

Introduced by Council Member White and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Amaro, Arias, Boylan, J. Carlucci, Carlucci, Carrico, Clark-Murray, Diamond, Freeman, Gaffney, Jr., Gay, Howland, Johnson, Lahnen, Miller, Peluso, Pittman and Salem and amended by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety Committee and amended on the Floor of Council:

**ORDINANCE 2024-555-E**

AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE CITY-OWNED BUILDING LOCATED AT 515 JULIA STREET, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202, IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 7, PURSUANT TO SECTION 122.105 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PUBLIC PARKS NAMING AND RENAMING PROCEDURES), *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "GARY F. KEYS, SR. FIRE RESCUE HEADQUARTERS"; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS,** the City of Jacksonville owns the building located at 515 Julia Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202, in Council District 7 which serves as the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department ("JFRD") headquarters; and

**WHEREAS,** Gary F. Keys, Sr. served as Chief of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department for 29 years beginning in 1960 and was an original member of the Rescue Division that was established in 1968; and

**WHEREAS,** during his tenure with the City of Jacksonville, Chief Keys served in a number of integral positions within JFRD including Chief of Operations and Chief of Fire Services; he also served as Jacksonville's Deputy Director of Public Safety; and

**WHEREAS,** the culmination of Chief Keys' career came in 1988

1 when he was promoted to Fire Chief, the highest ranking position  
2 within the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department; and

3 **WHEREAS,** in addition to his storied career with JFRD, Chief  
4 Keys served three terms as President of the International Association  
5 of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 122 union and upon his retirement from  
6 JFRD he returned to the union to become its business agent; and

7 **WHEREAS,** although Chief Keys passed away on December 23, 2014,  
8 his legacy with JFRD and the City is still felt today by those who  
9 knew him personally and by those firefighters who have come behind  
10 him, despite never having the privilege to meet him; his impact is  
11 not only felt in the multiple tactics, procedures and policies he  
12 created for JFRD, but also in the standards he set for all union  
13 presidents who represent our firefighters; and

14 **WHEREAS,** it is for these reasons the Jacksonville City Council  
15 desires to recognize Gary F. Keys, Sr. by naming the building located  
16 at 515 Julia Street the "Gary F. Keys, Sr. Fire Rescue Headquarters"  
17 pursuant to Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*; and

18 **WHEREAS,** the Historic Preservation Section of the Community  
19 Planning Division of the Planning and Development Department has  
20 provided its report in accordance with Section 122.105(b), *Ordinance*  
21 *Code*, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, and recommends approval of the  
22 proposed naming of the City-owned building located at 515 Julia Street  
23 as the "Gary F. Keys, Sr. Fire Rescue Headquarters"; and

24 **WHEREAS,** the Historic Preservation Commission did not provide  
25 an advisory recommendation to the Council within 45 days of the  
26 introduction of this Ordinance and as such this is deemed consent to  
27 the name proposal by the Historic Preservation Commission pursuant  
28 to Section 122.105(c), *Ordinance Code*; now therefore

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

30 **Section 1.** The building located at 515 Julia Street,  
31 Jacksonville, Florida 32202, is hereby named the "Gary F. Keys, Sr.

Fire Rescue Headquarters” in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*. The Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department is the sole occupant of this building and will continue to be responsible for its maintenance and upkeep.

**Section 2. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor’s signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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