

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2023-584**

5 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT
6 OF RANDLE P. DEFOOR AS THE GENERAL COUNSEL
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 7.03 OF THE CHARTER OF THE
8 CITY OF JACKSONVILLE; DIRECTING LEGISLATIVE
9 SERVICES TO NOTIFY THE CLERK OF COURT, PROPERTY
10 APPRAISER, SHERIFF, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, TAX
11 COLLECTOR AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE DUVAL COUNTY
12 SCHOOL BOARD UPON INTRODUCTION OF THIS
13 RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE INPUT AND GUIDANCE
14 REGARDING THIS APPOINTMENT PURSUANT TO COUNCIL
15 RULE 4.1103; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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17 **WHEREAS**, the selection of the General Counsel is governed by
18 the City of Jacksonville Charter, Section 7.03 (Selection and Term
19 of the General Counsel); and

20 **WHEREAS**, in accordance therewith, at the commencement of newly
21 elected Mayor Donna Deegan's term, Mayor Deegan empaneled the General
22 Counsel's Qualification Review Committee, comprised of five attorneys
23 consisting of the Jacksonville Bar Association President, two former
24 general counsels and two members of the Florida Bar Board of
25 Governors; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Deegan appointed an acting General Counsel to
27 serve for a period of 90 days beginning July 1, 2023, in order for
28 there to be continuity and an orderly operation in the Office of
29 General Counsel during the pendency of the deliberations of the
30 General Counsel's Qualification Review Committee; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the 90-day period is scheduled to expire at the end

1 of September, 2023; and

2 **WHEREAS,** the General Counsel's Qualification Review Committee
3 commenced meeting in July 2023 and advertised for interested
4 candidates for the General Counsel position for 3 weeks; and

5 **WHEREAS,** on August 9, 2023, the General Counsel's
6 Qualification Review Committee voted unanimously to strongly
7 recommend Randle P. DeFoor to be appointed as General Counsel; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Ms. DeFoor brings decades of experience as a general
9 counsel and management executive, including serving as counsel to one
10 of Jacksonville's Fortune 500 companies; currently she serves as
11 Senior Vice President, National Agency Counsel for Fidelity National
12 Title Group and has held this position since 2013; prior to Fidelity,
13 she was a Senior Vice President at Regency Centers where she started
14 the legal department and ran it for 16 years; and

15 **WHEREAS,** Ms. DeFoor was elected to the Jacksonville City
16 Council in 2019 and during her tenure as a member of Council she
17 served as Chair of the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public
18 Health and Safety Committee and was appointed as a Council
19 representative to the Northeast Florida Regional Council in 2022; she
20 is also a member of numerous boards and philanthropic organizations
21 engaged in serving the Jacksonville community; and

22 **WHEREAS,** Mayor Deegan has found that the interests of the
23 Consolidated Government will be best served by appointing Randle P.
24 DeFoor as General Counsel; and

25 **WHEREAS,** the Council finds that Randle P. DeFoor is duly
26 qualified to serve as the City of Jacksonville's General Counsel and
27 that Mayor Deegan's appointment of Randal DeFoor as General Counsel
28 should be confirmed; now therefore

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

30 **Section 1. Confirmation.** The Council hereby confirms the
31 Mayor's appointment of Randle P. DeFoor as the General Counsel for

1 the City of Jacksonville pursuant to Section 7.03 of the Charter of
2 the City of Jacksonville. The resume of the General Counsel is
3 attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

4 **Section 2. Directing Legislative Services to Notify Certain**
5 **Parties Pursuant to Council Rule 4.1103.** Upon introduction of this
6 Resolution, the Legislative Services Division is directed to notify
7 the Clerk of the Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of
8 Elections, Tax Collector and Chairperson of the Duval County School
9 Board and encourage them to provide oral or written input and guidance
10 to the Rules Committee and any other committee considering this
11 appointment, as to the fitness of the appointee to be General Counsel,
12 in accordance with Council Rule 4.1103 (Confirmation of the General
13 Counsel).

14 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
15 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
16 without the Mayor's signature.

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18 Form Approved:

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20 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

21 Office of General Counsel

22 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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