

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member Hazouri, Becton, Pittman, Diamond, DeFoor, Carlucci, Newby,
3 Ferraro, Salem, Bowman, Morgan and Cumber:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2019-816**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING REV.
8 CHARLES SCRIVEN ON HIS LONG AND DISTINGUISHED
9 CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AS A PIONEER
10 AFRICAN-AMERICAN OFFICER IN THE JACKSONVILLE
11 POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CONSOLIDATED CITY'S
12 SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND AS A FLORIDA PAROLE
13 COMMISSIONER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Charles J. Scriven, a native of Jacksonville,
16 graduated from Stanton High School, served in the US Army as a
17 military policeman and as an investigator in the Provost Marshal's
18 Office, and later earned his bachelor's degree in social science
19 from Edward Waters College; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 1955 Mr. Scriven joined the Jacksonville Police
21 Department as one of its first African-American patrolmen in the
22 "Negro Precinct", created as a result of a 1950 campaign promise by
23 then-mayoral candidate Hayden Burns to integrate the city's police
24 force. Officer Scriven was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1960
25 and, after the City of Jacksonville and Duval County consolidated
26 in 1968, became the first African-American officer to reach the
27 rank of lieutenant in the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in 1973 Lieutenant Scriven was promoted to the rank
29 of Chief, the first African-American to achieve that rank in the
30 Sheriff's Office, when he was appointed to lead the new Community
31 Relations Division of the JSO, in which role he was one of the

1 founders of the Police Athletic League and led the effort to
2 improve relations between law enforcement and the communities the
3 department serves; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1974 Chief Scriven was appointed by Governor
5 Reubin Askew as a member of the Florida Parole Commission and
6 became its first African-American member and ultimately Chairman.
7 In 1987 Mr. Scriven retired from the Parole Commission and joined
8 the staff of the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, where
9 he worked for another 17 year; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in addition to his long career in law enforcement,
11 Charles Scriven was also a preacher and pastor, obtaining his
12 license to preach in 1961 and serving as an associate minister for
13 several churches before being called to his first pastorate at
14 First African Baptist Church in St. Mary's, Georgia and ultimately
15 to Corinth Christian Fellowship of Midway, Florida where he is
16 pastor emeritus; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Scriven was a groundbreaker in many fields
18 related to law enforcement and justice in Jacksonville and in the
19 State of Florida, and his decades of service to others are worthy
20 of recognition and commendation; now therefore

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

22 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
23 commends Reverend Charles J. Scriven on his long and distinguished
24 career in law enforcement and related fields, and for his
25 commitment to service and justice over the course of many decades.
26 His legacy of leadership in many fields of endeavor are a source of
27 inspiration to all who have had the honor to know and serve with
28 him.

29 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
30 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
31 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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