

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Duval County
2 Research and Development Authority and Council Member Lahnen and
3 Co-Sponsored by Council Member Clark-Murray:
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6 **ORDINANCE 2024-257-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 67 (DUVAL COUNTY
8 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY), *ORDINANCE*
9 *CODE*; RECITALS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF
10 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSFER OF
11 RECORDS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

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

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

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

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

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

27 **WHEREAS**, the Authority has transferred the Donated Land in its
28 entirety to third-parties or the UNF Foundation, and as of December
29 2021, the Authority no longer owns any assets;

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

1 burdensome on the Authority;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
31 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective

1 without the Mayor's signature.

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3 Form Approved:

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5 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

6 Office of General Counsel

7 Legislation Prepared By: Lawsikia J. Hodges

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