

1 Introduced by Council Members Priestly Jackson, Newby and Pittman &  
2 Co-Sponsored by Council Members Bowman, White, Diamond, Freeman,  
3 DeFoor, Dennis, Carlucci, Hazouri, Morgan, and Becton:

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5  
6 **RESOLUTION 2020-560-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE  
8 LIFE, WORK, AND SERVICE OF DECORATED WAR HERO,  
9 RAINES HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR ARMY INSTRUCTOR, AND  
10 PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY, LT. COL. ROBERT  
11 EUGENE PORTER, FOR HIS EVERLASTING  
12 CONTRIBUTIONS TO RAINES HIGH SCHOOL, THE  
13 JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY, AND HIS COUNTRY;  
14 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

15  
16 **WHEREAS**, Robert Eugene Porter was born on November 7, 1931. A  
17 native of Chicago, Illinois in his youth, Mr. Porter attended the  
18 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in the early  
19 1950s. While at FAMU, Mr. Porter was a lead member of the world  
20 renowned "Marching 100" marching band and in 1951 was inducted into  
21 the illustrious Upsilon Psi Chapter, of the Omega Psi Phi  
22 Fraternity; and

23 **WHEREAS**, upon his graduation from FAMU in 1954, Mr. Porter  
24 joined the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant. He served in  
25 the Army from 1954 to 1975 becoming a highly decorated service  
26 member and reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. During his  
27 illustrious military career, Lt. Col. Porter had countless  
28 achievements and highlights, including serving as the commanding  
29 officer of the renowned 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC  
30 and earning two Bronze Stars for his valor in service during the  
31 Vietnam War; and

1           **WHEREAS**, after two decades of serving his country with the  
2 United States Army, Lt. Col. Porter took his leadership skills to  
3 Jacksonville where he started working as the Senior Army Instructor  
4 at the historically black William M. Raines High School. His tenure  
5 at Raines High School lasted until his retirement in 2015. Upon Lt.  
6 Col. Porter's retirement, Raines High School named their JROTC  
7 building in his honor as "The Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Porter  
8 JROTC Hall" as a testament to his dedicated service to the school  
9 and the youth of Jacksonville; and

10           **WHEREAS**, Lt. Col. Porter was a very active member of his  
11 beloved Omega Psi Phi Fraternity where he served as the 10th State  
12 Representative of the Florida statewide organization. He went on to  
13 become the International 'Omega Man of the Year' and was the State  
14 of Florida's Talent Hunt Chairman for over a decade. On August 27,  
15 2020, Lt. Col. Porter passed away in Jacksonville, leaving behind  
16 his loving family, a thankful community, and a legacy of dedicated  
17 public service; now 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, work, and service of decorated war hero,  
21 Raines High School Senior Army Instructor, and pillar of the  
22 community, Lt. Col. Robert Eugene Porter, for his everlasting  
23 contributions to Raines High School, the Jacksonville community,  
24 and his country.

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

28  
29 Form Approved:

30  
31 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

1 Office of General Counsel  
2 Legislation Prepared By: Anthony J. Baltiero, City Council Research  
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