

1 Introduced by Council Member Gay:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2024-544**

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

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

25 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Campion accidentally contacted power lines which  
26 caused 2,400 volts of direct electricity to his body; and

27 **WHEREAS**, such extensive amount of electrical power rendered Mr.  
28 Campion unconscious and suspended his safety harness more than 20  
29 feet off the ground; and

30 **WHEREAS**, fellow lineman, J.D. Thompson, quickly climbed down the  
31 utility pole he was working on a few hundred feet away and ran toward

1 and climbed up Mr. Champion's utility pole to save his friend and co-  
2 worker; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 **Section 1. Existing private street named as "J.D. Thompson**  
28 **Street."** An existing private street extending from Heckscher Drive  
29 in Council District 2 is hereby named as "J.D. Thompson Street" by  
30 which name such street and physical location shall be hereafter known  
31 and designated. A copy of the map of "J.D. Thompson Street" is

1 attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this  
2 reference.

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

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

17 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become  
18 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
19 without the Mayor's signature.

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21 Form Approved:

22  
23 /s/Cherry Shaw Pollock

24 Office of General Counsel

25 Legislation Prepared By: Cherry S. Pollock

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