



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: Staff Sgt. Sollie Mitchell was born in Jacksonville, Florida in 1918. He graduated from Stanton High School and immensely impacted Jacksonville during his 104-year life; and

WHEREAS: During World War II, Staff Sgt. Mitchell was drafted into U.S. Army. While in the 8th regiment, Mr. Mitchell toured the world, and was the only African American service member to work in the office of five-star General Douglas McArthur; and

WHEREAS: Following four and a half years of service, Mr. Mitchell returned to Jacksonville and began a career in the railroad industry. He retired after 35 years in 1981; and

WHEREAS: While a Pullman Car Porter Mr. Mitchell worked closely with the legendary Civil Rights Leader A. Phillip Randolph Mr. Mitchell operated the 1963 Freedom Train that carried passengers from Jacksonville to Washington, D.C. for the 1963 March on Washington; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Mitchell remained an active member in the Jacksonville, African American, and Veteran communities his entire life. He continued to appear in the annual Veteran's Day Parade as the honored "Oldest Veteran" up until November of 2021; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Mitchell was an invaluable member of the Jacksonville communities. He fought for Civil Rights and advocated for Veterans throughout our community. Few can truly comprehend the extent of history that Mr. Sollie Mitchell not only saw, but partook in.

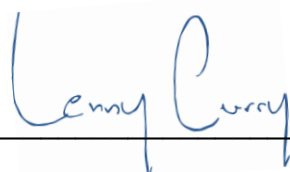
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby recognize the life and contributions of

STAFF SERGEANT SOLLIE MITCHELL

in Jacksonville encourage all citizens to recognize and honor the memory of Mr. Sollie Mitchell.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 15th day in June in the year
Two Thousand and Twenty-Two


MAYOR