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WAKE COUNTY, NC 671
LAURA M RIDDICK
REGISTER OF DEEDS
PRESENTED & RECORDED ON
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Drawn by and HOLD FOR: J. Kenneth Edwards, Gwynn & Edwards, PA (Box 197)

**DECLARATION OF
COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS,
EASEMENTS, CHARGES AND LIENS
FOR
THE PARK AT WEST LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

THIS DECLARATION is made on the date hereinafter set forth by **BMF PARTNERS, LLC**, a North Carolina Limited Liability Company (hereinafter "Declarant") and **TOM DAVIS HOMES, INC.**, a North Carolina corporation (hereinafter "Adjoining Property Owner");

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Declarant and Adjoining Property Owner are the owners of approximately 99 acres of land located on Optimist Farm Road, Wake County, North Carolina, being the property more fully described in the deeds recorded in Book 10039, Page 2504, and Book 9987, Page 1042, in the Wake County Registry;

WHEREAS, Declarant and Adjoining Property Owner desire to create on such property an exclusive residential community of detached single-family homes to be known as The Park at West Lake Subdivision (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Subdivision");

WHEREAS, Declarant desires to provide for the maintenance and upkeep of the Common Area within the Subdivision, to provide for enforcement of covenants and restrictions applicable to the Subdivision and to provide a vehicle for ensuring that storm water drainage systems and facilities within the Subdivision are properly maintained, and, to that end, desires to subject the property within the Subdivision to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, charges and liens hereinafter set forth, each and all of which is and are for the benefit of said property and each owner thereof;

WHEREAS, Declarant has deemed it advisable to create an organization to own, maintain and administer the Common Area, including, without limitation, to administer and

enforce covenants and restrictions exclusively applicable to the Subdivision, and to collect and disburse the assessments and charges hereinafter created, and Declarant has therefore incorporated under North Carolina law as a nonprofit corporation, The Park at West Lake Homeowners Association, Inc., for the purpose of exercising the aforesaid functions;

WHEREAS, Adjoining Property Owner desires to submit its Property to the same covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, charges and liens as set forth in this Declaration and to further join and utilize The Park at West Lake Homeowners Association, Inc. to administer and enforce these covenants and restrictions applicable to the Subdivision.

NOW, THEREFORE, Declarant and Adjoining Property Owner declare that the real property described in **EXHIBIT A** to this Declaration and such additions thereto as may hereafter be made pursuant to Article II hereof, is and shall be owned, held, transferred, sold, conveyed, mortgaged, used and occupied subject to the covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, charges and liens set forth in this Declaration, which shall run with the real property and be binding on all parties owning any right, title or interest in said real property or any part thereof, their heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of each owner thereof.

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

Any defined term used in this Declaration shall have the meaning set forth below or, if not specifically defined in this Article I, the meaning of such term as set forth in the Act or in any other provision of this Declaration.

Section 1. "Act" shall mean and refer to Chapter 47F of the North Carolina General Statutes, known as the North Carolina Planned Community Act.

Section 2. "Adjoining Property Owner" shall mean and refer to **TOM DAVIS HOMES, INC.**, a North Carolina corporation. Adjoining Property Owner's consent and desire to subject its property to this Declaration shall be indicated by the signature and authorization of its President below.

Section 3. "Association" shall mean and refer to **THE PARK AT WEST LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**, a North Carolina nonprofit corporation, its successors and assigns.

Section 4. "Board of Directors" and "Board" shall mean and refer to the Board of Directors of the Association elected or appointed to manage the affairs of the Association as provided in Article V of the Bylaws.

Section 5. "Bylaws" shall mean and refer to the Bylaws of the Association, as amended from time to time.

Section 6. "Common Area" shall mean and refer to the real property, together with any improvements thereon, owned by the Association, whether in fee or easement, for the

common benefit of the Owners of Lots within the Subdivision, and specifically including the area within any storm water easements and the facilities constructed therein and which serve more than one Lot and are not maintained by any governmental authority. Common Area also includes water and sewer lines which serve more than one Lot and are not located within a Wake County or Declarant utility easement or a public street right-of-way. The Common Area shall be maintained by the Association or its successors in interest unless dedicated to public use and accepted by a public agency, authority or utility as set forth herein.

Section 7. "Declarant" shall mean and refer to **BMF PARTNERS, LLC**, a North Carolina Limited Liability Company. It shall also mean and refer to any person, firm or corporation to whom or which BMF Partners, LLC, shall assign or delegate the rights and obligations of Declarant by an assignment of Declarant's rights recorded in the Wake County Registry.

Section 8. "Declarant Control Period" shall mean and refer to the period of time during which the Declarant may appoint or remove the members of the Board of Directors of the Association. The Declarant Control Period shall terminate upon the earlier of the following to occur:

- (a) December 31, 2014;
- (b) When the total number of votes held by the Class A Members equals the total number of votes held by the Class B Member; *provided, however, that*, Declarant may acquire additional votes and thereby reinstate the Declarant Control Period if additional Lots within the Properties are formed by the creation and subsection to this Declaration of new Lots as set forth in Article II hereof, thus making Declarant the Owner, by virtue of its ownership of the newly-annexed Lots and of other Lots owned by it, of a sufficient number of votes (at the 3-to-1 ratio) to cast a majority of the votes of the membership (it being hereby stipulated that the termination and rejuvenation of Declarant Control shall occur automatically as often as the foregoing shall occur); or
- (c) Relinquishment or transfer of all Special Declarant Rights as provided in §47F-3-104 of the Act.

Section 9. "Lot" shall mean and refer to any plot of land, with delineated boundary lines, shown on any recorded subdivision maps of the Properties, with the exception of any Common Area owned in fee by the Association and any street rights-of-way shown on such recorded maps. In the event that any Lot is increased or decreased in size by recombination or resubdivision through recordation of a new subdivision plats, any newly-platted lot shall thereafter constitute a Lot.

Section 10. "Member" shall mean and refer to every person or entity who holds membership in the Association.

Section 11. "Owner" shall mean and refer to the record owner, whether one or more

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persons or entities, of fee simple title to any Lot which is a part of the Properties, including contract sellers and owners of an equity of redemption, but excluding those having an interest in a Lot solely as security for the performance of an obligation.

Section 12. "Permanent Open Space" shall mean Common Area which shall be maintained for forestry or agricultural or active recreational uses or passive recreational uses. Permanent Open Space shall not include public or private roads within the property. The Permanent Open Space and the permitted uses thereon shall be designated on a plat or plats of The Park at West Lake Subdivision recorded or to be recorded in the office of the Wake County Register of Deeds. All Permanent Open Space may be subjected to easements for utilities, including sewer and waterlines, easements for ingress and egress as necessary for installation, maintenance and repair of utilities, and may be subjected to easements for any encroachments arising from initial improvements. Since the property is located within a Wake County Water Supply Watershed, Permanent Open Space which is not designated on a recorded plats as being maintained for active recreational uses or passive recreational uses shall be retained in its vegetated or natural state subject to the availability of the owner of the Permanent Open Space to subject it to easements as provided within this Declaration.

Section 13. "Properties" shall mean and refer to the "Existing Property" described in **Exhibit A** to this Declaration and any additional property annexed pursuant to Article II.

ARTICLE II
PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THIS DECLARATION
AND WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE
THE PARK AT WEST LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Existing Property. The real property which is and shall be held, transferred, sold, conveyed, and occupied subject to this Declaration, and which is within the jurisdiction of the Association, is described on **Exhibit A** attached hereto.

Section 2. Additions to Existing Property. At any time prior to December 31, 2014, additional lands may be annexed by the Declarant without the consent of the Members and therefore become subject to this Declaration by the recording by Declarant of plats showing such property to be annexed and of a supplementary declaration extending the operation and effect of this Declaration to the property to be annexed; provided, however, that such property must be contiguous to property already subject to this Declaration (or separated from such property only by the right-of-way of a public street or road) and must be approved by the County of Wake and, if appropriate, by the Federal Housing Administration and/or Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The addition of such property pursuant to this Section may increase the cumulative number of Lots within the Properties and, therefore, may alter the relative maximum voting strength of the various types of Members.

Should Declarant elect to annex any Additional Property and accordingly subject such property to the terms and conditions of this Declaration, Declarant reserves the right to provide a new subdivision name for the Additional Property, to alter the restrictions contained in the

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Restrictive Covenants of The Park at West Lake, and to provide for an alternative assessment structure with regard to any Additional Property.

The annexation of Additional Property authorized under this section of the Declaration shall be effective upon the recording of a Supplementary Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions for the Additional Property which shall extend the effect and operation of this Declaration to the Additional Property. The Supplementary Declaration may contain changes, deletions and/or modifications as may be necessary or convenient, in the sole discretion of the Declarant, to reflect the difference in character, if any, of the Additional Property and the change in plan of development for said Additional Property from the Existing Property.

Section 3. Conveyance of Common Area in Annexed Property. Prior to the conveyance of the first Lot within any newly annexed property to an Owner, the owner of the annexed property shall convey to the Association all Common Area located within the newly annexed property. Title to such Common Area shall be conveyed in the same manner as set forth in Section 3 of Article IV of this Declaration.

Section 4. Density. The current zoning classification of the Properties is R-30, which means that the maximum number of units per acre within the Subdivision without rezoning the property to another zoning classification is one lot per 30,000 square feet.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

Section 1. Membership. Every Owner of a Lot which is subject to assessment by the Association shall be a Member of the Association. Membership shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from ownership of any Lot which is subject to assessment.

Section 2. Voting Rights. The voting rights of the membership shall be appurtenant to the ownership of the Lots.

There shall be two classes of membership with respect to voting rights:

(a) Class A Members. Class A Members shall be the Owners of all Lots except those owned by the Class B Member (as hereinafter defined). When more than one person owns an interest (other than a leasehold or security interest) in any Lot, all such persons shall be Members and the voting rights appurtenant to their Lot shall be exercised as they, among themselves, determine; but fractional voting shall not be allowed, and in no event shall more than one vote be cast with respect to any Lot. Class A Members shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned. Lots owned by Class A Members shall be "Class A Lots".

(b) Class B Member. The Class B Member shall be the Declarant. Subject to the provisions of this subsection, Declarant shall be entitled to three (3) votes for each Lot that it owns (each a "Class B Lot").

Upon expiration of the Declarant Control Period, Section 8 hereof, Declarant shall have one vote for each Lot that it owns; however, such Lots shall continue to be treated as

Class B Lots for assessment purposes.

Section 3. Vacant/Leased Dwellings. If the Owner of a Lot ceases to occupy the dwelling constructed thereon as his own personal living quarters or if any residence within the Properties is leased for rental purposes to tenants, the vote as expressed by the Owners of such rental units shall not be entitled to any weight greater than forty-nine percent (49%) on any matter pending before the Association.

An Owner may lease or sublet his/her dwelling; however, any lease or sublease must be for at least six (6) months, in writing and contain the following provision:

"Tenant shall obey, adhere to and be bound by all provisions of the Declaration Of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions, Easements, Charges And Liens For The Park at West Lake Homeowners Association, Inc., recorded in the Wake County Registry. Tenant acknowledges that he has received of a copy such Declaration and the rules and regulations of the Association and is familiar with the provisions of same."

If an Owner fails to include said provision in any lease or sublease, it shall be conclusively deemed to be included and part of said lease or sublease. Each Owner shall furnish the Association a copy of any lease or sublease of his dwelling.

ARTICLE IV PROPERTY RIGHTS

Section 1. Owners' Easements of Enjoyment and Access. Except as limited by Section 2 of this Article IV and by the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Members and/or the Board of Directors of the Association, every Owner shall have a right and easement of enjoyment in, use of and access to, from, and over the Common Area, which right and easement shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with title to every Lot, subject to:

(a) the provisions of the Wake County zoning ordinances and regulations, the right of the Association to charge reasonable admission and other fees for the use of any facilities hereafter situated or constructed on the Common Area and to limit the use of such facilities to Owners who occupy a residence on the Properties and to their families, tenants and guests, as provided in Section 2 of this Article IV.

(b) the right of the Association, after notice and an opportunity to be heard, to suspend the voting rights of an Owner and the right of an Owner to use to Common Area and facilities thereon for any period during which any assessment against his Lot remains unpaid for a period of thirty (30) days or longer, or for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days for any infraction of the published rules and regulations of the Association.

(c) the provisions of the Wake County zoning ordinances and regulations, the right of the Association to dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Area to any public agency, authority, or utility for such purposes and subject to such conditions as may be agreed upon by the Members. No such dedication or transfer shall be effective unless the Members entitled to at least eighty percent (80%) of the votes of the entire membership of the Association

and at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes appurtenant to each Class of Lots agree to such dedication, sale or transfer and signify their agreement by a signed and recorded document, *provided that* this subsection shall not preclude the Board of Directors of the Association from granting easements for the installation and maintenance of sewage, utility and drainage facilities upon, over, under and across the Common Area without the assent of the Members when such easements, in the opinion of the Board, are necessary for the convenient use and enjoyment of the Properties. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Common Area shall be preserved to the perpetual benefit of the Owners or of the public in general and shall not be conveyed except to Wake County or to another nonprofit corporation for the aforementioned purposes. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Declaration, the Board of Directors of the Association may, without vote of the Members, exchange Common Area for equivalent real property, provided that such exchange is approved by Wake County.

(d) the provisions of the Wake County zoning ordinances and regulations, the right of the Association, with the assent of Members entitled to at least eighty percent (80%) of the votes of the entire membership of the Association and at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes appurtenant to each Class of Lots, to mortgage, pledge, deed in trust, or otherwise encumber any or all of its real or personal property as security for money borrowed or debts incurred, provided that the rights of any such lender or mortgagee shall be subordinate to the property rights of the Owners as set forth herein.

(e) the right of the Association, as provided by and consistent with the Wake County zoning ordinances and regulations, as same may be amended from time to time, to exchange all or part of the Common Area for other property and consideration of like value and utility.

Section 2. Delegation of Use.

(a) Family. The right and easement of use and enjoyment granted to every Owner by Section 1 of this Article may be exercised by members of the Owner's family who occupy the residence of the Owner within the Properties as their principal residence in Wake County, North Carolina.

(b) Tenants. The right and easement of use and enjoyment granted to every Owner by Section 1 of this Article may be delegated by such Owner to his tenants or contract purchasers who occupy a residence within the Properties, or a portion of said residence, as their principal residence in Wake County, North Carolina.

(c) Guests. The right and easement of use and enjoyment granted to every Owner by Section 1 of this Article may be delegated to guests of such Owners, tenants or contract purchasers, subject to such rules and regulations as may be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Conveyance of Title To The Association. Declarant covenants, for itself, its successors and assigns, that, prior to the conveyance of the first Lot within any phase of the Subdivision to an Owner, it will convey to the Association title to those portions of the Common Area, if any, owned in fee by the Association. Declarant reserves an easement over and across

the Common Area so long as it owns any Lots within the Properties for the purpose of constructing any improvements on the Common Area as it deems necessary or advisable. Except as otherwise stated herein, all conveyances by Declarant to the Association shall be free and clear of all encumbrances and liens (including statutory liens of laborers and materialmen pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 44A of the North Carolina General Statutes) except this Declaration, restrictive covenants applicable to the Subdivision, utility, drainage, greenway and other easements of record or shown on the recorded plats of the Subdivision, and the lien of *ad valorem* taxes not yet due and payable. Any improvements placed on the Common Area by Declarant shall become the property of the Association upon completion of such improvements.

Section 4. Regulation and Maintenance of Common Area. It is the intent of the Declarant that the Common Area (whether owned by the Association in fee or by easement) be preserved to the perpetual benefit of the Owners within the Subdivision. To that end, Declarant will, prior to the conveyance of the first Lot in any phase or section of the Subdivision to an Owner, reserve on a recorded plat or grant to the Association an easement over and across that portion of any Lot within such phase or section on which a Common Area easement lies for the purpose of enabling the Association to take action permitted by subsections (b) and (c) of this Section 4.

(a) Rights and Responsibilities of the Lot Owners. Each Owner of a Lot upon which a Common Area easement lies shall pay all property taxes and other assessments levied against his Lot, including that portion of such tax or assessment as is attributable to such Common Area. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Declaration, no Owner or other person shall, without the prior written consent of the Association: (1) remove any trees or vegetation within any Common Area; (2) erect gates, fences, buildings or other structures on any Common Area; (3) place any garbage receptacles on or in any Common Area; (4) fill or excavate any Common Area or any part thereof; or (5) plant vegetation or otherwise restrict or interfere with the use, maintenance, and preservation of any Common Area.

It is the intent of the Declarant that a Common Area easement shall be maintained in the same state as when the Lot upon which such easement lies was conveyed to the Owner. If an Owner of a Lot on which a Common Area easement lies fails to maintain the easement area as provided herein, whether by act or omission, the Association shall have the right to enter upon such Owner's Lot for the purpose of maintaining same and shall have the right to charge such Owner with the costs of such maintenance, which costs, if not paid within thirty (30) days after demand for payment is made by the Association, shall be collected in the same manner and shall incur the same late charges, interest and costs of collection as set forth in Section 7 of Article V of this Declaration.

(b) Rights and Responsibilities of the Association. The Association shall have the right and obligation to ensure that the Common Area is preserved to the perpetual benefit of the Owners and, to that end, shall: (i) maintain the Common Area in its natural or improved state, as appropriate, and keep it free of impediments to its free use by the Owners; (ii) procure and maintain adequate liability insurance covering the Association and its Members against any loss or damage suffered by any person, including the Owner of the Lot upon which Common Area lies, resulting from use of the Common Area; and (iii) pay all property taxes and other assessments levied against all Common Area owned in fee by the Association.

(c) Association's Right of Entry for Maintenance of Common Area Easements. The Association and its employees, agents, contractors and subcontractors shall have a nonexclusive right and easement at all times to enter upon any portion of a Lot reserved or designated as a Common Area easement, and any other portion of the Lot to the extent necessary to gain access to the Common Area easement, for the purposes of: (i) installing and maintaining entrance signage and other signage; (ii) making such improvements to the Common Area easement as have been approved by the Association; and (iii) maintaining the Common Area easement in its natural or improved state, including, without limitation, removal of fallen trees and other debris and, in general, keeping the easement area free from obstructions and impediments to its use. No such entry shall be deemed a trespass. To the extent practicable, the Association shall give reasonable oral notice to the Owner or occupant of such Lot.

ARTICLE V COVENANT FOR MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT

Section 1. Creation of the Lien and Personal Obligation of Assessments. Each Owner of any Lot, by acceptance of a deed therefor, whether or not it shall be so expressed in such deed, is deemed to covenant and agree to pay to the Association annual assessments and special assessments, such assessments to be established and collected as hereinafter provided. All assessments which are unpaid when due, together with interest and late charges set forth in Section 7 of this Article V and all costs of collection, including reasonable attorneys' fees, shall be a charge on the land and, as provided in §47F-3-116 of the Act, shall be a continuing lien upon the Lot against which such assessment is made. Each such assessment or charge, together with interest and costs of collection, including reasonable attorneys' fees, shall also be the personal or corporate obligation of the person(s), firm(s) or corporation(s) owning such Lot at the time when the assessment fell due, but such personal obligation shall not be imposed upon such Owner's successors in title unless expressly assumed by them. Although unpaid assessments and charges are not the personal obligation of such Owner's successors in title unless expressly assumed by them, the unpaid assessments and charges shall continue to be a lien upon the Lot against which the assessment or charge was made.

It is the intent of the Declarant that any monetary fines imposed against an Owner pursuant to Section 3 of Article VII of the Bylaws shall constitute a lien against the Lot of such Owner to the same extent as if such fine were an assessment against such Lot.

Section 2. Purposes of Assessments. The assessments levied by the Association shall be used exclusively to promote the recreation, health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Properties and, in particular, for: (i) acquisition, improvement, and maintenance of properties, services and facilities related to the use and enjoyment of the Common Area; (ii) maintenance, repair and reconstruction of the Common Area and improvements thereon, including, without limitation, storm water drainage facilities, and, including, without limitation, the cost of repair, replacement and additions thereto and the cost of labor, equipment, materials, management and supervision thereof; (iii) payment of taxes and public assessments levied against the Common Area owned by the Association in fee; (iv) procurement and maintenance of insurance; (v) employment of attorneys, accountants and other persons or firms to represent the Association when necessary; (vi) payment of principal and interest on funds borrowed for Association purposes; and (vii) such other needs as may arise.

