

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2022-600**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE
6 AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FORMER CITY DIRECTOR OF
7 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS STEVE WOODARD; PROVIDING
8 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Steve Woodard, a native of Hampton, Virginia, graduated
11 from West Virginia University and spent a lifelong career in various
12 aspects of the security, law enforcement and emergency preparedness
13 professions; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Woodard began his career working in security for
15 the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation for 5 years, after which he
16 began a long and distinguished career in the U.S. Secret Service in
17 1987. He held positions as Special Agent in the New York field office
18 and Special Agent in Charge of the Richmond, VA, office. He was
19 assigned to Secret Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and he
20 also served as the liaison with the FBI for one year; and

21 **WHEREAS**, his career with the Secret Service was varied and
22 exciting, with assignments ranging from security at the Salt Lake
23 City Olympics in 2002 to overseeing security during the 2002 Super
24 Bowl following the 9-11 terrorist attack, to working internationally
25 in a variety of events around the world. From 2008 to 2013 he served
26 as the top administrator in the Federal Emergency Management Agency
27 in Washington, D.C., during which at various times he managed the
28 National Response Coordination Center, National Watch Center, FEMA
29 Operations Center, Disaster Emergency Communications, and the Urban
30 Search and Rescue Program; and

31 **WHEREAS**, in 2013 Steve Woodard joined the City of Jacksonville

1 team as Director of Emergency Preparedness in the Fire and Rescue
2 Department and devoted another decade of his distinguished career to
3 helping ensure the safety and preparedness of the City of Jacksonville
4 and its citizens from potential human threats and natural disasters
5 of all kinds. He was the City's point person and key spokesman for
6 hurricane preparedness, flooding awareness, and other natural threats
7 and was responsible for overseeing the City's preparation,
8 prevention, response, recovery and mitigation efforts in an all-
9 hazards environment. He particularly helped to lead the City's
10 response to the COVID-19 pandemic and was instrumental in preparing
11 for and leading the recovery from Hurricanes Matthew and Irma; and

12 **WHEREAS,** throughout his long and varied career of public
13 service, Mr. Woodard's calm demeanor, encyclopedic knowledge, and
14 ethic of cooperation helped to ensure that fellow employees, the news
15 media, and the general public had great confidence in their
16 government's preparedness and ability to respond to any threat; and

17 **WHEREAS,** the City was saddened to learn of the recent untimely
18 passing of Steve Woodard and desires to commemorate his decades of
19 public service; now therefore

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

21 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commemorates
22 the long and distinguished public service career of former Director
23 of Emergency Preparedness Steve Woodard and recognizes his many
24 contributions to safety and security of the City of Jacksonville's
25 government and the citizens it represents. The Council extends to Mr.
26 Woodard's family, friends, and fellow employees its sincere
27 condolences on his passing. His countless contributions to the City
28 will be long and gratefully remembered.

29 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
30 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
31 without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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