

## RESOLUTION 2023-12-04

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (“DIA”) IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF MR. OLIVER BARAKAT FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE, DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP TO THE DIA AND DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat was first appointed to the Downtown Design Review Commission in April of 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat was appointed for a second full term on the Downtown Design Review Commission in 2005 and then a third full term in 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat was appointed to the Downtown Investment Authority as an original member of that board in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat was again appointed to the Downtown Investment Authority in June of 2016 for his first full term; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat was again appointed to the Downtown Investment Authority in December of 2019 for a second full term; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure with the Downtown Investment Authority, Mr. Barakat served as the Vice Chair of the Downtown Investment Authority beginning October 2012, and serving as Chair in 2013 and again in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure as Chair, Mr. Barakat lead the Downtown Investment Authority in its adoption of its first Business Investment Development Plan and the wholesale update of the Combined Northbank and Southside Community Redevelopment Area Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat’s experience as a commercial real estate broker in Downtown gave him invaluable insight into market conditions and trends, real estate values in Downtown, financial gaps impacting development activities in Downtown, and the value of DIA incentives making him one of our reliable “numbers guys” who would consistently vet staff recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barakat’s longstanding participation in a variety of community organizations such as Downtown Vision, Inc. and Scenic Jacksonville allowed him to provide broader insights and advice regarding the direction our master plan should take and strategies to achieve success; and

**WHEREAS**, over his long tenure, Mr. Barakat consistently prioritized meetings of this Board allowing us to achieve quorums despite Board vacancies.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Downtown Investment Authority:

**Section 1.** The Downtown Investment Authority expresses its sincere appreciation to and recognizes the outstanding leadership of Mr. Barakat over his eleven-year service to the Downtown Investment Authority, as well as his two decades of dedication to the advancement of Downtown Jacksonville.

**Section 2.** This Resolution 2023-12-XX shall become effective on the date it is signed by the Chair of the DIA Board.

WITNESS:

**DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY**

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Jim Citrano, Chair

Date

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