

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2022-520**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING THE
6 EDWARD WATERS UNIVERSITY SOFTBALL TEAM ON BEING
7 NAMED THE HBCU NAIA DIVISION NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
8 BY BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS NETWORK; PROVIDING AN
9 EFFECTIVE DATE.
10

11 **WHEREAS**, the Edward Waters University Lady Tigers softball team
12 had an outstanding season in 2022, finishing the year with a record
13 of 32-11, building on the success of a 19-11 record in 2021; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Lady Tigers team was an offensive juggernaut,
15 featuring 8 players with a batting average over .300, including two
16 players over .400, producing a team batting average of .320 for the
17 season; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the team's pitching was equally effective, with the
19 staff producing a team earned run average of just over 3.0 per game;
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, following the completion of the season, the Black
22 College Sports Network's final ranking of the season placed the Lady
23 Tigers first in the NAIA Division of Historically Black College and
24 University (HBCU) teams, making them the HBCU national champions in
25 EWU's last season in NAIA before transitioning to Division II next
26 season; and

27 **WHEREAS**, in a remarkable achievement, both the Edward Waters
28 University softball and baseball teams earned the HBCU national
29 champion titles in 2022; now therefore

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

31 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and congratulates

1 the Edward Waters University Tigers softball team on being named the
2 NAIA Division National Champions of HBCU baseball by the Black College
3 Sports Network. The Council congratulates Head Coach Brian Daley and
4 assistant coaches Mike Ellison, Don Hughes, Billy Rogers and Joe
5 Houde, the Tigers players, Athletic Director Dr. Paul Bryant,
6 university President Dr. A. Zachary Faison, Jr., and the students,
7 faculty, staff, and fans of Edward Waters University on this
8 tremendous achievement and extends its best wishes for continued
9 success at the NCAA Division II level.

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

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14 Form Approved:

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17 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

18 Office of General Counsel

19 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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