

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman & Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Cumber, Ferraro, Priestly Jackson, Dennis, DeFoor,
3 Carlucci, Newby, Boylan, Becton, Salem and Bowman:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2020-442-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING ASSISTANT
8 CHIEF GREGORY BURTON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
9 RETIREMENT AS A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT FOR
10 TWENTY-FIVE YEARS WITH THE JACKSONVILLE
11 SHERIFF'S OFFICE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Assistant Chief Gregory Burton, a native of
14 Shreveport, Louisiana, was born to the late Mr. Frank Burton and
15 Mrs. Louise Burton. He relocated to Jacksonville, Florida in 1989.
16 In 1994, he earned a Police and Correction State Certification from
17 Florida State College of Jacksonville. He extended his educational
18 profile with a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Edward
19 Waters College in 2004 and a Master's in Education from
20 Jacksonville University in 2011. Greg Burton is married to his
21 soulmate and best friend Assistant Chief Lakesha Burton, and they
22 are the proud parents of five children; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Gregory Burton proudly served as a commissioned 2nd
24 Lieutenant in the United States Army. Shortly after an honorable
25 discharge, Mr. Burton was hired, in 1994, as a patrol officer with
26 the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. His stellar twenty-five-year
27 career with JSO is evident in his ability to move through the
28 ranks. He was a Sergeant from 2001-2005; Lieutenant from 2005-2007;
29 Assistant Chief, Logistics and General Support Services from 2007-
30 2008; Division Chief, Police Services Division from 2008-2015; and
31 the Assistant Chief/Patrol Zone 6 Commander from 2015 until his

1 retirement. Asst. Chief Burton's priority was improving community
2 engagement. He was dedicated to listening to and interacting with
3 residents to partner with JSO to keep their communities safe. To
4 talk to residents, he would physically go where they were, be it
5 walking down the sidewalks of the neighborhood or riding JTA for
6 hours. Asst. Chief Greg Burton worked hard every day towards
7 building trust and relationships among citizens and his fellow
8 officers. He is a man of humility, courage, and integrity with a
9 heart of gold. He goes out of his way to empower and encourage
10 others to stay positive and work hard. In addition to all the
11 attributes that make Greg Burton an amazing person, he has a gentle
12 and fun-spirited side that shows up from time to time. JSO posted a
13 video of Asst. Chief Burton singing and dancing to the Jackson 5's
14 song, *I Want You Back*. He performed his rendition of the song
15 during a roll call. He wanted to get his officers to smile and stay
16 positive considering the pending arrival of Hurricane Irma. This is
17 just one of the many little actions that earned Asst. Chief Burton
18 the respect and appreciation of others; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Asst. Chief Burton wholeheartedly attributes all his
20 personal and professional accomplishments to his faith and
21 spiritual life. More importantly, he acknowledges being a walking
22 blessing after surviving cancer, three strokes, and open-heart
23 surgery. Greg Burton is a man of faith and strength. He is an
24 officer. He is a friend that seeks nothing more than to help others
25 any way he can. Asst. Chief Burton attends Hopewell Church under
26 the leadership of Dr. Gary L. Williams, Sr., and serves as a board
27 member. His lengthy organizational affiliations and community
28 involvement include, but are not limited to: member, Alpha Phi
29 Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Board Member, Read USA; past board
30 president, Jacksonville Brotherhood of Police Officers; Cub Scouts-
31 Scout Master, Boy Scouts of America; Leadership Jacksonville, Class

1 of 2011; Mentor, Take Stock in Children Mentor - Andrew Jackson
2 High School; Volunteer Coach, YMCA; and National Organization of
3 Black Law Enforcement Executives (N.O.B.L.E.). He is proud of the
4 work completed through the community initiatives and commented, "My
5 most pleasurable initiatives have been serving the community and
6 building partnerships with the various businesses and individuals,
7 working with children." Two of the initiatives were the Faith Group
8 Meetings that engage almost 90 churches in Zone 6, and the Day Care
9 Initiative which conducts the Officer Friendly program to the 60
10 daycare facilities in Zone 6; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Asst. Chief Gregory Burton's work is a testament of
12 his unwavering faith and his commitment to serve for the greater
13 good of all. He is well-respected and greatly admired by his co-
14 workers, friends, and the community. His leadership is a legacy of
15 faith, trust, and honor; now therefore

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

17 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
18 commends Assistant Chief Gregory Burton on his retirement after 25
19 years of service with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. Assistant
20 Chief Gregory Burton's exemplary service will impact this City for
21 decades to come because he made a difference in the lives he
22 served. The Council extends its best wishes as he prepares for the
23 next phase in his personal and professional journey.

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

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28 Form Approved:

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30 /s/ Margaret M. Sidman

31 Office of General Counsel

1 Legislation Prepared By: Yvonne P. Mitchell, City Council Research

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