

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan & Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Members Salem, Pittman, Becton, Carlucci and Wilson and amended by  
3 the Rules Committee:  
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6 **RESOLUTION 2020-233-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE  
8 LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SHARON SIEGEL  
9 COHEN; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
10

11 **WHEREAS**, Sharon Siegel Cohen, a native of Jacksonville,  
12 graduated from Wolfson High School and earned her bachelor's degree  
13 from the University of Florida, where she was President of Delta  
14 Phi Epsilon Sorority; and

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

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

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

1 and cure for ALS; and

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

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

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

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

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21 Form Approved:

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23 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

24 Office of General Counsel

25 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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