

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Diamond, Howland, Salem,
2 Newby, Freeman, White, Ferraro, Boylan, Carlucci and Pittman and
3 Co-Sponsored by Council Members Becton and Carrico:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2023-379**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING JON ROBERT PHILLIPS UPON
8 HIS RETIREMENT FOR HIS DECADES OF SERVICE TO
9 THE CITY IN THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL;
10 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
11

12 **WHEREAS,** Jon Robert Phillips graduated cum laude from Tulane
13 University, and earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of
14 Florida College of Law. After law school, he worked in Gainesville
15 in private practice, and then as a prosecutor for three years
16 before moving to Jacksonville in 1987; and

17 **WHEREAS,** prior to joining the General Counsel's Office, Mr.
18 Phillips practiced as an Assistant State Attorney in Jacksonville
19 from 1987 to 2001, where he specialized in the prosecution of
20 homicide cases. His positions included Director of Circuit Court,
21 Director of County Court, Director of Special Prosecutions, Deputy
22 Director of Repeat Offender Court, and Division Chief of Public
23 Corruption and Special Operations; and

24 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips also volunteered his time to mentor and
25 help shape the path of his fellow attorneys, both as an adjunct
26 professor at the Criminal Clinic at Florida Coastal School of Law,
27 and as a lecturer teaching prosecutors about trial techniques and
28 expert witness cross-examinations; and

29 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips previously served as a member of the
30 Fourth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee, the Florida Bar
31 Criminal Standard Jury Instructions Committee, the Florida

1 Prosecuting Attorneys Association Education Committee, the Mayor's
2 Sexual Assault Advisory Council, and the Florida Bar Unlicensed
3 Practice of Law Committee for the Fourth Judicial Circuit Courts of
4 Florida; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Phillips joined the General Counsel's Office in
6 May 2002. He took charge of the General Litigation Department in
7 March 2014, representing all City departments and the independent
8 agencies in state and federal courts, and before administrative
9 agencies and arbitration panels; and

10 **WHEREAS,** on June 2, 2023, Mr. Phillips retired from the
11 Office of General Counsel after steadfastly serving the City for
12 twenty-one years. During his tenure, he consistently exhibited
13 professionalism while handling the varied and vast matters in the
14 Office of General Counsel and maintained an unflappable demeanor
15 when facing the more challenging circumstances associated with
16 litigation. Mr. Phillips enriched the Office of General Counsel
17 with his expertise and dedication, and he delivered first-rate
18 legal guidance to all sectors of our consolidated government for
19 more than two decades; now therefore

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

21 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
22 commends Jon Robert Phillips for his esteemed legal career and his
23 decades of service to the City in the Office of General Counsel.
24 The City Council extends appreciation to Mr. Phillips for all he
25 has done to support our City government and wishes the best for him
26 and his family upon his retirement.

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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1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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