

1 Introduced by Council Member Carlucci and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members DeFoor, Newby, Priestly Jackson, Boylan, Diamond, Morgan,
3 Salem, Becton and Pittman:
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5 **RESOLUTION 2020-28**

6 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARK LATHAM FOR HIS
7 BRAVERY UNDER DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES;
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, on Friday December 6, 2019, there was a man armed
11 with a gun outside of the Panera restaurant on Hendricks Avenue in
12 San Marco; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Mark Latham, the Panera manager, saw the man walking
14 down the street firing the gun and immediately moved customers to
15 safety in the restaurant's walk-in freezer. Mr. Latham remained
16 calm in the face of danger and called 911 for assistance, and
17 fortunately no one was injured during the incident; and

18 **WHEREAS**, according to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the
19 armed man was suicidal and was arrested without incident after
20 officers arrived on the scene. Nearly two-thirds of all gun deaths
21 nationally are suicides, resulting in an average of 61 deaths per
22 day. In Florida, an average of 1626 people die by gun suicide
23 annually, with an average of 80 gun suicides in Duval County each
24 year; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Latham modestly told the media that he acted as
26 anyone would under the circumstances and just quickly reacted to do
27 the right thing. However, with 100,000 Americans injured by guns
28 each year, and with 100 killed by guns every day, the situation
29 could have ended in tragedy without Mark Latham's heroism; now
30 therefore

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

1 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby commends Mark
2 Latham for his bravery, his composure when faced with danger and
3 for prioritizing the safety of his customers.

4 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
5 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
6 without the Mayor's signature.

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8 Form Approved:

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10 /s/ *Margaret M. Sidman*

11 Office of General Counsel

12 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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