# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS AND EDITORS, INC.

The undersigned incorporators, desiring to form a corporation (hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation") pursuant to the provisions of the Indiana Not-For-Profit Corporation Act of 1971 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"). Execute the following Articles of Incorporation:

#### ARTICLE 1

Name

Section 1.01.Name. The name of this Corporation shall be: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS AND EDITORS, INC.

## ARTICLE 2

# Purposes and Powers

Section 2.01 Primary Purposes. The purposes for which this Corporation is formed are exclusively to perform such functions and to engage in such activities as shall permit the Corporation to qualify as an organization exempt from Federal taxation under the provisions of Section 509 (a) (2) of the Code and the Regulations issued pursuant thereto, as amended from time to time. Specifically, the Corporation shall be organized and at all times operated exclusively to provide educational services to reporters, editors, and other persons interested in investigative journalism and to maintain high professional ethical standards in this field.

Section 2.02. Specific Powers. Subject to any specific written limitations or restrictions imposed by the Act, by the Code, by other law, or by these Articles of Incorporation, and solely in furtherance of but not in addition to the purposes set forth in Section 2.01 of the Article, the Corporation shall have the following specific powers:

Clause(a). Statutory Powers. Subject to any specific written limitations or restrictions Imposed by the Act, by the other law, or by these Articles of Incorporation and solely in furtherance of, but not in addition to the purposes set forth in Section 2.01 of these Articles, the Corporation shall have all the powers specified in the Act including the powers set forth in Section 23-7.1-4 of the Act.

Clause (b). To Make Gifts. To make gifts, donations, contributions, loans and grants of all or any part of the income, assets and property of the Corporation.

Clause (c). To Solicit Contributions. To solicit in any manner and receive and accept from any source any money, property or services, including any present or future, vested or contingent, legal or equitable, or conditional or absolute interest therein, which is given, granted, devised, bequeathed or otherwise bestowed upon the Corporation and may be used to accomplish the purposes set forth in Section 2.01 of this Article.

Clause (d). To Make Contracts. To enter into, perform, cancel and rescind all kinds of contractual obligations.

Clause (e). To Act With Others. To perform any act which the Corporation acting alone has the power and capacity to perform by acting as a partner or otherwise in association with any individual, group of individuals, form, partnership, association, corporation, department of government, or other entity, whether legally constituted or informally organized.

Clause (f). To Accept Fees for Services. To accept fees for services rendered to members or to the general public insofar as such is consistent with the purposes set forth in Section 2.01 of this Article.

Clause (g). Establishment and Maintenance of Corporation. To expend rules for the establishment and maintenance of the Corporation: the acquisition, equipment, maintenance and conduct of a principal office: the engagement of staff, both professional and otherwise, to conduct the business and affairs of the Corporation: the publication of materials respecting the affairs of the Corporation: the conducting of programs designed to effect the purposes of the Corporation: and the conduct of its business and affairs generally.

Section 2.03. Limitations Upon Powers.

Clause (a). Earnings. No member of the Corporation shall have or receive any earnings from the Corporation, except a member who is an officer, director, or employee of the Corporation, in which event they may receive fair and reasonable compensation for their services as an officer, director or employee; and a member may also receive payments of principal and interest at a rate not exceeding six percent (6%) per annum on funds loaned or advanced by them to the Corporation. (Amendment to remove gendered language adopted 6/22/24)

Clause (b). Loans to Directors. The Corporation shall make no advancements for services to be performed in the future, nor any loan of money or property to any director or officer of the Corporation.

Clause (c). Dissolution. In the event of dissolution of the Corporation, all assets remaining after payment of all debts of the Corporation shall be transferred by the Board of Directors to any not-for-profit corporation, trust, foundation or other organization whose purposes are substantially the same a those of the Corporation and which, at the time of transfer, is exempt from Federal taxation under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law. Any such assets not so transferred by the Board of Directors shall be disposed of by the Circuit court of the County in which the principal office of the Corporation is located, exclusively for such tax-exempt purposes or to such tax-exempt organization as the Court shall determine. No member, director or officer of the Corporation, or any private individual, shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the assets of the Corporation on dissolution of the Corporation.

## Clause (d). Prohibited Activities.

- (i) No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, director or officer of the Corporation, or to any private individual.
- (ii) No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall consist of the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.
- (iii) Not withstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Corporation shall not conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization exempt from Federal taxation under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code and the Regulations issued pursuant thereto, as amended, or by an organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code and the regulations issued pursuant thereto, as amended..

Clause (e) No Construction of Power s as Pur poses. The Powers enumerated in Section 2.02 of this Article shall not be construed as Purposes, but the Corporation shall have and exercise such Powers solely in furtherance of, but not in addition to the limited purposes set forth in Section 2.01 of this Article.

#### ARTICLE 3

Period of Existence

Section 3.01. Term. The period during which the Corporation shall continue is perpetual. 2

#### ARTICLE 4

Period Office and Resident Agent
Section 4.01. Principal Office. The Post office address of the principal office of the Corporation is:
307 North Pennsylvania St
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Section 4.02. Resident Agents. The name and address of the Resident Agent in charge of the principal office of the Corporation is:

Myrta Pulliam 307 North Pennsylvania Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

ARTICLE 5 Membership Section 5.01. Classes of Membership. The Corporation shall have five classes of membership. The classes of membership shall be entitled "Professional," "Academic," "Retired," "Associate" and "Student," respectively. The "Professional" class shall be limited to persons substantially engaged in news gathering, presentation and/or production. The "Academic" class shall be limited to persons engaged full-time in research and/or teaching in the field of journalism. The "Retired" class shall be limited to persons who have retired from journalism and are no longer working full-time. The "Student" class shall be limited to college students pursuing a degree and recent graduates who are not yet working. "Associate" membership will be available to former IRE Members who are not retired; to individuals engaged part-time in new gathering, presentation and/or production; or to individuals recognized by the organization for their contributions to the field of investigative journalism. Associate members shall not be eligible for the voting rights, which are reserved to the other classes of members. The Board of Director may further define each of these classes. (Amendments adopted 6/7/08, 3/6/15; amendments clarifying retired, student and associate adopted 6/22/24)

**Section 5.02** (Removed by amendment 3/6/15)

#### ARTICLE 6

#### Directors

Section 6.01. Number of Directors. The initial Board of Directors of the Corporation shall consist of nine (9) members who shall serve for two years from the date of the filing of these articles. The number of Directors of the Corporation shall be specified from time to time in the Code of Bylaws of the Corporation; provided, however, that the minimum number shall be three (3) and the maximum number shall be fifteen

(15) and, if the Code of Bylaws fail to specify the number, then the number shall be nine (9). One-half of the directors shall be elected every year and shall serve for two years. The mechanism for electing the first Board of Directors shall be established in the Code of Bylaws.

Section 6.02. Names and Post Office Addresses. The names and post office addresses of the initial members of the Board of Directors are as follows:

## Name Post Office Address

- 1. Mr. Harley Bierce 307 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 2. Ms. Myrta Pulliam 307 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 3. Mr. Paul N. Williams 242 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Columbus, Ohio 43210
- 4. Mr. Robert L. Pierce 12<sup>th</sup> Blvd. and Delmar, St. Louis, Missouri 63101 5. Mr. Ronald Koziol 435 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611 6. Mr. Les Whitten 1401 16<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20036 7. Mr. Steve Castner 333 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201 8. Mr. David Burnham 1920 L Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20236 9. Mr. Len Downie 1150 15<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20271

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Section 6.03. Members as Directors. All members, except Student and Associate members, are eligible to be elected directors. (The Articles were amended in June 2009 to remove a restriction that allowed only one academic to serve on the board at any time. The deleted clause stated: *At the time of election, no more than one Academic member may sit on the Board as a result of such an election.*)

## ARTICLE 7

## Incorporators

Section 7.01. Names and Addresses of Incorporators. The names and post office addresses of the incorporators are as follows:

# Name Post Office Address

1. Mr. Harley Bierce 307 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 2. Ms. Myrta Pulliam 307 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Section 8.01 Property of Corporation. The Corporation, upon its incorporation, has no property of value other than the sum of \$300.00.

## ARTICLE 9

#### **Executive Committee**

Section 9.01. Executive Committee. The Board of Directors shall elect an Executive Committee of such number and with such tenure and powers as the ByLaws shall determine. Such Executive Committee shall have and may exercise, during intervals between meetings of the Board of Directors, all the powers vested in the Board of Directors (except such powers as, under the Act, Articles, ByLaws, or other law, or proper resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors, are reserved for exercise by the latter alone) upon the affirmative vote of the majority in number of the members of the Executive Committee, present or by proxy. The Executive Committee may, within the limitations just stated, make and adopt a Code of Rules and Regulations for the conduct of its business. (Amendment adopted 3/6/15)

#### ARTICLE 10

# Provision for Regulation and Conduct of the Affairs of Corporation

Section 10.01 Management of Corporation. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors, which shall represent the members of the Corporation, subject to the provisions of Section 6.03 hereof.

Section 10.02. Code of Bylaws. The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall have the power, without the assent of the members, to make, alter, amend, or repeal the Code of Bylaws of the Corporation.

Section 10.03. Officers. The officers of the Corporation shall consist of a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be prescribed by the resolution of the Board of Directors. They shall be elected in the manner specified in the Code of Bylaws. The offices of President and Secretary shall not be occupied by the same person.

Section 10.04. Term of Office of Directors and Officers. Each officer and director shall hold his office for the term specified in the Code of Bylaws, but no term shall end until a successor is elected and qualified for the office to be vacated.

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Section 10.05. Removal of Member of the Board of Directors. Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed, with or without cause, at a meeting of the Board of Directors called expressly for that purpose, by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of all the members of the Board of Directors then serving.

Section 10.06. Meetings of Members. All meetings of the members shall be held at such place within or without the State of Indiana as may be designated by the Board of Directors pursuant to the Code of Bylaws.

Section. 10.07. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on July 1, and end on June 30.

Section 10.08. Action by Consent. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors or of any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting, if prior to such action a written consent to such action is signed by all members of the board or of such committee, as the case may be, and such written consent is filed with the minutes of proceeds of the board or committee.

Section 10.09. Limitation on Powers of Members and Board of Directors. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in these Articles, neither the members nor the Board of Directors shall have the power or authority to take or authorize any action which shall deprive the Corporation of its status as an exempt organization under the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code, as amended.

Section 10.10. Amendment of Articles of Incorporation. The Corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provisions contained in the Articles of Incorporation in any amendment hereto, in any manner now or hereafter prescribed or permitted by the Act or any amendment thereto; after majority adoption by the Board of Director of a resolution submitting such amendment of the articles to the membership, upon two-thirds vote of the Members in attendance, in person or virtually at an annual or special meeting by written notice given to Members; provided, nevertheless, that such power of amendment shall not authorize any amendment which would permit any part of net earnings or property of the Corporation to inure to the benefit of any private individual or which would have the effect of disqualifying this Corporation as an exempt organization under the provisions of Section 501 ( c ) (3) of the Code, as amended, or such equivalent provision may hereafter exist from time to time. (Amendment to allow virtual attendance adopted 6/22/24)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the incorporators designated in Article 7, execute these Articles of Incorporation and certify to the truth of the facts therein stated this 25 day of April, 1975.

	/s/	
	Harley Bierce	
	/s/	
	Myrta Pulliam	
/s/		
James Neff, President		
/s/		
Edward DeLaney, Secretary		

Effective: June 7, 2008