

1 Introduced by Council President Wilson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member Morgan, Hazouri, Carlucci, Diamond, Salem, Becton and
3 Bowman:

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6 **RESOLUTION 2019-590-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE
8 LIFE AND COUNTLESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CIVIC
9 LEADER JACK DIAMOND; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
10 DATE.

11
12 **WHEREAS**, Jack Diamond, a native of Columbus, Ohio, earned his
13 bachelor's degree in architecture from The Ohio State University
14 where he was awarded the architecture school's highest honor - the
15 Alpha Rho Chi award for leadership, service and merit - before
16 joining the U.S. Navy, graduating from Officer Candidate School and
17 serving in the Civil Engineer Corps; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Diamond moved to Jacksonville in 1970 to join KBJ
19 Architects, one of the city's most prestigious architectural firms,
20 and spend the succeeding four decades playing a major role in
21 producing some of the most well-known icons of the city's skyline,
22 including the Southbank's Prudential Complex, the Bell South Tower
23 (now TIAA Bank Center), the Bryan Simpson Federal Courthouse, the
24 Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, and numerous buildings
25 at the University of North Florida. After 27 years with KBJ, the
26 last 14 as President, he started Diamond Architects which later
27 merged with Rink Reynolds and Fisher to eventually become the Rink
28 Design Partnership, Inc.; and

29 **WHEREAS**, throughout his decades in Jacksonville, Jack Diamond
30 was known as "Mr. Downtown" for his unflagging advocacy for the
31 improvement of the city's urban core. He participated in the

1 development of Downtown Master Plans in 1987, 1992 and 2000 and
2 made countless presentations to City, Chamber of Commerce, civic
3 and social organizations trying to build understanding of and
4 support for the importance of a healthy, vital downtown to the city
5 and region's economy, attractiveness and self-image; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in addition to his professional activities and
7 tireless advocacy for downtown redevelopment, Mr. Diamond was
8 incredibly active in community and civic affairs. Among many
9 others, he chaired the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary
10 Club of Jacksonville, the University of North Florida Foundation,
11 the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida, Hospice of Northeast
12 Florida, the United Way Campaign, and Visit Jacksonville, and he
13 was a founding member of JaxPride, a civic group advocating for
14 removal of visual blight and cleaning up the city; and

15 **WHEREAS**, apart from all of his professional and civic
16 accomplishments, Jack Diamond was a visionary dedicated to his
17 city's growth and improvement and a great friend to all who knew
18 him; now therefore

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

20 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
21 commemorates the life and countless professional and civic
22 accomplishments of architect and civic promoter Jack Diamond, and
23 extends to his family and many friends the City's most sincere
24 condolences on his passing. His legacy will live on in the
25 buildings he designed and the love and great hopes he had for
26 Jacksonville.

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

/s/ Margaret M. Sidman

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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