

Introduced by Council Member Miller and amended by the Rules Committee:

ORDINANCE 2025-658-E

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15.108 (ANNUAL CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING), CHAPTER 15 (JACKSONVILLE SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE ACT), *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ANNUAL TRAINING FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ASSISTANTS ON GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE, OPEN MEETINGS LAWS AND ETHICS LAWS AND UPDATES OR OTHER MATTERS REGARDING SAME; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Section 1. Amending Section 15.108 (Annual continuing education and training), Chapter 15 (Jacksonville Sunshine Law Compliance Act), Ordinance Code. Section 15.108 (Annual continuing education and training), Chapter 15 (Jacksonville Sunshine Law Compliance Act), *Ordinance Code*, is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 15 - JACKSONVILLE SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE ACT

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Sec. 15.108. - Annual continuing education and training.

(a) Council Members and Executive Council Assistants shall receive, ~~and the Office of the General Counsel, with the assistance of the City Ethics Director, the Director/Council Secretary and other supporting agencies, shall provide~~ annual training on Government in the Sunshine, open meetings laws ~~and ethics laws,~~ ethics laws, and up to one hour devoted to updates on relevant

1 changes to or interpretations or applications of such laws, if
2 any, or other areas of emphasis as determined by the Office of
3 General Counsel or the City Ethics Director. The Office of
4 General Counsel, with the assistance of the City Ethics
5 Director, the Director/Council Secretary and other supporting
6 agencies, shall provide annual training to assist the Council
7 Members and Executive Council Assistants in meeting this
8 requirement. Such training may include annual in person/live
9 training totaling 4 credit hours, four in person/live trainings
10 of 1 credit hour each and in person, one-on-one training as
11 follows:

12 (1) Council Members and their Executive Council Assistants
13 shall be required during the first year of a Council
14 Member's term in office to attend in person, if possible,
15 or if unable to attend in person, following the submission
16 of a written excusal submitted to the Director/Council
17 Secretary, to view the recording of the current year's
18 training provided by the Office of General Counsel, the
19 City Ethics Director and the Director/Council Secretary.

20 (2) Thereafter, Council Members and their Executive Council
21 Assistants may fulfill the requirement of this Section as
22 follows:

23 (a) attending in person or viewing the recordings of the
24 current year's trainings provided by the Office of
25 General Counsel, the City Ethics Director and the
26 Director/Council Secretary, including the annual
27 training or other Office of General Counsel, City
28 Ethics Director and Director/Council Secretary
29 training sessions totaling 4 credit hours per year,
30 or

31 (b) attending in person or viewing a recording of

1 trainings offered by external organizations such as
2 the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida
3 League of Cities, the Florida Commission on Ethics,
4 and the State of Florida Attorney General's Office,
5 and also completing, by either attending in person or
6 viewing a recording of the current year's training
7 provided by the Office of General Counsel, the City
8 Ethics Director, and the Director/Council Secretary
9 of up to one hour regarding relevant updates and
10 changes to or interpretations or applications of
11 Government in the Sunshine, open meetings and ethics
12 laws, or any areas of emphasis as determined by the
13 Office of General Counsel or the City Ethics Director.
14 Trainings provided by external organizations shall
15 only satisfy the requirements in this Section if such
16 training materials have been previously approved by
17 either the Florida Commission on Ethics or the State
18 of Florida Attorney General's Office, or upon review
19 and approval by the Office of General Counsel and the
20 Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight.

- 21 (b) The date and time of the annual trainings offered by the Office
22 of General Counsel, the City Ethics Director and the
23 Director/Council Secretary as provided in subsection (a).
24 ~~format, time, and duration of this training~~ shall be determined
25 by the Director/Council Secretary, City Ethics Director ~~of~~
26 ~~Ethics,~~ and Office of General Counsel. The format and duration
27 of these trainings shall also be coordinated by the
28 Director/Council Secretary, City Ethics Director and Office of
29 General Counsel and shall be sufficient ~~utilized~~ to fulfill the
30 requirements of F.S. § 112.3142. The Office of General Counsel
31 and City Ethics Director shall notify the Director/Council

Secretary of any one-on-one trainings provided to individual Council Members and Executive Council Assistants.

(c) All Council Members and Executive Council Assistants attending or required to attend the annual training provided pursuant to subsection (a) shall be provided materials in electronic format.

(d) In addition to the aforementioned annual training, training on Government in the Sunshine, open meetings laws and ethics shall be provided upon special request. These presentations may be given at committee or Council meetings or at other times as may be directed by the Council President.

Section 2. Codification Instructions. The Codifier and the Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and division "tables of contents" consistent with the changes set forth herein. Such editorial changes and any others necessary to make the *Ordinance Code* consistent with the intent of this legislation are approved and directed herein, and changes to the *Ordinance Code* shall be made forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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