FORM PTO-1618A Expires 06/30/99 OMB 0651-0027

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8/2/2001

**Date Signed** 

ARTICLES OF MERGER
OF ALLIED GROUP INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC.
WITH AND INTO
THE FREEDOM GROUP INC.

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TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1104 and 1105 of the Iowa Business Corporation Act, The FREEDOM Group Inc. and ALLIED Group Information Systems, Inc. do hereby adopt the following Articles of Merger:

## ARTICLES I PLAN OF MERGER

- 1.1 The name of the parent corporation is The FREEDOM Group Inc. ("FREEDOM"), and it is incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa. The name of the subsidiary corporation is ALLIED Group Information Systems, Inc. ("ALLIED"), and it is incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa. FREEDOM owns one hundred percent (100%) of the outstanding shares of each class of stock of the subsidiary corporation ALLIED.
- 1.2 The manner and basis of converting the shares of the subsidiary into shares, obligations, or other securities of the parent or any other corporation or into cash or other property in whole or part is as follows:

At the effective time of the merger, in accordance with Section 1106 of the Iowa Business Corporation Act, ALLIED shall be merged with and into FREEDOM, and the separate corporate existence of ALLIED shall cease and FREEDOM as the surviving company shall continue its corporate existence under the laws of the State of Iowa under the name "The FREEDOM Group Inc." and shall thereupon and thereafter possess all the assets and other rights, authority, privileges, immunities, powers, licenses, permits, and franchises of a public or private nature of ALLIED and shall be subject to all the duties, liabilities, and obligations of ALLIED and all the rights, authority, privileges, persona and mixed, and all debts due to ALLIED on whatever account and all other choses in action and every other interest of or belonging to ALLIED shall vest in FREEDOM; and all property, rights, authority, privileges, immunities, powers, licenses, permits and franchises and every other interest shall be thereafter the property of FREEDOM as they were of ALLIED; and the title to any real estate or any interest therein, vested by deed or otherwise in ALLIED, shall not revert or be in any way impaired by reason of the merger. but all rights of creditors and all liens upon any property of ALLIED shall be preserved unimpaired; and all debts, duties, liabilities, and obligations of ALLIED shall henceforth attach to FREEDOM and may be enforced against it to the same extent as if said debts, duties, liabilities, and obligations had been incurred or contracted by it.

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## ARTICLE II AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1104 of the Iowa Business Corporation Act, because FREEDOM owns at least ninety percent of the outstanding shares of each class of stock of ALLIED, the merger can be effected without the approval of the shareholders of FREEDOM or ALLIED.

## ARTICLE III EFFECTIVE DATE OF MERGER

The effective date of the merger shall be February 26, 1999.

ALLIED Group Information Systems, Inc.

Larry Kane

President

The FREEDOM Group Inc.

Larry Kane

President

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SECRETARY OF STATE

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