

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Salem, Pittman, Becton, Carlucci and Wilson:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2020-233**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE
7 LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SHARON SIEGEL
8 COHEN; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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10 **WHEREAS**, Sharon Siegel Cohen, a native of Jacksonville,
11 graduated from Wolfson High School and earned her bachelor's degree
12 from the University of Florida, where she was President of Delta
13 Phi Epsilon Sorority; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Siegel Cohen had a long and distinguished career
15 in the television industry, first at WSB in Atlanta, then at WTVT
16 in Tampa before returning to Jacksonville where for 33 years she
17 was Executive Producer at WJXT TV-4; and

18 **WHEREAS**, in her stellar career, Sharon Siegel Cohen's work was
19 rewarded with an Edward R. Murrow Award, several Emmy and
20 Associated Press awards, and a Peabody Award for "Behind Closed
21 Doors," a public service effort on the complex problems of domestic
22 violence. She was also the creator and first producer of WJXT's
23 "The Morning Show"; and

24 **WHEREAS**, diagnosed only two years ago with ALS (commonly known
25 as Lou Gehrig's disease), she quickly became a tireless advocate
26 for a cure for the disease and an inspiring participant in ALS
27 walks with her "Sharon's Songbirds" team of supporters, for which
28 she was honored with a Courage Award in May 2019 at a benefit for
29 Augie's Quest, a nonprofit dedicated to helping find a treatment
30 and cure for ALS; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Siegel Cohen was unfailingly caring and

1 compassionate to all she met, both professionally and personally,
2 and was particularly known for her sense of humor and her love of
3 serenading friends and co-workers with songs for special occasions,
4 many of her own composition. She was positive and thankful to the
5 very end of her life, despite the challenges she faced after her
6 diagnosis; now therefore

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

8 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
9 commemorates the life and accomplishments of Sharon Siegel Cohen
10 and extends to her family, friends, and countless admirers the
11 City's most sincere condolences. Her unfailing optimism, good humor
12 and positivity in the face of a life-altering challenge were truly
13 inspirational, and she will be long and gratefully remembered as a
14 truly inspirational mentor and friend.

15 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
16 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
17 without the Mayor's signature.

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19 Form Approved:

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21 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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