

Introduced by Council Members Gaffney and Newby and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Pittman, Priestly Jackson, Boylan, Bowman, Carrico, DeFoor, Dennis, Morgan, Diamond, Salem, Freeman, Carlucci, Cumber, Ferraro, Hazouri and Becton:

RESOLUTION 2021-519-A

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL'S MOST SINCERE CONDOLENCES UPON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF DR. LEON HALEY, CEO OF UF HEALTH JACKSONVILLE AND DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE-JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Dr. Leon Haley, a native of Pittsburgh, earned his bachelor's degree from Brown University, received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh, did his residency in emergency medicine at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, and earned a master's degree in health service administration at the University of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Haley was the Chief of Emergency Medicine at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta and Executive Associate Dean of the Emory University School of Medicine when he was recruited to Jacksonville in 2017 to become the CEO of UF Health Jacksonville and Dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine - Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS, during his all-too-brief tenure in Jacksonville, Dr. Haley quickly became one of the city's leading figures both in the health care field and in the city at large. He developed an instant rapport with the Jacksonville community through the combination of

1 his knowledge, experience and expertise with his tremendous
2 abilities as a communicator, and was looked to as a leader and
3 educator on many fronts and many community-wide issues; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Haley's many skills were put to a tremendous test
5 during the COVID-19 pandemic of the last year and a half when, as
6 the leader of the city's publicly owned hospital and the region's
7 Level 1 trauma center, he became a primary, trusted public face for
8 the effort to educate and inform the public about the dangers posed
9 by the COVID-19 virus, about the impact the pandemic was having on
10 health care facilities and health care workers, and about the
11 merits of the various vaccines and other protective and preventive
12 measures. He was a constant, informative, unbiased, and reassuring
13 figure who dispensed wisdom with warmth and compassion; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the universal sentiment of everyone who knew him was
15 that Leon Haley was a born leader who had a unique ability to
16 connect with people, to understand their needs and desires, to be
17 empathetic, and to communicate with everyone as respected equals
18 and colleagues; now therefore

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

20 **Section 1.** The City Council expresses its most sincere
21 condolences upon the occasion of the tragic death of Dr. Leon J.
22 Haley to his family, friends, colleagues and many admirers. Dr.
23 Haley made himself an integral part of the fabric of the city in
24 just a few short years, and his outstanding contributions to our
25 community will stand as a testament to his far-reaching impact. His
26 legacy will be long and gratefully remembered.

27 **Section 2. Section 2. Requesting emergency passage**
28 **upon introduction pursuant to Council Rule 4.901.** Emergency passage
29 upon introduction of this Resolution is requested in order to
30 timely offer the community's sympathy to Dr. Haley's family and the
31 UF Health community in this difficult time.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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