

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

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4
5 **RESOLUTION 2025-415-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE
7 CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE JACKSONVILLE
8 ALUMNI CHAPTER OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY,
9 INC., RECOGNIZING ITS CENTURY OF SERVICE,
10 BROTHERHOOD, AND ACHIEVEMENT IN EVERY FIELD OF
11 HUMAN ENDEAVOR, AND COMMENDING ITS LEGACY OF
12 DISTINCTION IN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND
13 BEYOND; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

14
15 **WHEREAS,** on February 27, 1925, the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter
16 of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., was established, becoming not
17 only the first chapter of its kind in the City of Jacksonville but
18 also the first Black Greek-letter organization in the State of
19 Florida; and

20 **WHEREAS,** chartered by the 14th Grand Chapter, the Jacksonville
21 Alumni Chapter was led by visionaries such as Lemuel Bolton, Dr. I.A.
22 White, Deaver P. Young, Oliver Dukes, Dr. S. Spearing Campbell, J.R.E.
23 Lee, Jr., Jacob Wycliffe Keller, Lewis H. Meyers, Thomas R. Reid,
24 Jr., and John C. Wright, men who did not merely found a chapter, but
25 planted a generational standard of excellence; and

26 **WHEREAS,** the Chapter's very DNA is tied to the elite ranks of
27 Kappa leadership, woven with the legacies of national pioneers like
28 Dr. Hamilton, M. Holmes and Dr. Albert B. Cooper, pillars of
29 scholarship and service whose influence laid a foundation that has
30 stood unshaken for a century; and

31 **WHEREAS,** the legacy of the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter is built

1 upon more than ceremonial ritual, it is cemented in civic action,
2 generational mentorship, academic scholarship, and the elevation of
3 men into spheres of leadership that have shaped the soul of this
4 city; and

5 **WHEREAS,** over the course of 100 years, the Chapter has produced
6 luminaries whose names are synonymous with excellence in medicine,
7 education, law, and public service, including Dr. Charles McIntosh,
8 whose compassionate care transformed pediatric medicine in
9 Jacksonville; Dr. Richard Danford, Jr., a higher education executive
10 and longtime President of the Jacksonville Urban League, expanding
11 access and opportunity through transformative leadership; and Dr.
12 Chester Aikens, whose brilliance in dentistry was matched only by his
13 community devotion and public service; and

14 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Alumni Chapter was three-times named the
15 Large Chapter of the Year, and has also been home to nationally
16 recognized fraternity leadership, including Elder Watson Diggs
17 Awardees Dr. Frank S. Emanuel and John F. Burrell, the stewardship
18 of Grand Historian Cleveland Ferguson III, Esq., and a legacy of Past
19 Polemarchs whose collective leadership earned Jacksonville the
20 distinction as the Flagship Chapter of the Southern Province; and

21 **WHEREAS,** Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., founded on the
22 cardinal principles of achievement, purpose, and brotherhood, has
23 tirelessly worked to uplift youth, empower communities, and preserve
24 excellence through education, civic responsibility, and mentorship;
25 and

26 **WHEREAS,** for 100 years, the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter has
27 embodied the phrase "Achievement in Every Field of Human Endeavor,"
28 and in doing so, has helped transform not just the lives of its
29 members, but the trajectory of this city; now therefore

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

31 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors, uplifts, and

celebrates the Centennial Anniversary of the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and extends deep gratitude for its 100 years of service, advocacy, brotherhood, and transformational leadership. The Council recognizes the Alumni Chapter's historic founding, its continued influence on the civic and cultural fabric of Jacksonville, and its living legacy as a beacon of African American male achievement and empowerment.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution 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: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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