

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Member Pittman:  
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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-414-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING GRETCHEN MITCHELL FOR HER  
7 35 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE  
8 JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY; PROVIDING AN  
9 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
10

11 **WHEREAS,** Gretchen Mitchell began her career with the  
12 Jacksonville Public Library in 1990 as a librarian at the Webb  
13 Wesconnett Regional Branch, and over the course of 35 years, has  
14 demonstrated unwavering dedication to library services and the  
15 citizens of Jacksonville; and

16 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Mitchell is a member of both the Florida Library  
17 Association and the American Library Association, and holds a Bachelor  
18 of Arts degree from Rollins College and a Master of Library and  
19 Information Science degree from Florida State University; and

20 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Mitchell most recently served as Deputy Chief  
21 Librarian for Support Services, a role she assumed in May 2018 after  
22 previously holding the position of Assistant Director for Support  
23 Services from 2009 to 2018; and

24 **WHEREAS,** throughout her tenure, Ms. Mitchell provided  
25 executive oversight of critical areas including facilities, safety  
26 and security, finance collection management, and technology services  
27 across the library system; and

28 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Mitchell collaborated with the Florida State  
29 College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) to lead a major initiative to offer  
30 hotspots and laptops to students through library locations, helping  
31 document the effort in the publication *Fostering Student Success:*

1 *Academic, Social and Financial Initiatives; and*

2       **WHEREAS**, during Ms. Mitchell tenure as Administrative  
3 Supervisor from 2003 to 2009, she was responsible for the operations  
4 of seven library branches and later the Main Library, overseeing  
5 branch renovations and the construction of new facilities under the  
6 Better Jacksonville Plan; and

7       **WHEREAS**, Ms. Mitchell has been a committed mentor and leader  
8 within the Sunshine State Library Leadership Institute, serving five  
9 times as a mentor since 2005 and participating in the Library's  
10 mentoring managers program; and

11       **WHEREAS**, Ms. Mitchell was honored as the Jacksonville Public  
12 Library's Employee of the Quarter in the third quarter of 2008-2009,  
13 a testament to her leadership, mentorship, and professional  
14 excellence; and

15       **WHEREAS**, after 35 years of impactful service, Gretchen  
16 Mitchell retired on May 2, 2025, leaving a legacy of innovation,  
17 mentorship, and commitment to public service in Jacksonville's  
18 library system; now therefore

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

20       **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends  
21 Gretchen Mitchell for her 35 years of distinguished service to the  
22 Jacksonville Public Library and recognizes the lasting impact of her  
23 leadership on the library system as an institution and her impact on  
24 the broader community.

25       **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
26 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
27 without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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