

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2023-812**

5 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT  
6 OF MICHAEL T. FACKLER AS THE GENERAL COUNSEL  
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 7.03 OF THE CHARTER OF THE  
8 CITY OF JACKSONVILLE; DIRECTING LEGISLATIVE  
9 SERVICES TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF COURT, PROPERTY  
10 APPRAISER, SHERIFF, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, TAX  
11 COLLECTOR AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE DUVAL COUNTY  
12 SCHOOL BOARD UPON INTRODUCTION OF THIS  
13 RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE INPUT AND GUIDANCE  
14 REGARDING THIS APPOINTMENT PURSUANT TO COUNCIL  
15 RULE 4.1103; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
16

17 **WHEREAS,** the selection of the General Counsel is governed by  
18 Section 7.03 (Selection and Term of the General Counsel) of the City  
19 of Jacksonville Charter; and

20 **WHEREAS,** in accordance therewith, at the commencement of newly  
21 elected Mayor Donna Deegan's term, Mayor Deegan empaneled the General  
22 Counsel's Qualification Review Committee, comprised of five attorneys  
23 consisting of the Jacksonville Bar Association President, two former  
24 general counsels and two members of the Florida Bar Board of  
25 Governors; and

26 **WHEREAS,** Mayor Deegan subsequently appointed an acting General  
27 Counsel to serve for a period of 90 days beginning July 1, 2023 and  
28 expiring at the end of September, 2023, in order for there to be  
29 continuity of management and orderly operation in the Office of  
30 General Counsel during the pendency of the deliberations of the  
31 General Counsel's Qualification Review Committee; and

1           **WHEREAS**, upon expiration of the initial acting General  
2 Counsel's term, Mayor Deegan appointed Michael T. Fackler as acting  
3 General Counsel for a 90-day period beginning September 29, 2023, to  
4 allow for continued orderly operation in the Office of General Counsel  
5 until the Qualifications Review Committee could convene to review Mr.  
6 Fackler's qualifications and make a recommendation; and

7           **WHEREAS**, the 90-day period for Mr. Fackler's term as acting  
8 General Counsel will expire at the end of December, 2023; and

9           **WHEREAS**, on October 26, 2023, the General Counsel's  
10 Qualification Review Committee convened and voted unanimously to  
11 strongly recommend Michael T. Fackler be appointed as General Counsel;  
12 and

13           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Fackler graduated with High Honors from the  
14 University of Florida Levin College of Law in 2002 and began the  
15 practice of law as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Harvey E. Schlesinger  
16 of the United States Middle District of Florida; during that time he  
17 also served as an Adjunct Professor at Florida Coastal School of Law,  
18 teaching legal research and writing and appellate advocacy; since  
19 2004, Mr. Fackler has focused his practice in the area of complex  
20 commercial litigation, most recently as a partner with the established  
21 local law firm of Milam Howard Nicandri & Gillam, P.A., where he  
22 litigated cases in both state and federal court and handled multiple  
23 appeals and arbitrations; and

24           **WHEREAS**, prior to and throughout his career, Mr. Fackler found  
25 a calling to service to both his profession and the community; in  
26 1996 he joined the United States Peace Corps and spent two years  
27 teaching English in Rybnik, Poland; in 2016 he began serving on the  
28 Advisory Committee for the United States District Court, Middle  
29 District of Florida, and in 2022 he was appointed to the Jacksonville  
30 Area Legal Aid Board of Directors; he also served as a board member  
31 and President of the Jacksonville Historical Society; and

1           **WHEREAS,** in further recognition of Mr. Fackler's distinguished  
2 career, he was named one of Florida's "Legal Elite™" in 2012, 2020  
3 and 2021, and has been honored as a "Super Lawyer" since 2016; and

4           **WHEREAS,** Mayor Deegan has determined that the interests of the  
5 Consolidated Government will be best served by appointing Michael T.  
6 Fackler as General Counsel; and

7           **WHEREAS,** the Council finds that Michael T. Fackler is duly  
8 qualified to serve as the City of Jacksonville's General Counsel and  
9 that Mayor Deegan's appointment of Michael T. Fackler as General  
10 Counsel should be confirmed; now therefore

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

12           **Section 1. Confirmation.** The Council hereby confirms the  
13 Mayor's appointment of Michael T. Fackler as the General Counsel for  
14 the City of Jacksonville pursuant to Section 7.03 of the Charter of  
15 the City of Jacksonville. The resume of the General Counsel is  
16 attached hereto as **Exhibit 1.**

17           **Section 2. Directing Legislative Services to Notify Certain**  
18 **Parties Pursuant to Council Rule 4.1103.** Upon introduction of this  
19 Resolution, the Legislative Services Division is directed to notify  
20 the Clerk of Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of  
21 Elections, Tax Collector and Chairperson of the Duval County School  
22 Board and encourage them to provide oral or written input and guidance  
23 to the Rules Committee and any other committee considering this  
24 appointment, as to the fitness of the appointee to be General Counsel,  
25 in accordance with Council Rule 4.1103 (Confirmation of the General  
26 Counsel).

27           **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
28 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
29 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: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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