

1 Introduced by Council Member Boylan:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2023-476**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING ROBERT  
6 PHILLIPS ON MORE THAN THREE DECADES OF DEDICATED  
7 SERVICE IN THE DUVAL COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF  
8 ELECTIONS OFFICE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
9 RETIREMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
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11 **WHEREAS,** Robert Phillips, a Jacksonville native, graduated  
12 from Bishop Kenny High School and attended Florida State College at  
13 Jacksonville before beginning his career in the information  
14 technology field; and

15 **WHEREAS,** in 1991, Mr. Phillips was hired by Duval County  
16 Supervisor of Elections Tommie Bell and began a long and distinguished  
17 career managing Jacksonville’s elections. During his tenure he has  
18 served under five Supervisors of Elections, in every conceivable  
19 capacity within the office; gaining invaluable experience and  
20 steadily rising through the ranks of the office; and

21 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips currently holds the position of Chief  
22 Elections Officer and Deputy Supervisor of Elections and is  
23 responsible for overseeing the smooth functioning of all aspects of  
24 election operations, from recruiting and training poll workers to  
25 locating and leasing polling precincts and early voting sites to  
26 ballot layout to election day operations; and

27 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips is a Master Florida Certified Election  
28 Professional and from Auburn University he obtained a national  
29 certification as a Certified Elections and Registration  
30 Administrator. He is recognized as an expert election resource for  
31 the entire state of Florida with an encyclopedic knowledge of election

1 laws and procedures and a unique ability to convey that knowledge  
2 in an easily understandable way with patience and good humor; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips has been involved in the management of  
4 over 100 elections in his 32 years in the Duval County Supervisor of  
5 Elections Office, ranging from the ordinary (the vast majority), to  
6 an unusual tie vote for a City Council seat in Neptune Beach (settled  
7 by 3 stages of random chance events), to the infamous Bush v. Gore  
8 presidential election in 2000. Throughout every circumstance, Mr.  
9 Phillips performed his duties and represented the Duval County  
10 Supervisor of Elections Office with professionalism and unquestioned  
11 credibility, giving the voting public every confidence that the city's  
12 elections have been run with integrity, efficiency and fairness; and

13 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips has recently announced his retirement  
14 after a long and successful career, and his knowledge,  
15 professionalism, wise counsel and friendship will be greatly missed;  
16 now therefore

17 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

18 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends  
19 Robert Phillips on his more than three decades of outstanding service  
20 in the office of the Duval County Supervisor of Elections on the  
21 occasion of his retirement and extends its best wishes for his future  
22 endeavors. He has served the City and citizens of Jacksonville  
23 extremely well during his career and leaves an invaluable legacy of  
24 public trust and confidence in the operation of Jacksonville's  
25 electoral system.

26 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
27 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
28 without the Mayor's signature.  
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1 Form Approved:

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3           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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