

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2026-199**

5 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 65TH
6 ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHI CHAPTER OF OMEGA PSI PHI
7 FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED, AT EDWARD WATERS
8 UNIVERSITY, AND HONORING SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OF
9 LEADERSHIP, SCHOLARSHIP, BROTHERHOOD, AND
10 COMMUNITY SERVICE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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12 **WHEREAS**, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, was founded on
13 November 17, 1911, on the campus of Howard University in Washington,
14 D.C., becoming one of the nation's most distinguished historically
15 Black fraternities and building a legacy grounded in the principles
16 of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the distinguished Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi
18 Fraternity, Incorporated, was first chartered on January 10, 1921,
19 on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, under the
20 direction of Grand Basileus J. Alston Atkins, reflecting the
21 fraternity's expanding national influence in higher education and
22 leadership; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in 1960, members of the Theta Phi Chapter petitioned
24 the fraternity to establish a Chi Chapter at Edward Waters College,
25 Florida's first historically Black college and an institution whose
26 legacy of scholarship and faith has helped shape generations of
27 leaders in Jacksonville and beyond; and

28 **WHEREAS**, that petition was granted on March 20, 1961,
29 establishing the Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity,
30 Incorporated, at Edward Waters College, where ten charter members
31 planted the seeds of a brotherhood that would grow into a lasting

1 legacy of leadership and service across the State of Florida; and

2 **WHEREAS**, in 2026, the Chi Chapter celebrates sixty-five years
3 of continuous brotherhood and service, a milestone representing
4 decades of mentorship, scholarship, civic leadership, and community
5 uplift; and

6 **WHEREAS**, throughout its history the Chi Chapter has initiated
7 men who have gone on to serve with distinction across education,
8 public service, and civic life, including the late Brother Roy
9 Mitchell, the first African American administrator at the University
10 of Florida, Brother Nathaniel Glover, the respected former Sheriff
11 of Jacksonville and the 29th President of Edward Waters College, and
12 Brother Edgar Mathis, Sr., former Seventh District Representative of
13 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated; and

14 **WHEREAS**, for sixty-five years the Chi Chapter has extended its
15 mission far beyond campus, investing in scholarships, mentoring young
16 men, strengthening neighborhoods, and demonstrating that leadership
17 is measured not only by achievement but by the commitment to lift
18 others along the way; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the enduring legacy of the soulful Chi Chapter reflects
20 the very spirit of Jacksonville itself, where scholarship becomes
21 service, brotherhood becomes leadership, and each generation is
22 called to leave the community stronger than it found it; now therefore

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

24 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby proudly recognizes and
25 celebrates the 65th Anniversary of the Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi
26 Fraternity, Incorporated, at Edward Waters University and honors its
27 longstanding commitment to leadership, scholarship, brotherhood, and
28 community uplift. The City Council expresses its appreciation to the
29 past and present members of the Chi Chapter whose dedication continues
30 to inspire generations of leaders throughout Jacksonville, the State
31 of Florida, and the nation.

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

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5 Form Approved:

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7 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

8 Office of General Counsel

9 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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