20050628000321460 1/1 \$11.00 Shelby Cnty Judge of Probate, AL 06/28/2005 03:50:21PM FILED/CERT

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS PREPARED BY:

MIKE T. ATCHISON, ATTORNEY AT LAW P.O. BOX 822 COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA 35051

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STATE OF ALABAMA
SHELBY COUNTY

AFFIDAVIT

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public, in and for said County, in said State, personally appeared CHARLES B. STROUD, who after being by me first duly sworn, deposes, and says on oath as follows:

My name is CHARLES B. STROUD, and I am over the age of 21 years, and am familiar with the following facts:

I am the Director of Missions for Shelby Baptist Association, Inc., which is an association of Southern Baptist churches located in Shelby County, Alabama. The Mosteller Baptist Church was formerly a member of Shelby Baptist Association, Inc. and was the owner of the following described property, to-wit:

Commence at the Northeast corner of Fractional Section 23, Township 22 South, Range 1 East, being a capped pipe; thence proceed Westerly along the North boundary of said Section for 2653.27 feet; thence turn a deflection angle of 90 degrees 24 minutes 49 seconds to the left and run Southerly for 1026.41 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel herein described, being a 1-inch pipe; thence continue along the last described course for 293.41 feet to a 3-inch capped pipe; thence turn a deflection angle of 89 degrees 34 minutes 51 seconds to the left and run Easterly for 293.22 feet to a railroad spike in the pavement of Mostellers Lane; thence turn a deflection angle of 90 degrees 25 minutes 09 seconds to the left and run Northerly for 294.99 feet to a 1-inch pipe; thence turn a deflection angle of 89 degrees 53 minutes 21 seconds to the left and run Westerly for 293.22 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel is lying in Fractional Section 23, Township 22 South, Range 1 East, Shelby County, Alabama.

According to survey of John Gary Ray, RLS #12295, dated March 19, 2004.

Mosteller Baptist Church met in a wood frame building on this property until approximately 1958, when the church membership dwindled and no longer held meetings. The members contacted the Association about future use of the building for a new work or for a new congregation to use. The Association was given the keys to the building and authority to use it as seemed fitting. In the early 1970's, Shelby Baptist Association, Inc. sponsored worship services on Sunday mornings during the summer and also held Vacation Bible School on the property. Several of the other churches of the Association helped with this work, which continued until the church building burned in 1980. Since that time, no other buildings or structures have been built and no worship services of any kind have been held on the property.

All of the records of Mosteller Baptist Church, including membership rolls, have been lost. I have personally spoken with several people in the area who were familiar with the church, and they indicate that to their knowledge all of the members of the church at the time of its closing are now deceased.

Since <u>1976</u>, Shelby Baptist Association, Inc. has been in open, actual, adverse, continuous, and notorious possession of the property formerly owned by Mosteller Baptist Church, keeping up the church until it burned, cutting the grass, and generally maintaining the property. There have been no claims by any other parties other than Shelby Baptist Association, Inc. since the early 1970's.

Further the affiant saith not.

Charles B. Stroud - Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 23 day of ______, 2005.

My commission expires: 12/07/08