

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan & Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Salem, Pittman, Becton, Boylan, Hazouri, Dennis, Diamond,
3 Carlucci, DeFoor, Priestly Jackson, Newby, Bowman, Freeman, R.
4 Gaffney and Wilson and amended by the Rules Committee:
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7 **RESOLUTION 2020-234-A**

8 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE
9 LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LISC EXECUTIVE
10 DIRECTOR JANET L. OWENS; PROVIDING AN
11 EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Janet Lynelle Garrett Owens, a native of South
14 Carolina, graduated from Greenville High School, earned her
15 bachelor's degree in political science from Russell Sage College in
16 Troy, New York, and began a career in city government, first back
17 at home in Greenville and then in Adrian, Michigan; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Owens' career then took her to Washington, D.C.
19 where she worked for the International City Management Association
20 and then for the District of Columbia government. While in
21 Washington she met and married Gregory Owens, and the couple moved
22 briefly to St. Augustine and then to Jacksonville where she worked
23 for Volunteer Jacksonville, Girl Scouts of Gateway Council Inc.,
24 United Way of Northeast Florida, and finally LISC Jacksonville,
25 where she was named Executive Director in 2010; and

26 **WHEREAS**, throughout her professional career, Janet Owens was a
27 tireless champion for citizen empowerment and community
28 revitalization, deeply committed to creating real, sustainable
29 communities and helping the most vulnerable in society achieve
30 respect and security through the creation of affordable housing,

1 economic opportunity and investment, and the promotion of safe,
2 livable neighborhoods; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in addition to her professional positions, Ms. Owens
4 was a true community steward, serving on numerous boards and
5 commissions, including the Rotary Club of Jacksonville,
6 Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and
7 Board of Governors, JP Morgan Chase Florida Community Advisory
8 Board, Leadership Jacksonville, and the City's Better Jacksonville
9 Plan Finance and Administration Committee. She received the Girl
10 Scouts of Gateway Council Women of Distinction Award, the
11 University of North Florida's OneJax Humanitarian Award, and was
12 recognized by Leadership Jacksonville as an Outstanding Community
13 Trustee, among other honors; and

14 **WHEREAS**, throughout her professional and personal lives, Janet
15 Owens was most well known for her boundless optimism, her
16 compassion, and her absolute dedication to improving the lives of
17 everyone in our community, and was ever enthusiastic and
18 unflinching positive even as she faced personal challenges; now
19 therefore

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

21 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
22 commemorates the life and countless achievements of Janet Lynelle
23 Garrett Owens and extends to her family, friends and countless
24 admirers the City's sincere condolences upon her passing. The city
25 has truly lost a passionate, dedicated servant leader, whose deep
26 devotion to the city and its residents will be long and gratefully
27 remembered.

28 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
29 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
30 without the Mayor's signature.

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Form Approved:

/s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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