

1 Introduced by Council Member Gulliford and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member R. Gaffney and Substituted by the Transportation, Energy and
3 Utilities Committee:
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6 **ORDINANCE 2019-128-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE RENAMING 1ST STREET WEST EXTENDING
8 APPROXIMATELY .10 MILE FROM BROAD STREET
9 NORTH TO PEARL STREET NORTH TO "REVEREND HENRY
10 T RHIM BOULEVARD", IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 7;
11 WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION
12 745.105(H), *ORDINANCE CODE*, THAT A NAME CHANGE
13 BE FOR AN ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE STREET; WAIVING
14 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 745.105(I) (2),
15 *ORDINANCE CODE*, REGARDING PERSONS WHO STREETS
16 MAY BE NAMED AFTER; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS
17 OF SECTION 745.105 (I)(3), *ORDINANCE CODE*,
18 REQUIRING THAT THE PERSON RESIDE WITHIN FIVE
19 MILES OF THE STREET NAME CHANGE FOR AT LEAST
20 TEN YEARS; DIRECTING LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO
21 FORWARD ORDINANCE TO THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT;
22 DIRECTING THAT ONE OVERHEAD SIGN BE PLACED AT
23 THE INTERSECTION OF 1ST STREET WEST AND PEARL
24 STREET NORTH; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
25

26 **WHEREAS**, more than 40 years ago, Henry Thomas Rhim was highly
27 recommended by the leaders of the Luther Rice Seminary to be the
28 new Pastor Teacher for St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church; and

29 **WHEREAS**, in a span of four decades, Reverend Doctor H.T. Rhim
30 has served as an outstanding leader, and pastor impacting thousands

1 of lives in the Jacksonville area as the Pastor of St. Joseph
2 Missionary Baptist Church; and

3 **WHEREAS**, as the pastor of St. Joseph Missionary Baptist
4 Church, Reverend Doctor H.T. Rhim has implemented approximately 44
5 innovative ministries including but not limited to the Big
6 Brothers/Big Sisters Ministry, the Computer Ministry; the
7 Educational Ministry and the Social Justice Ministry; and

8 **WHEREAS**, in an effort to give hope and inspiration to all
9 residents in Jacksonville, the Radio Ministry entitled "Let the
10 Bible Speak," was first broadcasted on the air in 1970 on WBIX, and
11 continued in more recent years as a weekly broadcast on WCGL; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 1982, the members of St. Joseph Missionary Baptist
13 Church purchased 2.5 acres of land and broke ground on a new church
14 building on April 20, 1985 and within less than 10 years,
15 completely satisfied the mortgage for the new church building in
16 September, 1994; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim has served in numerous
18 officer roles in the East Florida and Bethany Baptist Association
19 including serving as President, Financial Secretary, and Chieftain
20 of the Youth Department; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim served commendably as a
22 member of the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Ministers Conference
23 of Duval and surrounding communities, and the Interdenominational
24 Ministerial Alliance; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim's role as a successful
26 leader has extended statewide; he was elected and eventually served
27 10 consecutive terms as the President of the Progressive Missionary
28 and Educational Baptist State Convention of Florida, Inc.; and

29 **WHEREAS**, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim was appointed at the
30 national level to the finance committee of the National Baptist
31 Convention of America, Inc., and quickly advanced to be appointed

1 1st Vice President of the Congress in September, 1988 and 4th Vice
2 President in 1990; and

3 **WHEREAS**, as a representative of the Congress of National
4 Black Churches, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim authored 2 devotions
5 for the African American Devotional Bible; and

6 **WHEREAS**, expressing his sincere devotion for the Jacksonville
7 community, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim is an active member of the
8 NAACP, and was appointed, in 1986 to the Governor's Task Force on
9 the Black Family by Governor Bob Graham and numerous other Task
10 Forces and the Jacksonville Urban League; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 1988, he was appointed to the University of North
12 Florida Student-to-Student Program's Advisory Council; and

13 **WHEREAS**, most notably, the Florida Seminary at Lakeland,
14 Florida awarded Reverend Doctor Rhim an Honorary Doctor of Divinity
15 Degree; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in early 1997, Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim
17 chartered and developed the Blackbottom/Springfield Human
18 Development Corporation which formed the Project S.P.I.R.I.T.
19 program for after-school tutoring and summer camp activities; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church has been in
21 the Jacksonville community since 1930, having prior received
22 national recognition for celebrating its 70th anniversary; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in 2000, the St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church
24 received acknowledgements from President Bill Clinton; Vice
25 President Al Gore, Senator Bob Graham, Governor Jeb Bush, Senator
26 Betty Holzendorf, Mayor John A. Delaney, Sheriff Nathaniel Glover
27 and other Presidential cabinet members; and

28 **WHEREAS**, on January 14, 2012, Reverend Doctor Rhim was honored
29 by the Baptist Ministries Conference of Duval and Adjacent Counties
30 with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Reverend Doctor Rhim was honored by the Jacksonville

1 Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as a
2 recipient of their SCLC Legends, Pioneers and Trailblazer Award on
3 April 5, 2013; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in February 2015, recognizing him as a long-time
5 community activist and role-model, Reverend Doctor Rhim received a
6 Trailblazers Award from Mayor Alvin Brown; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Reverend Doctor Rhim was named by the Barker
8 Foundation as one of the legends in ministry in its 1st Ministry
9 Legends Awards in October 2015; and

10 **WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2019, the Jacksonville Historic
11 Preservation Commission ("JHPC") met and considered the JHPC Staff
12 Report and Recommendation which stated that this segment of 1st
13 Street west of Pearl Street was platted in 1979 and does not have
14 historical significance regarding the existing name. Based upon
15 this information, the Commission voted to approve the name change.
16 A copy of the JHPC Staff Report and Recommendation, and an excerpt
17 of the transcript of the meeting is attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, on April 3, 2019, the 911 Emergency Addressing
20 Advisory Committee met and considered the application as filed,
21 which would rename a portion of 1st Street West, extending from
22 Jefferson Street North to Pearl Street North. An excerpt of the
23 minutes of the April 3, 2019, 911 Emergency Addressing Advisory
24 Committee meeting are attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**. The Committee
25 recommended that the application be approved to rename this portion
26 of 1st West Street for Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the application fee has been remitted to satisfy the
28 cost for the name change and new signage, a copy of the receipt is
29 hereby attached as **Exhibit 4**; and

30 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 745.105(c), notice has been
31 provided to all adjoining property owners, copies of which are

1 attached hereto as **Exhibit 5**; and

2 **WHEREAS**, while an adjoining property owner, First Florida
3 Credit Union, which owns the other two parcels on this section of
4 the road objected to the original request to rename the portion of
5 1st Street West, from Jefferson Street North to Pearl Street North,
6 First Florida Credit Union was amenable to the applicant revising
7 the application to rename the portion of 1st Street West, from Broad
8 Street North to Pearl Street North, thereby providing that 100% of
9 the property owners whose address is assigned agree to the renaming
10 of the street; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of subsection 745.105 (h), *Ordinance*
12 *Code*, require that street name changes be for the entire length of
13 the street, and not a short segment; but given the size of the
14 segment requested and the adverse impact that extending the
15 renaming of the street to Jefferson Street might have on First
16 Florida Credit Union, the Council hereby has determined that
17 renaming the section of 1st Street West, from Broad Street North to
18 Pearl Street North is the best alternative; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Section 745.105 (i) (2), *Ordinance*
20 *Code*, allow for streets to be renamed for persons who have been
21 deceased for a minimum five (5) years, but given the contributions
22 of Reverend Doctor Henry T. Rhim's accomplishments and the
23 community's desire to honor Doctor Rhim during his lifetime, the
24 Council hereby has determined to waive that limitation; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Section 745.105 (i)(3) require that
26 the person being honored should have resided in the community
27 within five miles of the street name change for at least ten years
28 but given Reverend Doctor Rhim's connection to this location
29 through the St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church, which has been
30 located on this road for more than 30 years, it is appropriate to
31 waive this limitation; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Council has, by a 2/3 vote, agreed to waive the
2 requirements of Sections 745.105 (h), (i) (2) and (i) (3), Ordinance
3 Code; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Council desires to honor Reverend Doctor Rhim for
5 his faithful service to St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church and
6 the surrounding community by renaming a portion of 1st Street West
7 from Broad Street North to Pearl Street North; now therefore,

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

9 **Section 1. 1st Street West Renamed.** The name of 1st Street
10 West, extending approximately .10 mile from Broad Street North to
11 Pearl Street North, in Council District 7, is hereby renamed
12 "Reverend Henry T Rhim Boulevard", by which name such street shall
13 be hereafter known. A copy of the map of 1st Street West to
14 "Reverend Henry T Rhim Blvd" is attached hereto as **Revised Exhibit**
15 **1.**

16 **Section 2. Waiver of Section 745.105(h), Ordinance Code.**
17 **Section 745.105(h), Ordinance Code**, requiring that the proposed
18 street name change shall be for the entire length of the street and
19 not for a short segment of the street is hereby waived to allow for
20 the new street name as set forth in Section 1 so that the existing
21 address of the Florida First Credit Union, between Jefferson Street
22 and Broad Street, is not altered.

23 **Section 3. Waiver of Section 745.105 (i) (2), Ordinance**
24 **Code.** Section 745.105 (i) (2), *Ordinance Code*, requiring the
25 approval of streets named for persons who have been deceased for
26 five years, is hereby waived as Reverend Doctor Rhim is not
27 deceased, and to allow for the new street name as set forth in
28 Section 1 hereof, given the many contributions of Reverend Doctor
29 Rhim to the community.

30 **Section 4. Waiver of Section 745.105(i) (3), Ordinance**
31 **Code.** **Section 745.105(i) (3), Ordinance Code**, requiring that the

1 person to whom the proposed street name change is requested shall
2 have resided in the community within five miles of the street name
3 change for at least ten years is hereby waived as Reverend Doctor
4 Rhim has not lived within five miles of the requested street name
5 change but his congregation, to which he has served as pastor for
6 more than 40 years, St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church has been
7 located on this segment of 1st Street West for more than thirty (30)
8 years and has had a profound impact on the surrounding community.

9 **Section 5. Directing Legislative Services to forward a**
10 **copy to the Planning Department.** The Chief of Legislative Services
11 is requested to send a copy of this legislation once enacted to the
12 Planning Department, Addressing Unit, for processing,
13 implementation, and coordination with the Public Works Department,
14 Traffic Engineering Division and other affected agencies and
15 organizations.

16 **Section 6. Directing that one overhead sign be placed at**
17 **the intersection of 1st Street West and Pearl Street North.** The
18 Public Works Departments, Traffic Engineering Division is directed
19 to place one overhead sign at the intersection of 1st Street West
20 and Pearl Street North as a result of the renaming referenced in
21 Section 1 above.

22 **Section 7. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall
23 become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming
24 effective without the Mayor's signature.

25 Form Approved:

26
27 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

28 Office of General Counsel

29 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

30 GC-#1295502-v1-2019-128-E

