

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2025-345**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING AREZOU  
6 "ARI" JOLLY FOR HER EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE  
7 CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AS CHAIR OF THE  
8 JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF  
9 DIRECTORS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
10

11 **WHEREAS,** Arezou "Ari" Jolly has rendered distinguished and  
12 selfless service as Chair of the Jacksonville Transportation  
13 Authority (JTA) Board of Directors from 2021 to 2022, providing  
14 critical leadership during a transformative period for Jacksonville's  
15 transit infrastructure and mobility innovation; and

16 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly was appointed to the JTA Board in 2015 by  
17 Governor Rick Scott and reappointed in 2019 by Governor Ron DeSantis,  
18 reflecting a continued confidence in her strategic insight, legal  
19 acumen, and civic integrity; and

20 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly's professional career includes her current  
21 role as Senior Assistant General Counsel and Expert Counsel at  
22 GuideWell Mutual Holding Corporation (Florida Blue), where she  
23 advises on investment strategy, corporate development, and board  
24 governance for numerous subsidiaries and joint ventures; and

25 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly is an accomplished attorney, having  
26 graduated from Florida State College of Law with Highest Honors, she  
27 previously practiced at the prestigious law firm of Rogers, Towers,  
28 Bailey, Jones, and Gay, and is a member of both the Florida Bar and  
29 the Jacksonville Bar Association; and

30 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly commitment to public service is evident  
31 through her roles on the boards of Fleet Landing, the American Public

1 Transportation Association, the JU Public Policy Institute, and the  
2 Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, where she also served as  
3 Chair; and

4 **WHEREAS,** a proud veteran of the United States Navy, Ms. Jolly  
5 served with distinction as a Naval Officer from 1983 to 1990 and was  
6 awarded the Navy Achievement Medal in 1987, later graduating with  
7 honors from the Naval Legal Justice School in Newport, Rhode Island;  
8 and

9 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly continues to be a dedicated advocate for  
10 veterans, having chaired the Veterans Network at Florida Blue and the  
11 Greater Jacksonville Area USO, and she is a recognized thought leader  
12 on the contributions of women veterans and the multicultural U.S.  
13 Armed Forces; and

14 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly's excellence and influence have been  
15 acknowledged through numerous honors, including being named a Woman  
16 of Influence by the Jacksonville Business Journal (2015), a Woman Who  
17 Moves the Nation by the Conference of Minority Transportation  
18 Officials (2022), a finalist for the Florida Times-Union's EVE Award  
19 (2022), Jacksonville University's Outstanding Military Alumnus of  
20 Distinction (2022), and the American Public Transportation  
21 Association's Outstanding Public Transportation Board Member of the  
22 Year (2024); and

23 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Jolly's leadership has left an indelible mark on  
24 Jacksonville's transportation ecosystem, its civic institutions, and  
25 the lives of countless residents, exemplifying the very best of  
26 servant leadership and civic responsibility; now therefore

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

28 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends  
29 Arezou Ari Jolly for her exemplary service and leadership as Chair  
30 of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority Board of Directors from  
31 2021 to 2022 and expresses deep gratitude for her decades of

1 professional excellence, community commitment, and military service.  
2 The City Council extends its best wishes to Ms. Jolly in all future  
3 endeavors and trusts that her legacy will continue to inspire  
4 generations of civic and corporate leaders across the region.

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

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9 Form Approved:

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11 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

12 Office of General Counsel

13 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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