

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2025-415**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE
6 CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE JACKSONVILLE
7 ALUMNI CHAPTER OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY,
8 INC., RECOGNIZING ITS CENTURY OF SERVICE,
9 BROTHERHOOD, AND ACHIEVEMENT IN EVERY FIELD OF
10 HUMAN ENDEAVOR, AND COMMENDING ITS LEGACY OF
11 DISTINCTION IN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND
12 BEYOND; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
13

14 **WHEREAS**, on February 27, 1925, the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter
15 of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., was established, becoming not
16 only the first chapter of its kind in the City of Jacksonville but
17 also the first Black Greek-letter organization in the State of
18 Florida; and

19 **WHEREAS**, chartered by the 14th Grand Chapter, the Jacksonville
20 Alumni Chapter was led by visionaries such as Lemuel Bolton, Dr. I.A.
21 White, Deaver P. Young, Oliver Dukes, Dr. S. Spearing Campbell, J.R.E.
22 Lee, Jr., Jacob Wycliffe Keller, Lewis H. Meyers, Thomas R. Reid,
23 Jr., and John C. Wright, men who did not merely found a chapter, but
24 planted a generational standard of excellence; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the Chapter's very DNA is tied to the elite ranks of
26 Kappa leadership, woven with the legacies of national pioneers like
27 Dr. Hamilton, M. Holmes and Dr. Albert B. Cooper, pillars of
28 scholarship and service whose influence laid a foundation that has
29 stood unshaken for a century; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the legacy of the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter is built
31 upon more than ceremonial ritual, it is cemented in civic action,

1 generational mentorship, academic scholarship, and the elevation of
2 men into spheres of leadership that have shaped the soul of this
3 city; and

4 **WHEREAS,** over the course of 100 years, the Chapter has produced
5 luminaries whose names are synonymous with excellence in medicine,
6 education, law, and public service, including Dr. Charles McIntosh,
7 whose compassionate care transformed pediatric medicine in
8 Jacksonville; Dr. Richard Danford, Jr., a higher education executive
9 and longtime President of the Jacksonville Urban League, expanding
10 access and opportunity through transformative leadership; and Dr.
11 Chester Aikens, whose brilliance in dentistry was matched only by his
12 community devotion and public service; and

13 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Alumni Chapter was three-times named the
14 Large Chapter of the Year, and has also been home to nationally
15 recognized fraternity leadership, including Elder Watson Diggs
16 Awardees Dr. Frank S. Emanuel and John F. Burrell, the stewardship
17 of Grand Historian Cleveland Ferguson III, Esq., and a legacy of Past
18 Polemarchs whose collective leadership earned Jacksonville the
19 distinction as the Flagship Chapter of the Southern Province; and

20 **WHEREAS,** Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., founded on the
21 cardinal principles of achievement, purpose, and brotherhood, has
22 tirelessly worked to uplift youth, empower communities, and preserve
23 excellence through education, civic responsibility, and mentorship;
24 and

25 **WHEREAS,** for 100 years, the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter has
26 embodied the phrase "Achievement in Every Field of Human Endeavor,"
27 and in doing so, has helped transform not just the lives of its
28 members, but the trajectory of this city; now therefore

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

30 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors, uplifts, and
31 celebrates the Centennial Anniversary of the Jacksonville Alumni

Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and extends deep gratitude for its 100 years of service, advocacy, brotherhood, and transformational leadership. The Council recognizes the Alumni Chapter's historic founding, its continued influence on the civic and cultural fabric of Jacksonville, and its living legacy as a beacon of African American male achievement and empowerment.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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