improvements; otherwise, the Association shall assume the maintenance and repair or it may abandon such improvements at its discretion. If the City requires the maintenance, repair, or removal of any such non-setback area improvements, the Association shall assume such responsibility at its expense. If the Association so abandons such non-setback area improvements or is properly dissolved, then the Owner(s) of the Lot(s) on or adjacent to which such improvements are located shall assume maintenance and repair at its expense.

Section 8.8 Replatting or Modification of Plat. From time to time, Declarant reserves the right to replat the Property or to amend or modify the Plat in order to assure a harmonious and orderly development of the Property as herein provided. Declarant may

exercise such rights so long as it owns any Lot and no joinder of any other Owner shall be required to give effect to such rights, each Owner consenting to Declarant's execution of any replat on such Owner's behalf. However, any such replatting or amendment of the Plat shall be with the purpose of efficiently and economically developing the Property for the purposes herein provided or for compliance with any applicable governmental regulation. Declarant's rights under this Section 8.8 shall expire at such time Declarant no longer owns a Lot.

Section 8.9 <u>Limitation of Declarant Liability</u>. The Declarant shall not be responsible or liable for any deficit in the Association's funds. Declarant may, but is under no obligation to subsidize any liabilities incurred by the Association and the Declarant may, but is not obligated to, lend funds to the Association to enable it to defray its expenses, provided the terms of such loans are on reasonable market conditions at the time.

Section 8.10 Termination of Declarant's Responsibilities. In consideration of Declarant's deficit funding of the Association, if any, upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) conversion of Declarant's Class B membership status to Class A membership status; (ii) completion of any facilities in the Common Area by Declarant; or (iii) assignment of Declarant's rights hereunder pursuant to Section 8.6, then and in such event Declarant shall be fully released, relieved and forever discharged from any further duty or obligation to the Association or any of its members as Declarant by reason of the terms and conditions of this Declaration including any amendments thereof or supplements thereto, save and except the duties and obligations, if any, of Declarant as a Class A member by reason of Declarant's continued ownership of one or more Lots, but not otherwise. Further, and without regard to whether or not Declarant has been released from obligations and duties to the Association, so long as Declarant holds record title to at least one (1) Lot and holds same for sale in the ordinary course of business, neither the Association nor its Board, nor any member of the Association shall take any action that will impair or adversely affect the rights of the Declarant or cause the Declarant to suffer any financial, legal or other detriment, including but not limited to, any direct or indirect interference with the sale of Lots. In the event there is a breach of this Section, it is acknowledged that any monetary award which may be available would be an insufficient remedy and therefore, in addition to all other remedies, the Declarant shall be entitled to injunctive relief restraining the Association, its Board or any member of the Association from further breach of this Section.

ARTICLE 9 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 9.1 <u>Term and Renewal.</u> These Covenants shall commence on the date hereof and shall continue in effect for a period of thirty (30) years. Thereafter these Covenants shall automatically renew for subsequent periods of ten (10) years each unless Owners owning at least seventy percent (70%) of the Lots elect to terminate these Covenants by written instrument recorded in the Records of Rockwall County, Texas.

Section 9.2 <u>Enforcement.</u> The terms, provisions and conditions of this Declaration and the Design Guidelines shall be enforceable by Declarant, the ACC, the Association, and each Owner. The Board shall have the power and authority to impose

reasonable fines (which shall not exceed \$500.00 for each separate violation) for violation of this Declaration, the Design Guidelines or any rule or regulation of the Association, which shall constitute a lien upon the Lot of the violating Owner as provided in the Declaration, and to suspend the Owner's right to vote or any Person's right to use of the Common Area. Each day the violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate violation. If any occupant, guest, or invitee of a Lot violates the Declaration, the Design Guidelines or a rule or regulation of the Association and a fine is imposed, the fine shall first be assessed against such occupant, guest, or invitee; provided, however, if such occupant, guest, or invitee does not pay the fine within thirty (30) days after written demand for payment from the Association, the Owner shall pay the fine upon notice from the Association. The failure of the Board to enforce any provision of the Declaration, the Design Guidelines or any rule or regulation of the Association shall not operate as a waiver of the right of the Board to do so thereafter.

Section 9.3 General Easement for Encroachments, Access, Maintenance and Utilities. Each Owner grants to the Association, the Board, the Declarant and the other Owners a general easement for the maintenance of any minor encroachments of Common Area facilities over adjoining Lots and for access to and from each Owner's Lot through driveways, rights of way and easements as reflected on the Plat for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of these Covenants.

Section 9.4 Amendment of Declaration. These Covenants may be amended by Declarant as provided in Section 8.4. In addition, the Declaration may be amended at any time and in any respect with the approval of Owners owning at least seventy percent (70%) of the Lots; provided, however, that no such amendment shall be effective unless joined in by Declarant until such time as Declarant no longer owns a Lot. In addition, so long as the Class B membership provided for in Section 5.2(b) exists, any amendment of these Covenants may, at Declarant's discretion, require the prior approval of HUD or VA.

Section 9.5 <u>City Provisions.</u> All construction within the Property shall also comply with all applicable City ordinances and regulations. If any ordinance or regulation imposed by the City imposes more demanding, extensive or restrictive requirements than those set forth in this Declaration, such requirements shall govern. No ordinance or regulations adopted by the City shall lessen the requirements set forth in these Covenants.

Section 9.6 <u>HUD/VA Approval.</u> Should any approval from HUD or VA be required under the terms of this Declaration, Declarant shall forward such request for approval to HUD and/or VA. If neither HUD nor VA notify Declarant of any objection to the request for approval within twenty (20) days of the date such request for approval was forwarded to HUD or VA, then such approval shall be deemed to have been granted.

Section 9.7 Notices. Any notice required to be given to any Owner under the terms of this Declaration shall be deemed to have been properly delivered when deposited with the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, properly addressed to the addressee. Each Lot Owner's address for purpose of notice hereunder shall be deemed to be the Residence located on its Lot.

Section 9.8 Indemnification. Neither the Declarant, including any of its officers, directors, employees or agents, nor any officer, director or agent of the Association, nor any member of the ACC shall be liable to any Person, Owner or any person claiming by or through any Owner or otherwise for any act or omission in the performance of the duties of such Declarant or officer, director or agent of the Association, or member of the ACC except only if such act or omission should be judicially declared to constitute fraud or intentional willful misconduct. The Association shall and does hereby agree to indemnify the Declarant, including any of its officers, directors, agents or employees, the officers, directors and agents of the Association, and the members of the ACC against all claims, demands, actions and proceedings and all expenses in connection therewith arising from the good faith exercise of their duties pursuant to this Declaration.

Section 9.9 <u>Severability.</u> If any of the terms hereof shall be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of these Covenants, which shall be in full force and effect.

Section 9.10 Acceptance by Owners of Rights and Obligations. By the recording of a deed or other conveyance transferring all or part of an interest in a Lot subject to this Declaration, the person or entity to whom such Lot or interest is conveyed shall be deemed to accept and agree to be bound by and subject to all the provisions of the Declaration, the Design Guidelines, the articles and bylaws of the Association, including any rules or regulations adopted or promulgated by the Association, whether or not mention thereof is made in said deed.

Section 9.11 <u>Disclosure by Declarant</u>. Attached hereto as <u>Exhibit F</u> are copies of standard disclosures made to all purchasers of a Residence from Declarant. Declarant, having made such disclosures to such purchasers of a Residence and having attached such disclosures to this Declaration, shall be deemed to have fully made such disclosures to any Person acquiring title to any Lot and is hereby fully released and forever discharged by any Owner of a Lot from any further duty or obligation to make such disclosures.

Section 9.12 Arbitration of Disputes Involving Declarant.

ANY AND ALL DISPUTES ARISING HEREUNDER BETWEEN AN OWNER AND DECLARANT, SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO BINDING ARBITRATION AND NOT TO A COURT FOR DETERMINATION. ARBITRATION SHALL COMMENCE AFTER WRITTEN NOTICE IS GIVEN FROM EITHER PARTY TO THE OTHER, SUCH ARBITRATION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED EXPEDITIOUSLY IN DALLAS COUNTY AND SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION ("AAA"). THE ARBITRATION SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY THREE (3) ARBITRATORS, ONE OF WHOM SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE OWNER AND ONE OF WHOM SHALL BE APPOINTED BY DECLARANT. THE THIRD ARBITRATOR SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE FIRST TWO ARBITRATORS. THE ARBITRATORS SHALL BE SELECTED FROM A LIST OF ARBITRATORS SUBMITTED BY THE AAA. JUDGMENT UPON THE AWARD RENDERED BY THE ARBITRATORS MAY BE ENTERED IN ANY COURT HAVING JURISDICTION THEREOF. ARBITRATION SHALL NOT COMMENCE UNTIL THE PARTY REQUESTING IT HAS DEPOSITED ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND NO/100 U. S. DOLLARS (\$1,500.00) WITH THE ARBITRATORS AS A RETAINER FOR THE ARBITRATORS' FEES AND COSTS. THE

PARTY REQUESTING ARBITRATION SHALL ADVANCE SUCH SUMS AS ARE REQUIRED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE ARBITRATORS TO PAY THE ARBITRATORS' FEES AND COSTS, UNTIL THE PREVAILING PARTY IS DETERMINED OR THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED IN WRITING TO AN ALTERNATIVE ALLOCATION OF FEES AND COSTS. EACH PARTY SHALL PAY HIS/HER OWN LEGAL FEES AND COSTS AND ANY OTHER FEES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH AN ARBITRATION PROCEEDING WHICH ARISES OUT OF OR RELATES IN ANY WAY TO THIS AGREEMENT PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE ARBITRATION PANEL SHALL AWARD THE ARBITRATORS' FEES AND COSTS TO THE PREVAILING PARTY IN ITS ARBITRATION JUDGMENT.

- **Owner's intent to submit any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Declaration to arbitration, in the event that a court of competent jurisdiction shall determine or a relevant law shall provide that a particular dispute is not subject to the arbitration provisions in this Section, then the parties agree to the following provisions:**
- THIS DECLARATION IS A SOPHISTICATED LEGAL DOCUMENT. ACCORDINGLY, JUSTICE WILL BEST BE SERVED IF ISSUES REGARDING THIS DECLARATION ARE HEARD BY A JUDGE IN A COURT PROCEEDING, AND NOT A JURY. EACH OWNER AGREES THAT ANY CLAIM, DEMAND, ACTION, OR CAUSE OR ACTION, WITH RESPECT TO ANY ACTION, PROCEEDING, CLAIM, COUNTERCLAIM, OR CROSSCLAIM, WHETHER IN CONTRACT AND/OR IN TORT (REGARDLESS IF THE TORT ACTION IS PRESENTLY RECOGNIZED OR NOT), BASED ON, ARISING OUT OF, IN CONNECTION WITH OR IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THIS DECLARATION, ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, VERBAL OR WRITTEN STATEMENT, VALIDATION, PROTECTION, ENFORCEMENT ACTION OR OMISSION OF ANY PARTY SHALL BE HEARD BY A JUDGE IN A COURT PROCEEDING AND NOT A JURY.

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Executed by Declarant as of the date set forth above.

HICKORY RIDGE, LTD., a Texas limited partnership

Ву:	One Hickory Ridge, Inc., a Texas corporation, its General Partner
	By: Benkelton
	Name: BARRY MILTON
	Title: VICE PRESIDENT

COUNTY OF Dallas

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared because of One Hickory Ridge, Inc., a Texas corporation) General Partner of Hickory Ridge, Ltd., a Texas limited partnership, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 21st day of August, 2001.

Notary Public, State of Texas

My Commission Expires: _____



EXHIBIT A PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

1/4

GF-Number 99R12365A

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TRACT 1:

All that certain lot, tract or parcel of land situated in the William Barnes Survey, Abstract No. 26, City of Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas, and being part of a called 126.225 acre tract of land described as Tract 4, and part of a called 26.532 acre tract of land described as Tract 3 in a Deed from Spanish Peaks Ranch, Inc., to 205/276 Investment Company, Ltd., as recorded in Volume 1062, Page 284 of the Real Property Records of Rockwall County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a 1/2" iron rod set for corner at the intersection of the Northeast line of State Highway No. 205, with the West line of Terrell Road, said point being the Southeast corner of the aboved cited Tract 3:

THENCE in a Northwesterly direction, along the Northeasterly line of said highway, along a curve to the right having a central angle of 10 degrees 31 minutes 03 seconds a radius of 5679.60 feet, a chord bearing of N. 35 degrees 11 minutes 20 seconds W., a chord length of 1041.12 feet, an arc length of 1042.59 feet to a concrete monument found for corner at the end of said curve;

THENCE N. 28 degrees 42 minutes 28 seconds W. along the Northeasterly line of said highway, a distance of 448.73 feet to a concrete monument found for corner:

THENCE N. 60 degrees 08 minutes 00 seconds E. along the Northeasterly line of said highway, a distance of 10.00 feet to a 1/2° iron rod set for corner;

THENCE N. 29 degrees 52 minutes 01 second W. along the Northeasterly line of said highway, a distance of 135.84 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for corner in the center of a creek;

THENCE in a Northeasterly direction along the meanders of said creek as follows:

- N. 63 degrees 23 minutes 55 seconds E. a distance of 213.85 feet;
- N. 50 degrees 10 mimites 28 seconds E. a distance of 178.51 feet;
- N. 23 degrees 34 minutes 10 seconds E. a distance of 42.16 feet;
- N. 55 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds E. a distance of 84.31 feet;
- N. 34 degrees 28 minutes 36 seconds E. a distance of 47.09 feet;
- N. 40 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds W. a distance of 30.29 feet;
- N. 83 degrees 54 minutes 04 seconds W. a distance of 32.81 feet;
- S. S1 degrees 35 minutes 53 seconds W. a distance of 28.94 feet:
- N. 33 degrees 14 minutes 22 seconds W. a distance of 48.14 feet;
- N. 52 degrees 01 minute 15 seconds E. a distance of 71.27 feet:

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EXHIBIT A PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

GF-Number 99R12365A

- N. 03 degrees 02 minutes 50 seconds V. a distance of 62.75 feet;
- N. 47 degrees 55 minutes 16 seconds W. a distance of 19.38 feet;
- N. 28 degrees 19 minutes 15 seconds E. a distance of 22.03 feet;
- S. 75 degrees 18 minutes 57 seconds E. a distance of 111.40 feet:
- S. 01 degree 54 minutes 15 seconds E. a distance of 30.83 feet;
- S. 59 degrees 22 minutes 57 seconds E. a distance of 113.94 feet;
- N. 04 degrees 43 minutes 38 seconds W. a distance of 49.40 feet;
- N. 36 degrees 05 minutes 13 seconds W. a distance of 78.11 feet;
- N. 61 degrees 40 minutes 17 seconds E. a distance of 62.82 feet;
- 5. 36 degrees 36 minutes 31 seconds E. a distance of 35.28 feet;
- S. 75 degrees 58 minutes 50 seconds E. a distance of 34.34 feet;
- N. 53 degrees 56 minutes 05 seconds E. a distance of 45.00 feet;
- N. 20 degrees 27 minutes 59 seconds E. a distance of 113.71 feet;
- N. 13 degrees 38 minutes 53 seconds W. a distance of 92.55 feet;
- N. 20 degrees 12 minutes 54 seconds E. a distance of 69.19 feet;
- N. 62 degrees 08 minutes 58 seconds E. a distance of 67.12 feet;
- 5. 73 degrees 25 minutes 26 seconds E. a distance of 79.72 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for corner in the West line of Terrell Road, said point also being inthe East line of the above cited Tract 4;
- THENCE S. 00 degrees 09 minutes 09 seconds E, along the West line of said Terrell Road, and along the East line of said Tract 4, a distance of 922.84 feet to a 1/2" iron rod found for corner at the Southeast corner of said Tract 4 and the Northeast corner of the above cited Tract 3;
- THENCE S. 00 degraces 08 minutes 42 seconds E. along the West line of said Terrell Road, and the East line of said Tract 3, a distance of 1252.54 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, and containing 22.62 acres of land.

TRACT 2:

All that certain lot, tract or parcel of land situated in the J.R. Johnson Survey, Abstract No. 128, the Abner Johnson Survey, Abstract No. 123, the W. H. Baird Survey, Abstract No. 25, City of Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas, and being part of a called 99.506 acre tract of land described as Tract 2, and part

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EXHIBIT A PROPERTY DESCRIPTION \$/4

GF-Number 99R12365A

of a called 166.631 acre tract of land described as Tract 1 in a Deed from Spanish Peaks Ranch, Inc. to 205/276 Investments Company, Ltd. as recorded in Volume 1062. Page 284, of the Real Property Records of Rockwall County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a 1/2" iron found with cap stamped "Stovall & Assoc." for corner at the intersection of the Northeast line of State Highway No. 205, with the East line of Terrell Road, said point being the Southwest corner of the above cited Tract 1;

THENCE N. 00 degrees 00 minutes 59 seconds E. along the East line of said road, and the West line of said Tract 1, a distance of 2222.86 feet to a 1/" iron rod with cap "Stovall & Assoc." found for corner in the center of a creek;

THENCE in a Northeasterly direction along the meanders of said creek as follows:

- N. 37 degrees 02 minutes 44 seconds E. a distance of 195.10 feet;
- N. 30 degrees 03 minutes 21 seconds E. a distance of 163.95 feet:
- N. 77 degrees 08 minutes 12 seconds E. a distance of 41.40 feet;
- N. 21 degrees 13 minutes 03 seconds E. a distance of 50.94 feet;
- N. 58 degrees 59 minutes 52 seconds E. a distance of 121.00 feet;
- S. 77 degrees 55 minutes 13 seconds E. a distance of 131.23 feet;
- N. 52 degrees 58 minutes 35 seconds E. a distance of 97.34 feet;
- N. 35 degrees 39 minutes 18 seconds W. a distance of 63.96 feet;
- N. 64 degrees 18 minutes 54 seconds E. a distance of 101.36 feet;
- N. 60 degrees 03 minutes 59 seconds E. a distance of 175.60 feet;
- N. 49 degrees 34 minutes 09 seconds E. a distance of 109.83 feet;
- N. 74 degrees 36 minutes 10 seconds E. a distance of 268.83 feet;
- N. 49 degrees 29 minutes 04 seconds E. a distance of 153.08 feet;
- S. 53 degrees 58 minutes 18 seconds E. a distance of 53.98 feet;
- N. 29 degrees 59 minutes 48 seconds E. a distance of 102.50 feet;
- N. 83 degrees 06 minutes 20 seconds E. a distance of 82.49 feet;
- N. 57 degrees 43 minutes 32/seconds E. a distance of 193.55 feet to 1/2" iron of rod with cap stamped "Stovall & Assoc." (hereinafter called 1/2" iron rod) set for corner in the East line of a 50 feet in width Lone Star Gas Easement per Judgement recorded in Volume 91, Page 133, D.R.R.C.T.;

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EXHIBIT A PROPERTY DESCRIPTION 4/4

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0021

GF-Number 99R12365A

THENCE S. 12 degrees 57 minutes 53 seconds W. along the East line of said easement, a distance of 2112.15 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for corner;

THENCE S. 13 degrees 57 minutes 53 seconds W. along the East line of said easement, a distance of 1163.46 feet to a 1/2" from rod set for corner:

THENCE N. 73 degrees 26 minutes 26 seconds W. a distance of 345.25 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for corner;

THENCE S. 41 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds W. a distance of 271.55 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for corner;

THENCE S. 47 degrees 30 minutes 53 seconds W. a distance of 212.39 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for corner in the Northeast line of State Highway Ro. 205;

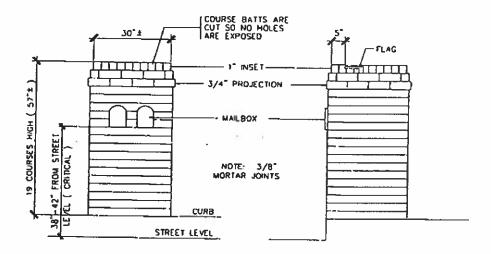
THENCE N. 42 degrees 29 minutes 07 seconds W. along the Northeast line of said highway, a distance of 75.00 feet to a concrete momment found for corner at the beginning of a curve to the right;

THENCE in a Northwesterly direction along the Northeast line of said highway, and along said curve having a radius of 5679.60 feet, a central angle of 01 deg. 33 min. 08 sec., a chord bearing of N. 41 deg. 50 min. 45 sec. W., a chord distance of 153.87 feet, and an arc distance of 153.88 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 73.13 acres of land.

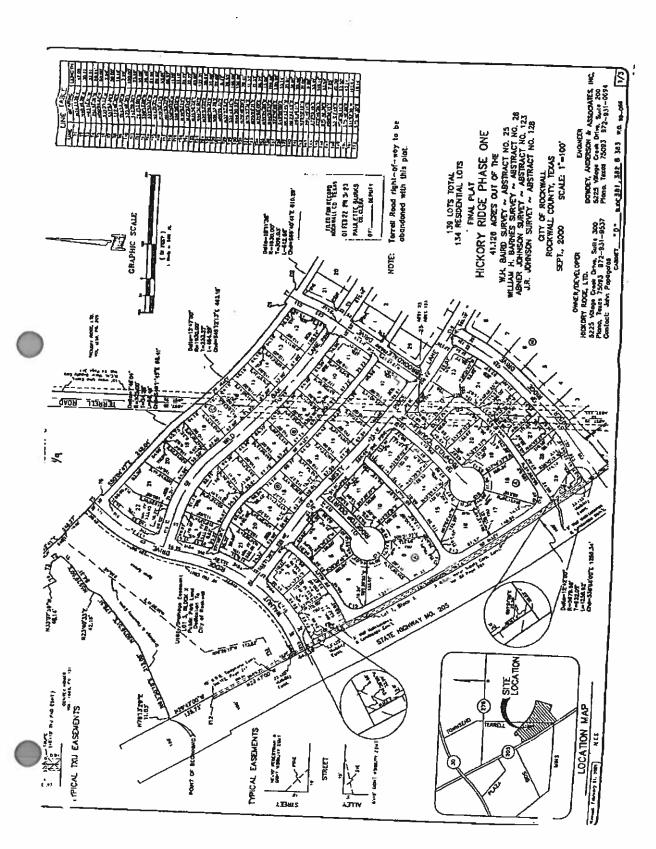
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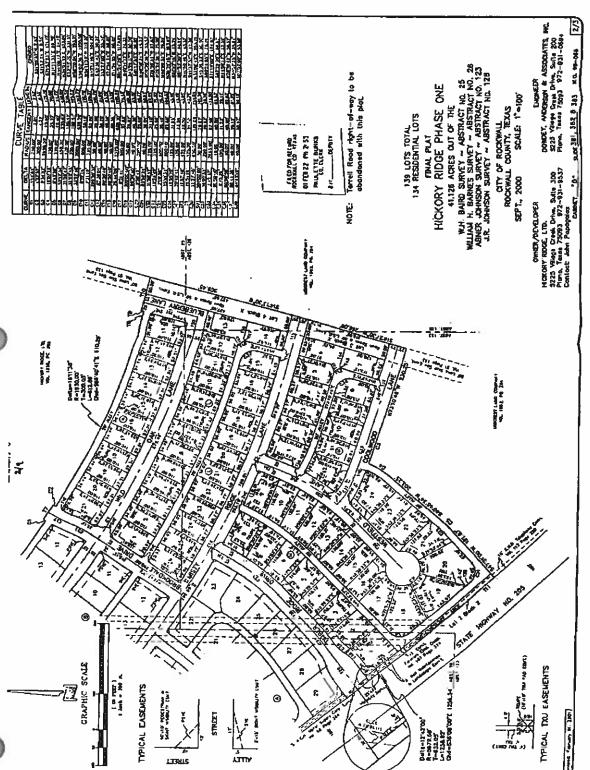
EXHIBIT B

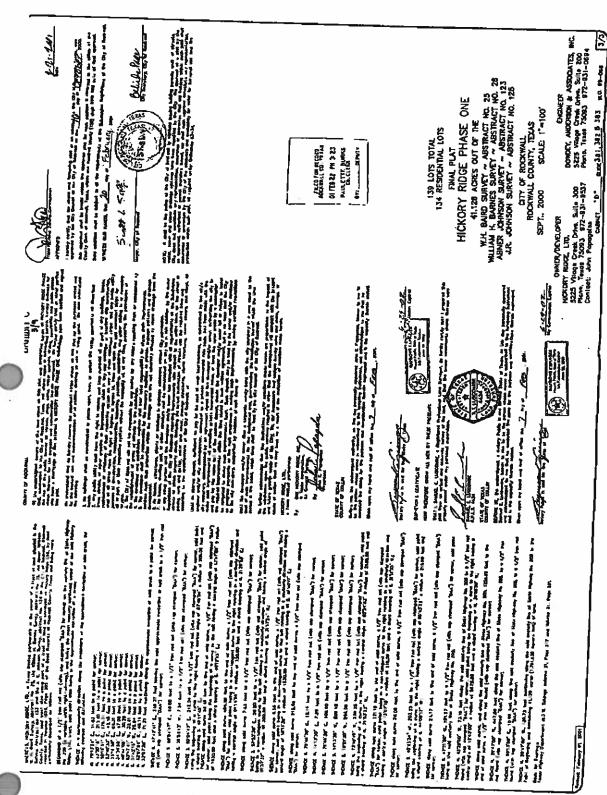
Standard Mailbox Exhibit



STANDARD MAILBOX DETAIL







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