

1 Introduced by Council Members Pittman, White, Freeman, Howland, J.
2 Carlucci, Carlucci, Johnson, Peluso, Clark-Murray and Carrico and Co-
3 Sponsored by Council Members Amaro, Gaffney, Jr., and Lahnen:
4
5

6 **RESOLUTION 2023-699**

7 A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CITY COUNCIL'S
8 CONDOLENCES TO THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF THE
9 AUGUST 26, 2023, DOLLAR GENERAL SHOOTING AND
10 THEIR FAMILIES, PUBLICLY CONDEMNING RACISM,
11 DISCRIMINATION, BIGOTRY, BIAS AND HATEFUL
12 ACTIONS AND SPEECH OF ANY KIND, AND CALLING FOR
13 THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY TO UNITE IN THE
14 EFFORT TO ERADICATE HATE CRIMES AND TO PROMOTE
15 TOLERANCE, DIVERSITY AND EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ALL
16 INDIVIDUALS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
17

18 **WHEREAS**, on Saturday, August 26, 2023, the Jacksonville
19 community was devastated when a fatal shooting of three Black
20 residents occurred at a Dollar General store in New Town; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Angela Michelle Carr, Anolt Joseph "AJ" Laguerre, Jr.
22 and Jerrald De'Shaun Gallion were the victims of a racially motivated
23 hate crime when a white gunman entered the Dollar General and shot
24 several rounds at the victims using a handgun and rifle that bore
25 swastika markings; and

26 **WHEREAS**, this shooting was a racially motivated action and
27 crime targeted against Black persons; and

28 **WHEREAS**, racist acts and decisions based on prejudice and bias
29 only serve to create discord and lead to increases in discrimination
30 and disparate outcomes in housing, education, employment, and
31 criminal justice; and

1 **WHEREAS,** the City Council desires to publicly condemn actions
2 of bias and hate in all forms as they have no place in our community,
3 and silence and inaction in the face of such actions is an
4 unacceptable response; and

5 **WHEREAS,** this Resolution serves as a starting point and
6 acknowledges the need to commence the necessary and serious work and
7 action that must be taken to generate transformational change in our
8 community; now therefore

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

10 **Section 1.** The City Council desires to honor the victims
11 and survivors of the Dollar General shooting and their families and
12 encourages the community to question, peacefully challenge and
13 appropriately report hateful acts whenever they are seen, heard or
14 encountered. The Council publicly condemns racism, discrimination,
15 bigotry, bias and hateful actions and speech of any kind and is
16 committed to identifying opportunities and initiatives aimed at
17 increasing community awareness and safeguarding Jacksonville's
18 diverse community from further actions of hate and prejudice. The
19 Jacksonville community, including its for-profit, not-for-profit and
20 faith-based partners, is encouraged to unite in this effort to
21 eradicate hate crimes and to promote tolerance, diversity and equal
22 treatment for all individuals, regardless of their race or ethnicity.

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

26 Form Approved:

27
28 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

29 Office of General Counsel

30 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

31 GC-#1589663-v3-Reso_Condemning_Hate_Crimes_(Pittman).docx