

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the
2 Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission:
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5 **ORDINANCE 2020-139**

6 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 307 (HISTORIC
7 PRESERVATION), *ORDINANCE CODE*; DESIGNATING THE
8 INDEPENDENT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY BUILDING,
9 LOCATED AT 233 W. DUVAL STREET, IN COUNCIL
10 DISTRICT 7, AS A LOCAL LANDMARK, PURSUANT TO
11 APPLICATION LM-20-01; DIRECTING THE CHIEF OF
12 LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO NOTIFY THE APPLICANT,
13 THE PROPERTY OWNER, AND THE PROPERTY APPRAISER
14 OF THE LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION, AND TO RECORD
15 THE LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION IN THE OFFICIAL
16 RECORDS OF DUVAL COUNTY; DIRECTING THE ZONING
17 ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER THE LOCAL LANDMARK
18 DESIGNATION ON THE ZONING ATLAS; PROVIDING AN
19 EFFECTIVE DATE.
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21 **WHEREAS**, the Council enacted Chapter 307 (Historic
22 Preservation), *Ordinance Code*, and determined therein that the
23 preservation, protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of
24 landmarks, landmark sites and historic districts is a public
25 necessity because they have special historic, archaeological,
26 aesthetic or cultural interest and value; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the proposed local landmark, pursuant to Application
28 LM-20-01, **On File** with the Legislative Services Division, is the
29 Independent Life Insurance Company Building, located at 233 W.
30 Duval Street, in Council District 7; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Application LM-20-01 was filed by the owner of the

1 Independent Life Insurance Company Building, and the owner supports
2 the proposed local landmark designation; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building was
4 one of the largest in Florida at the time and the most important
5 commercial building constructed in the City of Jacksonville during
6 the 1950s; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building was
8 completed in 1955 and was Jacksonville's second modern skyscraper
9 and a forerunner to other skyscrapers that followed in the 1950s
10 and 1960s; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building was
12 designed by KBJ Architects, Inc., a leading Florida architecture
13 firm since the end of World War II, which designed 17 of
14 Jacksonville's tallest buildings and responsible for creating the
15 City's modern skyline; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the 2016 National Register District Nomination for
17 Downtown Jacksonville recognized the Independent Life Insurance
18 Company Building as one of Jacksonville's landmarks, noting the
19 original design as remarkably intact and timeless; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building is
21 suitable for preservation as an important historic landmark; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that the Independent Life Insurance
23 Company Building meets five (5) of the seven (7) criteria required
24 for local landmark designation, as more particularly described in
25 the Staff Report of the Planning and Development Department (Staff
26 Report), **On File** with the Legislative Services Division; and

27 **WHEREAS**, on January 22, 2020, the Jacksonville Historic
28 Preservation Commission reviewed and recommended approval of the
29 proposed local landmark designation; and

30 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 307 (Historic
31 Preservation), *Ordinance Code*, the Council has reviewed the

1 proposed local landmark designation, taking into consideration its
2 importance and historical value, as more fully set forth in
3 Application LM-20-01 and the Staff Report; and

4 **WHEREAS**, all public notice and public hearing requirements
5 have been met for designating the Independent Life Insurance
6 Company Building as a local landmark; and

7 **WHEREAS**, having met the requisite criteria, the Council finds
8 that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of
9 Jacksonville to designate the Independent Life Insurance Company
10 Building as a local landmark, in furtherance of historic
11 preservation and protection; now, therefore

12 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

13 **Section 1. Designation of Local Landmark.** Pursuant to
14 Chapter 307 (Historic Preservation), *Ordinance Code*, the Council
15 hereby designates the Independent Life Insurance Company Building,
16 located at 233 W. Duval Street, in Council District 7, as a local
17 landmark.

18 **Section 2. Satisfaction of Requisite Criteria.** The
19 Council hereby finds that the Independent Life Insurance Company
20 Building meets five (5) of the seven (7) criteria for designation
21 as a local landmark, pursuant to Section 307.104(j), *Ordinance*
22 *Code*, and adopts Application LM-20-01 and the Staff Report in
23 support of this finding, both **On File** with the Legislative Services
24 Division.

25 **Section 3. Notice and Recording.** Pursuant to Section
26 307.104(m), *Ordinance Code*, the Council hereby directs the Chief of
27 Legislative Services, as designee of the Council Secretary, to
28 notify the applicant, the property owner, and the Property
29 Appraiser of the local landmark designation, and to record the
30 local landmark designation in the official records of Duval County,
31 Florida.

1 **Section 4. Zoning Atlas.** Pursuant to Section 307.104(n),
2 *Ordinance Code*, the Council hereby directs the Zoning
3 Administrator, as designee of the Director of the Planning and
4 Development Department, to enter the local landmark designation on
5 the Zoning Atlas, in accordance with Section 656.203, *Ordinance*
6 *Code*.

7 **Section 5. Effective Date.** The enactment of this
8 ordinance shall be deemed to constitute a quasi-judicial action of
9 the City Council and shall become effective upon signature by the
10 Council President and Council Secretary.

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12 Form Approved:

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14 /s/ Kealey A. West

15 Office of General Counsel

16 Legislation Prepared By: Kealey West

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