

1 Introduced by Council Member Carlucci and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Amaro, Johnson, Pittman and Miller:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-703-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE
7 CONTRIBUTIONS OF TOMAS A. JIMENEZ, SR. FOR THE
8 RECOGNITION AND PROMOTION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
9 JACKSONVILLE'S HISPANIC COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY
10 THROUGH HIS LEADERSHIP IN THE CREATION OF THE
11 MAYOR'S HISPANIC AMERICAN ADVISORY BOARD AND THE
12 ACHIEVING THE DREAM SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM;
13 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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15 **WHEREAS,** as a young boy Tomas A. Jimenez, Sr. and his family
16 fled from Cuba during the revolution of the early 1960s and he
17 attended schools in the United States including the University of
18 Miami and Florida International University; and

19 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Jimenez has spent a long career in the
20 construction equipment and development fields, serving as President
21 of several companies that provide heavy equipment and cranes to the
22 construction industry and also served as President of a real estate
23 development company. In 2009 when his company supplied cranes and
24 various equipment to build the new county courthouse, he was able to
25 ensure, through the general contractor, the substantial use of
26 minorities and Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses as part of
27 the construction of that historic building; and

28 **WHEREAS,** for many years, Tomas A. Jimenez, Sr. has been an
29 activist, promoter and leader in efforts to organize and activate
30 Jacksonville's diverse Hispanic community to become a unified voice
31 for recognition of the presence and participation of that community

1 in Jacksonville's economic, civic and cultural life; and

2 **WHEREAS**, in 1998 Mr. Jimenez partnered with then-Mayor John
3 Delaney to create the Mayor's Hispanic American Advisory Board to
4 provide a direct line of communication from the Hispanic community
5 to and from the city government, and after many years of service he
6 is often referred to as the "Emeritus Chair" of the board. He was
7 also a member of the City's International Relations and Marketing
8 Development Commission in the late 1990s, promoting Jacksonville as
9 a prime location for international business; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in 2014 the government of Mexico appointed Mr. Jimenez
11 as the honorary consul in North Florida; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Tomas A. Jimenez, Sr. was the driving force behind
13 the creation of the Achieving the Dream Scholarship in 1999, which
14 continues to provide college scholarships to Hispanic or Latinx
15 students from the Northeast Florida region. The program has awarded
16 over \$700,000 in scholarships to dozens of local college students to
17 help them both improve their life prospects and celebrate their rich
18 heritage; now therefore

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

20 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends
21 Tomas A. Jimenez, Sr. for his decades of tireless efforts to achieve
22 recognition of and to promote the diversity and success of
23 Jacksonville's Hispanic community. He has been a powerful and eloquent
24 advocate for that community's contributions, desires and interests
25 in a wide variety of forums, and his advocacy and representation are
26 deserving of recognition and commendation. The City Council extends
27 its best wishes to Mr. Jimenez for continued success in his mission.

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

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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