

1 Co-Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Duval
2 County Research Development Authority and Council Member Lahnen:

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5 **ORDINANCE 2024-257**

6 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 67 (DUVAL COUNTY
7 RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY), *ORDINANCE*
8 *CODE*; RECITALS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF
9 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSFER OF
10 RECORDS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

11
12 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 159, Part V, *Florida Statutes*,
13 the Council of the City of Jacksonville ("Council") created the Duval
14 County Research Development Authority ("Authority") in 1986;

15 **WHEREAS**, the Authority was created for the purpose of promoting
16 scientific research and development in affiliation with the
17 University of North Florida (the "University");

18 **WHEREAS**, in 1986, land was donated to the Authority (the "Donated
19 Land") for the benefit of the University of North Florida Foundation,
20 a non-profit direct support organization of the University ("UNF
21 Foundation");

22 **WHEREAS**, the Donated Land was the Authority's sole asset;

23 **WHEREAS**, since the Authority's creation, the Authority, for
24 reasons beyond its control, has been unable to attract research and
25 development entities to the City for the University's benefit,

26 **WHEREAS**, the Authority has transferred the Donated Land in its
27 entirety to third-parties or the UNF Foundation, and as of December
28 2021, the Authority no longer owns any assets;

29 **WHEREAS**, the financial costs associated with maintaining the
30 Authority, including state reporting and audit requirements, are
31 burdensome on the Authority;

1 **WHEREAS**, the Authority held a publicly noticed meeting on July
2 27, 2023, and unanimously approved filing legislation to request the
3 Council to dissolve the Authority for the reasons stated above and
4 in accordance with applicable laws;

5 **WHEREAS**, the University concurs with the Authority's
6 recommendation;

7 **WHEREAS**, a copy of the Authority's resolution from its July 27,
8 2023, meeting and the University concurrence letter have been placed
9 **On File** with the Legislative Services Division;

10 **WHEREAS**, the Authority is recommending the Council's approval
11 to dissolve the Authority and repeal Chapter 67 (Duval County Research
12 Development Authority), *Ordinance Code*, in its entirety; now
13 therefore

14 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

15 **Section 1. Recitals.** The recitals above are incorporated
16 herein by this reference.

17 **Section 2. Repealing Chapter 67 (Duval County Research**
18 **Development Authority), *Ordinance Code*.** Chapter 67 (Duval County
19 Research Development Authority), *Ordinance Code*, is hereby repealed
20 and reserved in its entirety. A copy of Chapter 67 is attached hereto
21 as **Exhibit 1**.

22 **Section 3. Authorization.** The Executive Director, the
23 Chairman, or any member of the Duval County Research Development
24 Authority, is authorized to execute any documents necessary or
25 appropriate to effectuate the purpose of this Ordinance.

26 **Section 4. Records Transfer.** The Executive Director is
27 directed to transfer any Authority records to the Finance and
28 Administration Department.

29 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
30 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
31 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Lawsikia J. Hodges

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Lawsikia J. Hodges

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