

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2026-317**

5 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 745 (ADDRESSING  
6 AND STREET NAMING REGULATIONS), *ORDINANCE CODE*;  
7 ESTABLISHING AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION AND  
8 ASSOCIATED ROADWAY MARKERS FOR PASTOR ERNIE L.  
9 MURRAY, SR.; ESTABLISHING AN HONORARY STREET  
10 DESIGNATION ON MONCRIEF ROAD BETWEEN EDGEWOOD  
11 AVENUE WEST AND ROWE AVENUE IN COUNCIL DISTRICT  
12 10 FOR PASTOR ERNIE L. MURRAY, SR.; PROVIDING FOR  
13 THE INSTALLATION OF TWO HONORARY ROADWAY MARKERS  
14 TO BE LOCATED IN APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS ON THE  
15 DESIGNATED ROAD IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 10; WAIVING  
16 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION 745.105(I)(2),  
17 *ORDINANCE CODE*, THAT THE HONOREE BE DECEASED FOR  
18 AT LEAST FIVE YEARS; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
19 SUBSECTION 745.105 (I)(3), *ORDINANCE CODE*, THAT  
20 THE HONOREE RESIDE IN THE COMMUNITY WITHIN FIVE  
21 MILES OF THE STREET BEING DESIGNATED FOR AT  
22 LEAST TEN YEARS; DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE  
23 SERVICES DIVISION TO FORWARD A COPY OF THIS  
24 ORDINANCE, ONCE ENACTED, TO THE PUBLIC WORKS  
25 DEPARTMENT, TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND ADDRESSING  
26 DIVISIONS, FOR PROCESSING, IMPLEMENTATION AND  
27 COORDINATION WITH THE APPLICANT AND OTHER  
28 AFFECTED AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS; PROVIDING  
29 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
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1           **WHEREAS**, Pastor Ernie L. Murray, Sr., who served with loyal  
2 dedication as the long-time pastor of the St. Thomas Missionary  
3 Baptist Church for more than thirty-eight years, passed away February  
4 28, 2025; and

5           **WHEREAS**, in the beginning, in June 1986, Pastor Murray began  
6 his long and productive service as the anointed Pastor at the original  
7 location of the St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church located at 2335  
8 Moncrief Road; and

9           **WHEREAS**, due to the steadily increasing church members, Pastor  
10 Murray and Officers of the Church purchased the property located at  
11 5863 Moncrief Road in 1992 and held a groundbreaking ceremony five  
12 years later in 1995; and

13           **WHEREAS**, on January 19, 1997, Pastor Ernie L. Murray, Sr. and  
14 the entire church congregation walked from the old church location  
15 to the new church location for the purpose of dedicating the new  
16 church to the surrounding community and other nearby churches; and

17           **WHEREAS**, with a desire to expand and develop the surrounding  
18 community, Pastor Murray and members of the church purchased  
19 additional acres of property in 1997 for a Multi-Purpose Building to  
20 be located at the corner of Moncrief and Rowe Avenue; and

21           **WHEREAS**, in 2003, additional properties were purchased by the  
22 church to establish Boy Scouts Troop #558 which provided tutoring for  
23 children at no cost; and

24           **WHEREAS**, in 2005, Pastor Murray and the St. Thomas Missionary  
25 Baptist Church parishioners purchased their fourth property; a food  
26 and clothing pantry located at 5756 Moncrief Road. Five years later,  
27 the Pantry was re-named "The Joyce George Clothing & Food Pantry" in  
28 remembrance of a loyal church member who passed away; and

29           **WHEREAS**, the church purchased an additional property for the  
30 purpose of opening the St. Thomas Child Development Center in 2007  
31 which continues in diligent service throughout the weekday for

1 newborns to 12 years old children; and

2       **WHEREAS**, on October 17, 2015, St. Thomas Missionary Baptist  
3 Church celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and received numerous  
4 congratulatory letters from current and past Jacksonville Mayors,  
5 current and former Duval Senators, former Jacksonville City Council  
6 members, former Jacksonville Sheriff Mike Williams and former Florida  
7 Governor Rick Scott; and

8       **WHEREAS**, the clergy in the area were impressed with Pastor  
9 Ernie L. Murray's hosting of pastoral classes and revivals in varying  
10 denominations; and

11       **WHEREAS**, Pastor Murray's legacy was deeply rooted in faith,  
12 vision and steadfast dedication where he guided and nurtured the  
13 development of several young pastors; and

14       **WHEREAS**, Pastor Ernie L. Murray, Sr. forever changed lives by  
15 leaving a last imprint for generations to come; and

16       **WHEREAS**, upon his passing in 2025, Pastor Murray received  
17 recognition, congratulatory honors and words of sympathies from  
18 numerous elected officials including but not limited to: Mayor Donna  
19 Deegan (2025), Resolution from the Jacksonville City Council (2025),  
20 Senator Aaron Bean (2023), Representative Kimbery Daniels (2025), the  
21 President of the Florida General Baptist Convention, First Missionary  
22 Baptist Church and Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church; and

23       **WHEREAS**, Albertha W. Brooks submitted an Application for  
24 Honorary Street Name Designation and paid the required fee for the  
25 honorary marker and copies of the Application and the receipt of the  
26 payment have been placed **On File** with the Legislative Services  
27 Division; and

28       **WHEREAS**, pursuant to subsection 745.105(j)(10), *Ordinance Code*,  
29 the Public Works Department mailed written notifications on January  
30 15, 2026 and February 27, 2026 to five affected property owners  
31 requesting their written consent or objection to the proposed honorary

1 street designation and copies of the first and second written  
2 notifications have been placed **On File** with the Legislative Services  
3 Division; and

4 **WHEREAS**, a list of the five affected addresses has been placed  
5 **On File** with the Legislative Services Division; and

6 **WHEREAS**, two affected property owners indicated their consent  
7 to the proposed honorary designation and copies of the written  
8 consents have been placed **On File** with the Legislative Services  
9 Division; and

10 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Subsection 745.105(j)(10), Ordinance Code,  
11 the remaining three affected property owners are deemed to have  
12 consented to the proposed honorary designation due to their non-  
13 response to the written notifications; now therefore

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

15 **Section 1. Moncrief Road Honorary Street Designation for**  
16 **"Pastor Ernie L. Murray, Sr."**. Moncrief Road extending from Edgewood  
17 Avenue West to Rowe Avenue in Council District 10 is hereby designated  
18 as contemplated by Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*, for "Pastor Ernie  
19 L. Murray, Sr." A map of the honorary street name designation has  
20 been placed **On File** with the Legislative Services Division.

21 **Section 2. Honorary Roadside Markers for "Pastor Ernie L.**  
22 **Murray, Sr." to be Installed.** Two honorary roadside markers, as  
23 contemplated by Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*, recognizing "Pastor  
24 Ernie L. Murray, Sr." shall be placed in appropriate locations on  
25 Moncrief Road.

26 **Section 3. Waiver of Subsection 745.105 (i)(2), Ordinance**  
27 **Code.** Subsection 745.105 (i)(2), *Ordinance Code*, requiring that the  
28 honoree be deceased for at least five years is hereby waived because  
29 the City Council desires to provide long-overdue recognition for the  
30 contributions of Pastor Murray made to the St. Thomas Missionary  
31 Baptist Church located on Moncrief Road and the surrounding community

1 also located on Moncrief Road.

2           **Section 4. Waiver of Subsection 745.105 (i) (3), Ordinance**  
3 **Code.** Subsection 745.105(i) (3), *Ordinance Code*, requiring that the  
4 honoree reside in the community within five miles of the designated  
5 street for at least ten years is hereby waived because Pastor Murray  
6 served, faithfully, for thirty eight years as the Pastor of St. Thomas  
7 Missionary Baptist Church, and provided numerous resources to the  
8 community which included the Church, the Multi-Purpose Building, the  
9 Boy Scouts Troop #558, the clothing and food pantry and the St. Thomas  
10 Child Development center all located on Moncrief Road.

11           **Section 5. Directive to Legislative Services Division.** The  
12 Legislative Services Division is hereby directed to send a copy of  
13 this Ordinance, once enacted, to the Public Works Department,  
14 Addressing Unit, for processing, implementation, and coordination  
15 with the Traffic Engineering Division, the Applicant and other  
16 affected agencies and organizations.

17           **Section 6. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall  
18 become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming  
19 effective without the Mayor's signature.

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21 Form Approved:

22  
23 /s/ Cherry S. Pollock

24 Office of General Counsel

25 Legislation Prepared By: Cherry S. Pollock

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