

1 Introduced by Council Members Johnson and Amaro:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2024-995**

5 A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND  
6 CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHIEF APOSTLE, BISHOP ARTHUR T.  
7 JONES, SR. AND EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO HIS  
8 FAMILY, CONGREGATION AND FRIENDS UPON HIS  
9 PASSING; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON  
10 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
11

12 **WHEREAS,** Chief Apostle, Bishop Arthur T. Jones, Sr. was the  
13 Founder and Prelate of All People International Church (APIC), Inc.  
14 and the Father's Covenant International Fellowship (FCIF),  
15 headquartered in Jacksonville. Called to a preaching ministry at the  
16 age of 16, he dedicated more than 50 years to leading APIC, which he  
17 founded in his parents' garage at age 25. Shortly thereafter, in 1976  
18 their little church moved to its current Edgewood Avenue location;  
19 and

20 **WHEREAS,** APIC's vision is to serve God, the community, and the  
21 world with integrity and with the utmost excellence. It does this  
22 through a variety of internal and external ministries, including the  
23 Sons of Valor mentoring and coaching ministry for men in need, a  
24 weekly outreach stimulus ministry that feeds and clothes the needy  
25 in the community, and numerous programs to tend to the needs of his  
26 congregation; and

27 **WHEREAS,** Bishop Jones, Sr. was the Presiding Bishop of five  
28 churches in Jacksonville, one in Mableton, Georgia, one chartered  
29 church in Grange Westmoreland, Jamaica, forty-five churches and two  
30 orphanages in Haiti, and one church in Brasilia, Brazil until his  
31 recent untimely death; and

1       **WHEREAS,** known as "a father to the city," Bishop Jones, Sr.  
2 was celebrated for his integrity and ability to inspire others and  
3 was particularly known as a mentor and advisor to other clergy,  
4 passing on his deep faith along with the wisdom and experience gained  
5 by years in ministry to strengthen others in their work; and

6       **WHEREAS,** Bishop Jones, Sr. was the recipient of many honors  
7 for his dedication and good works throughout his long and  
8 distinguished career, including an honorary Doctorate in Divinity  
9 awarded by Truth Bible College Seminary, the My Sons Ministry Award,  
10 the Abba Award, the Vision for Excellence Award by Public Defender  
11 Matt Shrink, and the Florida Gospel Legend Award; and

12       **WHEREAS,** Bishop Jones, Sr. was both the product of and the  
13 producer of ministerial families, being the son of Deacon Roosevelt  
14 C. Jones, Sr. and Presiding Evangelist Essie M. Jones, the husband  
15 of Bishop Sharon P. Jones, and the father of Bishop-Designate Arthur  
16 T. Jones, Jr., (Impact Worship Center), Executive Pastor Ardel Jones  
17 (APIC), and Elder Shantel T. Jones-Cross, National Minister of Music  
18 at All People International Church and the Father's Covenant  
19 International, Inc.; now therefore

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

21       **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commemorates  
22 the life and achievements of Chief Apostle, Bishop Arthur T. Jones,  
23 Sr. of All People International Church, Inc. and the Father's Covenant  
24 International Fellowship for his decades of faithful service to his  
25 congregations and to the City of Jacksonville. The Council also  
26 extends its deepest condolences to his family, congregation, and many  
27 friends and admirers. His example of selfless service and inspiring  
28 faith will be long and gratefully remembered.

29       **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**  
30 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon  
31 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the

1 emergency is so that condolences may be extended to Bishop Jones,  
2 Sr.'s family and friends in a timely manner upon this unexpected,  
3 sudden news of his passing on Thanksgiving morning.

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

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8 Form Approved:

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10                 /s/ Shannon MacGillis          

11 Office of General Counsel

12 Legislation Prepared By:   Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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