

Introduced by Council Members Freeman, Dennis, and Gaffney and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Salem, Becton, Newby, Diamond, Dennis, Priestly Jackson, DeFoor, Howland & Morgan:

**RESOLUTION 2022-469-A**

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

1 the wee hours of the next morning, EWU prevailed over Florida Memorial  
2 in a thrilling 9-8 victory, taking an early lead and holding off a  
3 late comeback by the Lions to reach the World Series championship;  
4 and

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

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

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

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

Form Approved:

          /s/ Lawsikia J. Hodges          

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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