

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Boylan, Hazouri, Salem, Pittman, Dennis, Becton, Diamond,
3 Carlucci, DeFoor, Priestly Jackson, Newby Bowman, Freeman, R. Gaffney
4 and Wilson:

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6 **RESOLUTION 2020-234**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE
8 LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LISC EXECUTIVE
9 DIRECTOR JANET L. OWENS; PROVIDING AN
10 EFFECTIVE DATE.

11
12 **WHEREAS**, Janet Lynelle Garrett Owens, a native of South
13 Carolina, graduated from Greenville High School, earned her
14 bachelor's degree in political science from Russell Sage College in
15 Troy, New York, and began a career in city government, first back
16 at home in Greenville and then in Adrian, Michigan; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Owens' career then took her to Washington, D.C.
18 where she worked for the International City Management Association
19 and then for the District of Columbia government. While in
20 Washington she met and married Gregory Owens, and the couple moved
21 briefly to St. Augustine and then to Jacksonville where she worked
22 for Volunteer Jacksonville, Girl Scouts of Gateway Council Inc.,
23 United Way of Northeast Florida, and finally LISC Jacksonville,
24 where she was named Executive Director in 2010; and

25 **WHEREAS**, throughout her professional career, Janet Owens was a
26 tireless champion for citizen empowerment and community
27 revitalization, deeply committed to creating real, sustainable
28 communities and helping the most vulnerable in society achieve
29 respect and security through the creation of affordable housing,
30 economic opportunity and investment, and the promotion of safe,
31 livable neighborhoods; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in addition to her professional positions, Ms. Owens
2 was a true community steward, serving on numerous boards and
3 commissions, including the Rotary Club of Jacksonville,
4 Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and
5 Board of Governors, JP Morgan Chase Florida Community Advisory
6 Board, Leadership Jacksonville, and the City's Better Jacksonville
7 Plan Finance and Administration Committee. She received the Girl
8 Scouts of Gateway Council Women of Distinction Award, the
9 University of North Florida's OneJax Humanitarian Award, and was
10 recognized by Leadership Jacksonville as an Outstanding Community
11 Trustee, among other honors; and

12 **WHEREAS**, throughout her professional and personal lives, Janet
13 Owens was most well known for her boundless optimism, her
14 compassion, and her absolute dedication to improving the lives of
15 everyone in our community, and was ever enthusiastic and
16 unflinching positive even as she faced personal challenges; now
17 therefore

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

19 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
20 commemorates the life and countless achievements of Janet Lynelle
21 Garrett Owens and extends to her family, friends and countless
22 admirers the City's sincere condolences upon her passing. The city
23 has truly lost a passionate, dedicated servant leader, whose deep
24 devotion to the city and its residents will be long and gratefully
25 remembered.

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

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30 Form Approved:
31

1 /s/ Paige H. Johnston
2 Office of General Counsel
3 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research
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