

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:
2
3

4 **RESOLUTION 2021-770-A**

5 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT
6 OF JASON R. TEAL AS THE GENERAL COUNSEL PURSUANT
7 TO SECTION 7.03 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF
8 JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING ONE CYCLE EMERGENCY
9 PASSAGE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
10

11 **WHEREAS**, the selection of the General Counsel is governed by the
12 City of Jacksonville Charter, Section 7.03 (Selection and Term of the
13 General Counsel); and

14 **WHEREAS**, in accordance therewith, following the resignation of
15 the former General Counsel Jason R. Gabriel, on August 6, 2021, Mayor
16 Curry empaneled the General Counsel's Qualification Review Committee
17 consisting of the designee of the Jacksonville Bar Association
18 President, two former general counsel and two members of the Florida
19 Bar Board of Governors; and

20 **WHEREAS**, during the pendency of the vacancy, Mayor Curry on
21 August 7, 2021, appointed an acting General Counsel to continue for
22 a period of 90 days in order for there to be continuity and an orderly
23 operation in the Office of General Counsel; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the 90-day period is scheduled to expire at the end of
25 November 4, 2021; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the General Counsel's Qualification Review Committee
27 commenced meeting in September 2021 and advertised for interested
28 candidates for the General Counsel position for 2 weeks; and

29 **WHEREAS**, on October 4, 2021, the General Counsel's Qualification
30 Review Committee voted unanimously to strongly recommend Acting
31 General Counsel Jason Teal to be appointed as General Counsel; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Teal graduated with Honors from Florida State
2 University College of Law in 1998; he has been employed with the
3 Office of General Counsel since October 2000, including as an
4 Assistant General Counsel from October 2000 to February 2010, when
5 he was promoted to Chief of the Office's Regulatory Division; he
6 served as Regulatory Chief from February 2010 until November 2015,
7 when he was promoted to Deputy General Counsel over the Office's
8 Regulatory and Constitutional Law Department; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Teal has represented clients from nearly every
10 aspect and element of the Consolidated City government and has
11 participated in numerous critical and significant matters involving
12 and defending the Charter, the Ordinance Code and the overall
13 interests of the Consolidated City; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Lenny Curry has found that the interests of the
15 Consolidated Government will be best served by appointing Mr. Teal
16 as General Counsel; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that Jason R. Teal is duly qualified
18 to serve as the City of Jacksonville's General Counsel and that Mayor
19 Curry's appointment of Jason R. Teal as General Counsel should be
20 confirmed; now therefore

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

22 **Section 1. Confirmation.** The Council hereby confirms the
23 Mayor's appointment of Jason R. Teal as the General Counsel for the
24 City of Jacksonville pursuant to Section 7.03 of the Charter of the
25 City of Jacksonville. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, is the resume of
26 the General Counsel.

27 **Section 2. Requesting one cycle emergency passage pursuant**
28 **to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** One cycle emergency passage of this
29 Ordinance is requested. The nature of the emergency is that section
30 7.05(a) of the Charter authorizes an acting general counsel to be
31 appointed for a maximum of 90 days from the commencement of the

1 vacancy. The former General Counsel's resignation was on August 6,
2 2021, creating a vacancy as of August 7, 2021. The maximum 90 day
3 period expires at the end of November 4, 2021, requiring passage of
4 this Resolution no later than the Council meeting on October 26,
5 2021.

6 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This resolution shall become
7 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
8 without the Mayor's signature.

9
10 Form Approved:

11
12 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

13 Office of General Counsel

14 Legislation prepared by: Margaret M. Sidman

15 GC-#1462410-v1-2021-770-A_Scriv_Corr.docx