

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Member MorganR. Gaffney, DeFoor, Cumber, Salem, Freeman, Bowman,  
3 Diamond, Wilson, Hazouri, White, Carlucci, Priestly Jackson,  
4 Becton, Boylan, Ferraro, Newby, Dennis:

5  
6 **RESOLUTION 2019-856**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE  
8 DEDICATION, SERVICE, AND LEADERSHIP OF CHIEF  
9 DELORIS O'NEAL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, Chief Deloris O'Neal joined the Jacksonville Sheriff's  
12 Office in September 1997. It was immediately evident that she would  
13 be an asset to JSO and the community. She began as a patrol officer  
14 and purposefully integrated herself into the neighborhood to  
15 establish a rapport with the residents. Deloris possessed a genuine  
16 desire to improve citizen relations with law enforcement and  
17 encourage youth to make better life choices. Over the next 21  
18 years, Deloris O'Neal continued to develop as an officer and a  
19 community leader. Her consistent and excellent work ethic paved the  
20 way for her to gain the trust of citizens throughout Jacksonville  
21 and climb the ranks within JSO. She worked in various divisions  
22 such as Patrol, Investigations, Personnel and Professional  
23 Standards, and Community Affairs and Special Events. Also, she  
24 served as the Assistant Chief in the Northwest quadrant of  
25 Jacksonville. In this role, she implemented community relations  
26 strategies that have been successful in increasing community  
27 involvement; and

28 **WHEREAS**, Deloris O'Neal, a woman of strength and courage, is  
29 guided by her faith every day to encourage and empower others. To  
30 further show her commitment to the community, especially the youth,  
31 she visits schools to speak about opportunities and life choices;

1 and accepts numerous invitations as a speaker and attendee to  
2 community meetings and events. Chief O'Neal is a generous and  
3 supportive leader that takes the time to listen to residents' need  
4 and work towards solutions through combined efforts. Although her  
5 words, her guidance, and her vibrant smile have changed the lives  
6 of many throughout Duval County, Zone 5 has a special place in her  
7 heart. Chief O'Neal was raised in and still has family members that  
8 reside and attend school in the area; and

9 **WHEREAS**, during her tenure with JSO, Deloris O'Neal's  
10 professionalism and experience afforded her opportunities to work  
11 with community organizations including, but not limited to, Big  
12 Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida; Edward Waters College  
13 Criminal Justice Department; Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee  
14 (JJAC); Community and Justice Steering Committee; Northeast Florida  
15 Community Action Agency (NFCAA); JTA Accident Review Board; and  
16 Salvation Army Advisory Committee. She has received many  
17 acknowledgments and awards such as a graduate of Leadership  
18 Jacksonville 2018 (THE best class), the 2019 Law Enforcement  
19 Officer of the Year, the City of Jacksonville's Inaugural Champion  
20 Award, United Way Outstanding Woman Leader, and Leading Lady of the  
21 904; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Deloris O'Neal moved up the ranks based on her  
23 experience, professionalism, and proven leadership abilities to  
24 earn her most recent position, Chief of Police Services. She is the  
25 first African American female to hold the rank of Chief in the  
26 Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; now therefore

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

28 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and  
29 commends Chief Deloris O'Neal on her well-deserved promotion and  
30 applauds her compassion and devotion to JSO and the community. Her  
31 new title is a testament to the integrity, respect, and ability she

1 possesses. We are grateful for her service and untiring commitment  
2 to the City of Jacksonville and its residents.

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

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7 Form Approved:

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9   /s/ *Margaret M. Sidman*

10 Office of General Counsel

11 Legislation Prepared By: Yvonne P. Mitchell, City Council Research

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