

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Pittman and Freeman:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-78-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE 145TH ANNIVERSARY OF
7 THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND, RECOGNIZING
8 ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY;
9 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

10
11 **WHEREAS,** the First Baptist Church of Oakland, originally known
12 as the Friendship Baptist Church was established in 1880 and has
13 served as a pillar of faith and community for 145 years in
14 Jacksonville, Florida; and

15 **WHEREAS,** the Church has played a significant role in the
16 spiritual, cultural, and social growth of the community, promoting
17 unity and service among its members and the broader Jacksonville
18 community; and

19 **WHEREAS,** the First Baptist Church of Oakland had been a home
20 of faith and leadership under the guidance of many distinguished
21 pastors, including former Pastor C.B. Dailey, who served as an advisor
22 to several Jacksonville Mayors and exemplified a commitment to civic
23 engagement and service; and

24 **WHEREAS,** the Church has continually demonstrated its
25 dedication to the betterment of Jacksonville by remaining an active
26 and integral part of the community for over a century; and

27 **WHEREAS,** the current Pastor Rev. Dr. Christopher McKee, Jr. who
28 has been the leading the congregation since 2017 with his wife First
29 Lady Éris Brown McKee and their two lovely daughters Karis Iman and
30 Koryn Ivana have been committed to the City of Jacksonville in
31 totality by doing outreach beyond the walls of the church and the

1 "Outeast" community; and

2 **WHEREAS,** the 145th Anniversary of the First Baptist Church of
3 Oakland represents a milestone in its history of worship, outreach,
4 and unwavering commitment to the spiritual and civic well-being of
5 Jacksonville; now therefore

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

7 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and recognizes
8 the First Baptist Church of Oakland for its 145 years of service,
9 faith, and leadership in the Jacksonville community. The City extends
10 its congratulations on this historic milestone and its gratitude for
11 the Church's enduring contributions.

12 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
13 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
14 without the Mayor's signature.

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16 Form Approved:

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18 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

19 Office of General Counsel

20 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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