

1 Introduced by Council Member Gay and Co-Sponsored by Council Members  
2 Carlucci, Amaro, Clark-Murray, Miller, Salem, J. Carlucci, Carlucci,  
3 White, Howland, Freeman and Lahnen:  
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6 **ORDINANCE 2024-544-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 745 (ADDRESSING  
8 AND STREET NAMING REGULATIONS), *ORDINANCE CODE*;  
9 NAMING AN EXISTING PRIVATE ROAD EXTENDING FROM  
10 HECKSCHER DRIVE TO A DEAD END IN COUNCIL  
11 DISTRICT 2 TO "J.D. THOMPSON STREET";  
12 RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF J.D. THOMPSON;  
13 WAIVING THE REQUIREMENT OF CITY OF JACKSONVILLE  
14 ADDRESSING AND STREET NAMING POLICY THAT THE  
15 HONOREE BE DECEASED FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS;  
16 DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION TO  
17 FORWARD A COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE, ONCE ENACTED,  
18 TO THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR  
19 PROCESSING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND COORDINATION  
20 VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER AFFECTED  
21 AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS; PROVIDING AN  
22 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
23

24 **WHEREAS**, on July 17, 1967, JEA linemen, J. D. Thompson and  
25 Randall Champion, were working on two separate utility poles on West  
26 26<sup>th</sup> Street in Jacksonville; and

27 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Champion accidentally contacted power lines which  
28 caused 2,400 volts of direct electricity to his body; and

29 **WHEREAS**, such extensive amount of electrical power rendered  
30 Mr. Champion unconscious and suspended by his safety harness more  
31 than 20 feet off the ground; and

1           **WHEREAS**, fellow lineman, J.D. Thompson, quickly climbed down  
2 the utility pole he was working on a few hundred feet away and ran  
3 toward and climbed up Mr. Champion's utility pole to save his friend  
4 and co-worker; and

5           **WHEREAS**, Mr. Thompson administered mouth-to-mouth  
6 resuscitation which, successfully, awakened Mr. Champion. Next, Mr.  
7 Thompson unhooked Mr. Champion's safety harness and helped lower him  
8 safely to the ground below; and

9           **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville City Council desires to name an  
10 existing private street extending from Heckscher Drive in Council  
11 District 2 to "J.D. Thompson Street" in honor of J.D. Thompson, for  
12 his heroic rescue of co-worker, Randall Champion; and

13           **WHEREAS**, Section 745.106 (a), *Ordinance Code*, requires the  
14 Planning and Development Department to "...establish and maintain, in  
15 conjunction with the files of public street names, a registry of  
16 names of private streets and Unnamed Shared Accessways in the City...";  
17 and

18           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Subsection 745.106 (c), *Ordinance Code*,  
19 "[e]xisting private streets or Unnamed Shared Accessways may be named  
20 in accordance with the requirements and procedures set forth in the  
21 Addressing and Street Naming Policy..."; and

22           **WHEREAS**, the City Addressing and Street Naming Policy requires  
23 that "...[t]he individual whose name is used must have been deceased  
24 for a period of no less than 5 years"; and

25           **WHEREAS**, the Council finds it appropriate to name an existing  
26 private street extending from Heckscher Drive in Council District 2  
27 to "J.D. Thompson Street"; and

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

29           **Section 1. Existing private street named as "J.D. Thompson**  
30 **Street."** An existing private street extending from Heckscher Drive  
31 in Council District 2 is hereby named as "J.D. Thompson Street" by

1 which name such street and physical location shall be hereafter known  
2 and designated. A copy of the map of "J.D. Thompson Street" is  
3 attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this  
4 reference.

5 **Section 2. Waiver of City of Jacksonville Addressing and**  
6 **Street Naming Policy.** The City of Jacksonville Addressing and Street  
7 Naming Policy, requiring that the honoree be deceased for at least  
8 five years is hereby waived because the Council desires to recognize  
9 the heroic contributions of J.D. Thompson made to the City of  
10 Jacksonville more than 50 years ago which are long overdue.

11 **Section 3. Directing Legislative Services to forward a copy**  
12 **to the Planning and Development Department.** The Chief of Legislative  
13 Services is requested to send a copy of this legislation, once  
14 enacted, to the Addressing Section of the Planning and Development  
15 Department for processing, implementation, and coordination with 911  
16 Emergency, the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, the Post  
17 Office, the Traffic Engineering Division of the Public Works  
18 Department, and other affected agencies and organizations.

19 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
20 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
21 without the Mayor's signature.

22  
23 Form Approved:

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25           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

26 Office of General Counsel

27 Legislation Prepared By: Cherry S. Pollock

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