

Introduced by Council Member Johnson:

ORDINANCE 2025-713

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$10,000 FROM THE SPECIAL COUNCIL CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT TO THE JACKSONVILLE ASSOCIATION OF BLACK JOURNALISTS (JACKSONVILLE NABJ) - SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRIVATE ORG ACCOUNT TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO NABJ NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC. ("JAX NABJ"), FOR THE JACKSONVILLE NABJ GOVERNMENT, LEGAL AND YOUTH MEDIA INITIATIVE (THE "PROGRAM"), AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER TO FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026; WAIVING SECTION 118.107 (NONPROFITS TO RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH A COMPETITIVE EVALUATED AWARD PROCESS; WAIVER AND DISCLOSURES), PART 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), CHAPTER 118 (CITY GRANTS), *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO ALLOW FOR A DIRECT CONTRACT WITH JAX NABJ; APPROVING, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR HER DESIGNEE, AND THE CORPORATION SECRETARY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND NABJ NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC. FOR THE PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR OVERSIGHT BY THE GRANTS AND CONTRACTS COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT; REQUESTING ONE CYCLE EMERGENCY PASSAGE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

Section 1. Appropriation. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year,

1 within the City's budget, there is hereby appropriated the indicated
2 sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to the account(s)
3 listed in subsection (b):

4 (The account information is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and
5 incorporated herein by this reference)

6 (a) Appropriated from:

7 See **Exhibit 1** \$10,000

8 (b) Appropriated to:

9 See **Exhibit 1** \$10,000

10 (c) Explanation of Appropriation:

11 The funding above is an appropriation of \$10,000 from the
12 Special Council Contingency account to the Jacksonville
13 Association of Black Journalists (Jacksonville NABJ) -
14 Subsidies and Contributions to Private Org account to
15 provide a grant to NABJ Northeast Florida, Inc. ("Jax
16 NABJ") for the Jacksonville NABJ Government, Legal and
17 Youth Media Initiative (the "Program") as described herein.

18 **Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in
19 Section 1 is to provide funding from the City of Jacksonville to Jax
20 NABJ for the Program as described in **Exhibit 2**, attached hereto and
21 incorporated herein by this reference. The Program is comprised of
22 several workshops designed to strengthen local journalism capacity
23 and civic engagement. The Program will accomplish this by educating
24 participants on how to work effectively with government, providing
25 practical legal insights into government processes, recognizing
26 excellence in local media professionals with an aim at elevating
27 standards and visibility, and providing youth media programming that
28 will support high school and college students with an interest in
29 civic journalism by teaching best practices. The City funds will be
30 used for various costs to host the workshops including office
31 supplies, printing and advertising, and materials for both the

workshop facilitators and participants.

Section 3. Carryover. The funds appropriated herein shall not lapse but shall carryover to Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Section 4. Waiver of Section 118.107, Ordinance Code. The provisions of Section 118.107 (Nonprofits to receive funding through a competitive evaluated award process; waiver and disclosures), Part 1 (General Provisions), Chapter 118 (City Grants), *Ordinance Code*, are hereby waived to allow for a direct contract with NABJ Northeast Florida, Inc. This waiver is justified because Jax NABJ will use the City funds to deliver several workshops for members of the community interested in civic engagement and journalism with a unique focus on learning how to effectively engage with government entities. This coupled with the goal of the Program to improve the quality and accuracy of local news supports this request for the waiver. Jax NABJ has provided the Affidavit of Disclosure required by subsection 118.107(b)(2), *Ordinance Code*, attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**, to accompany this waiver.

Section 5. Approval and Authorization to Execute. There is hereby approved, and the Mayor, or her designee, and the Corporation Secretary are hereby authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City an agreement with NABJ Northeast Florida, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000, subject to the Term Sheet and Budget more particularly described in **Exhibit 2**, for a term commencing on September 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, and all other contracts and documents, including extensions, renewals and amendments to the agreement, and to otherwise take all action necessary to effectuate the intent of this Ordinance, subject to appropriate legal review and approval by the General Counsel, or his or her designee, and the City's Risk Management Division for appropriate insurance and indemnification requirements in accordance with Section 128.601, *Ordinance Code*.

Section 6. Oversight Department. The Grants and Contract Compliance Division of the Finance Department shall oversee the project described herein.

Section 7. Requesting One Cycle Emergency Passage Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency. One cycle emergency passage of this legislation is requested. The nature of the emergency is that the funds appropriated herein were set aside for Council Member strategic initiatives in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and will lapse on September 30, 2025, if not appropriated within the current fiscal year.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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