

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

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-413-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
7 THE THETA PHI CHAPTER OF OMEGA PSI PHI
8 FRATERNITY, INC., AND RECOGNIZING ITS CENTURY OF
9 EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE, BROTHERHOOD, AND COMMUNITY
10 LEADERSHIP IN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE;
11 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

12
13 **WHEREAS,** Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was founded in 1911
14 at Howard University upon the cardinal principles of Manhood,
15 Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift—principles that continue to
16 serve as both compass and creed for its members; and

17 **WHEREAS,** on May 11, 1925, the Theta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi
18 Phi Fraternity, Inc., was chartered in the City of Jacksonville,
19 Florida, becoming the first chapter in the State of Florida,
20 established through the unwavering dedication of Brother W.W. Blocker
21 and founding members Brothers W.A. Busch, G.H. Leggett, R.L. Brown,
22 and J.A. Thomas; and

23 **WHEREAS,** the men of the Theta Phi Chapter immediately set out
24 to make meaningful contributions to the civic, cultural, educational,
25 and spiritual life of Jacksonville, championing the study of African
26 American history, advocating for the inclusion of Negro achievement
27 in public education, and uplifting the legacy of national heroes like
28 Brother Charles Young; and

29 **WHEREAS,** the Chapter's early leadership included trailblazers
30 such as Brother D.W. Perkins, one of Jacksonville's most esteemed
31 attorneys and civic leaders; Brother I.E. Williams, a distinguished

1 physician; Brother F.M. Morton, a revered educator; and Brothers J.E.
2 Ford and E.J. Gregg, pastoral giants who brought the ministry of
3 Omega into the hearts of Jacksonville's faithful; and

4 **WHEREAS,** for one hundred years, the Theta Phi Chapter has stood
5 as a beacon of excellence, fortitude, and purpose, its roster a
6 tapestry of educators, entrepreneurs, clergy, public servants, and
7 community advocates whose contributions have not only enriched
8 Jacksonville but have helped elevate the broader arc of Black
9 excellence across the South; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Theta Phi has embraced the call to service through
11 voter engagement, scholarship endowments, social justice work, and
12 relentless mentorship, ensuring that Omega's principles echo not just
13 in ceremony but in practice throughout Duval County and beyond; and

14 **WHEREAS,** it is altogether fitting and proper that the City of
15 Jacksonville salute and uplift this landmark occasion, honoring a
16 century of "Friendship is Essential to the Soul" and a legacy of
17 leadership forged not in comfort, but in courage; now therefore

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

19 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and celebrates
20 the 100th Anniversary of the Theta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi
21 Fraternity, Inc., and commends its members, past and present, for
22 their unwavering commitment to service, leadership, and uplift in
23 Jacksonville and the State of Florida. The Council extends heartfelt
24 gratitude to the men of Theta Phi for a century of stewardship in
25 shaping young minds, building stronger communities, and exemplifying
26 the enduring power of Brotherhood.

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/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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