

1 Introduced by Council Member White and Co-Sponsored by Council Members  
2 Becton, Salem, Carlucci, Carrico, Bowman, Morgan, Ferraro, Pittman,  
3 Priestly Jackson, Howland, Diamond, Dennis, Newby, Freeman, DeFoor,  
4 Gaffney, Cumber, and Boylan and amended by the Neighborhoods,  
5 Community Services, Public Health and Safety Committee and amended  
6 on the Floor of Council:

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9 **ORDINANCE 2022-330-E**

10 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 745 (ADDRESSING  
11 AND STREET NAMING REGULATIONS), *ORDINANCE CODE*;  
12 ESTABLISHING AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION AND  
13 ASSOCIATED ROADWAY MARKERS FOR ENGINEER MICHAEL  
14 L. FREELAND, A FALLEN FIRE AND RESCUE OFFICER  
15 WHO DIED WHILE IN THE LINE OF DUTY; ESTABLISHING  
16 AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION ON AVIATION  
17 AVENUE IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 12 FOR ENGINEER  
18 MICHAEL L. FREELAND; PROVIDING FOR THE ROADSIDE  
19 MARKERS FOR ENGINEER MICHAEL L. FREELAND BE  
20 DEPICTED AS CONTEMPLATED IN SECTION 745.105  
21 (J) (9) (B), *ORDINANCE CODE*; PROVIDING FOR THE  
22 INSTALLATION OF TWO HONORARY ROADWAY MARKERS TO  
23 BE LOCATED IN APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS ON THE  
24 DESIGNATED ROADWAY IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 12;  
25 WAIVER OF SECTION 745.105 (I) (2), *ORDINANCE*  
26 *CODE*, WHICH REQUIRES THAT THE HONOREE BE  
27 DECEASED FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS; WAIVER OF SECTION  
28 745.102 (I) (3), *ORDINANCE CODE*, WHICH REQUIRES  
29 THE HONOREE TO LIVE WITHIN 5 MILES OF THE  
30 DESIGNATED ROADWAY FOR 10 YEARS; DIRECTING THE  
31 LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION TO FORWARD THIS

ORDINANCE TO THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR PROCESSING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND COORDINATION WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND OTHER AFFECTED AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD) submitted a request for an Honorary Street Name Designation to honor Fire and Rescue Engineer Michael L. Freeland; (Correspondence from the Office of the Director/Fire Chief, City of Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 745.105 (j) (9) (b), *Ordinance Code*, provides for honorary designations for fallen fire and rescue officers who die while in the Line of Duty; and

**WHEREAS**, Engineer Freeland died while in the Line of Duty while attempting to disentangle a patient from a heavily damaged truck impaled by a power pole. Freeland collapsed at the scene of the incident, and ultimately, was declared deceased; and

**WHEREAS**, for 6 years, Engineer Freeland worked as a part of the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Unit (ARFF,) and was assigned to Fire Station 73; and

**WHEREAS**, Engineer Freeland participated, with fierce dedication, in the COVID testing and vaccination effort during the Pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Services will honor Engineer Freeland’s name on the Memorial Wall at the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Ocala, Florida, and at the State Capitol; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department recognized the memory of Engineer Freeland which included a “Ring of the Bell” ceremony, a “Last Guard” ritual, presentation of a Fallen Firefighter Memorial Flag and a medallion; and

1           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 745.105 (j)(10), *Ordinance Code*,  
2 the Planning and Development Department mailed written notifications  
3 on January 12, 2022, and on March 8, 2022, to affected property owners  
4 requesting that the affected property owners to indicate their written  
5 consent or objection to the proposed honorary street designation.  
6 Copies of the January 12, 2022, and March 8, 2022, letters are  
7 attached as **Exhibit 2** and **Exhibit 3**; and

8           **WHEREAS**, because no property owners responded to the  
9 notifications from the Planning and Development Department, the  
10 property owners are deemed to have consented to the proposed honorary  
11 street designation; and

12           **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that the accomplishments of Engineer  
13 Michael L. Freeland are worthy and deserving of a form of recognition  
14 that the City of Jacksonville and Engineer Michael L. Freeland's  
15 family, friends and colleagues can share and celebrate in, to wit:  
16 the creation of an honorary street designation and the installation  
17 of two appropriate honorary roadway markers on Aviation Avenue in  
18 Council District 12; now therefore,

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

20           **Section 1. Aviation Avenue to receive an honorary street**  
21 **designation for Engineer Michael L. Freeland.** Aviation Avenue in  
22 Council District 12 shall hereby be designated as contemplated by  
23 Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*, for Engineer Michael L. Freeland. A  
24 map of the road designation is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**.

25           **Section 2. Honorary Roadside Markers for Engineer Michael**  
26 **L. Freeland to be depicted as authorized in Section 745.105 (j)(9)**  
27 **(a)-(b), Ordinance Code.** Two honorary roadside markers shall depict  
28 the appropriate badge and/or emblem color for Engineer Michael L.  
29 Freeland as contemplated in Section 745.105 (j)(9)(a)-(b), *Ordinance*  
30 *Code*, to read as follows:

31   **Fire and Rescue Officer**

**Engineer Michael L. Freeland**

**End of Watch**

**November 11, 2021**

**Section 3. Honorary Roadside Markers for Engineer Michael L. Freeland to be installed.** Two honorary roadside markers, as contemplated by Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*, recognizing and honoring Engineer Michael L. Freeland shall be placed in appropriate locations at the intersection of Aviation Avenue and 103<sup>rd</sup> Street extending to Airman Drive, in front of Fire Station 73 in Jacksonville.

**Section 4. Waiver of Section 745.105(i)(2), *Ordinance Code*.** Section 745.105(i)(2), *Ordinance Code*, which requires that the honoree be deceased for a least five years is hereby waived due to the fact that the honoree died while in the Line of Duty.

**Section 5. Waiver of Section 745.105(i)(3), *Ordinance Code*.** Section 745.105(i)(3), *Ordinance Code*, which requires that the honoree live within 5 miles of the designated road for 10 years is hereby waived because the honoree was assigned to work at Station 73 which is located on the designated roadway.

**Section 6. Directing Legislative Services to forward a copy to the Planning and Development Department.** The Chief of Legislative Services is requested to send a copy of this legislation, once enacted, to the Planning and Development Department, Addressing Unit, for processing, implementation, and coordination with the Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division and other affected agencies and organizations.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Cherry S. Pollock

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