

Introduced by Council Members Freeman, Dennis, and Gaffney:

**RESOLUTION 2022-469**

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING THE  
EDWARD WATERS UNIVERSITY BASEBALL TEAM ON  
WINNING THE INAUGURAL TYSON FOODS BLACK COLLEGE  
BASEBALL WORLD SERIES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
DATE.

**WHEREAS**, 2022 marks the second year of the Black College Baseball  
World Series, a season-ending tournament for historically black  
colleges and universities (HBCUs) under the new title sponsorship of  
Tyson Foods and hosted at Riverwalk Stadium in Montgomery, Alabama;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the World Series format is composed of two brackets,  
one comprised of 4 teams representing NCAA Division II schools and  
the other comprised of 4 teams representing NAIA (National Association  
of Intercollegiate Athletics) schools playing a double-elimination  
tournament with the winners of the two brackets meeting in the  
championship game; and

**WHEREAS**, the Edward Waters University (EWU) Tigers, the second  
seed in the NAIA bracket, opened the Series with a 9-6 win over third-  
seeded Rust College before falling to top-seeded Florida Memorial  
University in a winner's bracket game by a score of 14-1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tigers rebounded to avoid elimination by again  
beating Rust College by a score of 8-5, setting up a rematch with  
Florida Memorial for the NAIA bracket's berth in the championship  
game. In a game that started late in the evening and continued into  
the wee hours of the next morning, EWU prevailed over Florida Memorial  
in a thrilling 9-8 victory, taking an early lead and holding off a

late comeback by the Lions to reach the World Series championship;  
and

**WHEREAS**, on May 14th, 2022, EWU and Kentucky State University, champion of the NCAA bracket, met for the World Series title. Led by the hitting of World Series Most Outstanding Player, Keilin Washington, the pitching of Austin James, John Nobles and Caden Hutchinson, the Tigers held off the KSU Thorobreds for another nail-biting 3-2 win for the World Series championship. Thus, ending their stay in the NAIA and marking their transition to the NCAA Division II level next year in style; now therefore

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

**Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and congratulates the Edward Waters University Tigers baseball team on their recent victory in the Tyson Foods Black College Baseball World Series, signifying their HBCU baseball championship win. The Council congratulates Head Coach Reginald Johnson II, Assistant Coaches Ray Otero, Cody Crawford and Malik Barrington, the Tigers players, Athletic Director Dr. Paul Bryant, University President Dr. A. Zachary Faison, Jr., and the students, faculty, staff, and fans of Edward Waters University on this tremendous achievement and extends its best wishes for continued success at the NCAA Division II level.

**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/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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