

1 Introduced by Council Member Carlucci:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2024-301**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE  
6 AND CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF FORMER ASSISTANT  
7 COUNCIL AUDITOR RICHARD "RICK" CORAM; PROVIDING  
8 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Richard "Rick" Coram, a native of Parkersburg, West  
11 Virginia, served several years in the U.S. Navy and the Naval  
12 Reserves, earned his A.A. degree in business from Florida Junior  
13 College at Jacksonville and earned his bachelor's degree in accounting  
14 from the University of South Florida; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1970 Mr. Coram was hired as a staff auditor for  
16 the Council Auditor's Office by Council Auditor Gene McLeod in the  
17 recently created consolidated city government. He earned his CPA  
18 certification in 1973 and in 1977 was promoted to the position of  
19 Assistant Council Auditor, a position he held for 21 years until his  
20 retirement in 1998; and

21 **WHEREAS**, during his two decades as Assistant Council Auditor,  
22 Rick Coram was renowned for his encyclopedic knowledge of City  
23 finances, his insightful analysis of complex issues, his ability to  
24 ask the right question at the right time to get to the heart of an  
25 issue, and his impressive ability to explain the most complicated  
26 financial concepts and accounting principles to the council members  
27 for whom he worked. By doing so he made himself absolutely  
28 indispensable to the City Council, and a highly trusted and  
29 unimpeachable advisor to generations of council members; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Coram was widely respected in the governmental  
31 accounting profession, holding memberships in the American Institute

1 of CPAs, the Florida Institute of CPAs, and the Government Finance  
2 Officers Association of the United States and Canada. He was elected  
3 by his peers as President of the Florida Government Finance Officers  
4 Association for 1988-89 and received that organization's first  
5 Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021; and

6 **WHEREAS,** following his retirement, Rick Coram continued his  
7 service with 3 terms on the General Employees Pension Fund Board of  
8 Trustees from 1998 to 2010. A deeply devoted family man, he also  
9 spent his time seeing to the care and happiness of his family and  
10 participated in his favorite hobby of tennis, often playing with his  
11 long-time friend and colleague, former Council Auditor Bob Johnson;  
12 and

13 **WHEREAS,** the Council has learned with regret of the passing of  
14 Mr. Coram and desires to honor his contributions to the City  
15 government and to the accounting and government finance professions  
16 more broadly; now therefore

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

18 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commemorates  
19 the life and civic contributions of former Assistant Council Auditor  
20 Richard "Rick" Coram on the occasion of his passing and extends to  
21 his family, friends and professional colleagues the Council's sincere  
22 condolences. Mr. Coram was a consummate professional in his dealings  
23 with the City Council, dispensing sound advice and offering the  
24 benefit of his vast expertise while also being a good and valued  
25 friend to hundreds of council members across the decades. His  
26 contributions will be long and gratefully remembered by all who had  
27 the good fortune to know and work with him.

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

1 Form Approved:

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3           /s/ Shannon MacGillis          

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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