

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member Pittman:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2026-199-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 65TH
7 ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHI CHAPTER OF OMEGA PSI PHI
8 FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED, AT EDWARD WATERS
9 UNIVERSITY, AND HONORING SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OF
10 LEADERSHIP, SCHOLARSHIP, BROTHERHOOD, AND
11 COMMUNITY SERVICE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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13 **WHEREAS**, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, was founded on
14 November 17, 1911, on the campus of Howard University in Washington,
15 D.C., becoming one of the nation's most distinguished historically
16 Black fraternities and building a legacy grounded in the principles
17 of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift; and

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

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

29 **WHEREAS**, that petition was granted on March 20, 1961,
30 establishing the Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity,
31 Incorporated, at Edward Waters College, where ten charter members

1 planted the seeds of a brotherhood that would grow into a lasting
2 legacy of leadership and service across the State of Florida; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 of Florida, and the nation.

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

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6 Form Approved:

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8 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

9 Office of General Counsel

10 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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