

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2021-778

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President Newby

Date of Introduction: October 26, 2021

Committee(s) of Reference: R

Date of Analysis: October 28, 2021

Type of Action: Confirmation of General Counsel appointment; waiver of Council Rules; emergency passage requested

Bill Summary: The bill confirms the mayor's appointment of Jason Teal as the City's General Counsel. It waives the requirement in Council Rule 4.1103 – Confirmation of the General Counsel – that upon introduction of a resolution confirming the appointment or reappointment of the General Counsel, the Council's Legislative Services Division shall notify the Clerk of Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, Tax Collector and Chairperson of the Duval County School Board and solicit their input on the nomination. Emergency passage on introduction is requested.

Background Information: Mr. Teal has served in the Office of General Counsel since 2000, has most recently been the Deputy General Counsel managing the Regulatory and Constitutional Law Department, and since August 7th has been serving as Acting General Counsel following the departure of the prior General Counsel to a private law practice. His appointment was recommended by the General Counsel's Qualification Review Committee on October 4th. The waiver of the Council Rules requirement for notification of the constitutional officers and School Board is requested because the notification was not made when the original appointment legislation - Resolution 2021-770 - was filed in early October. This ordinance replaces that resolution for the purpose of invoking the waiver. Emergency passage on first reading is requested because Mr. Teal has been serving as Acting General Counsel since August 7th and is only permitted to serve in an acting capacity for 90 days pursuant to Section 7.05(a) of the City Charter; the 90-day period expires prior to the next City Council meeting on November 9th.

Policy Impact Area: General Counsel appointment

Fiscal Impact: Minimal

Analyst: Clements