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OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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April 16, 2019

Mr. Jason Gabriel, General Counsel Office of the General Counsel City of Jacksonville 117 West Duval Street, Suite 480 Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Dear Mr. Gabriel:

Please accept this letter as a request for clarification of Article 6, Section 6.07(b) of the Charter Laws of the City of Jacksonville ("Charter"), which convey the qualifications of the Chief Administrative Officer appointed by the Mayor. The Charter was modified to include such qualifications when the City Council enacted 2015-51, and effected a ballot referendum on May 19, 2015 that passed with a vote of 70 percent.

Article 6, Section 6.07(b) of the Charter reads:

The mayor shall appoint a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) who shall be responsible for overseeing all operating departments; managing the day-to-day affairs of the City of Jacksonville; and overseeing the implementation of the City's annual operating budget and capital improvement plan. The Chief Administrative Officer shall have a bachelor's degree from an accredited post-secondary institution in business administration, public administration, or a similar field, and seven (7) years' experience in an administrative capacity in municipal government, three of which are in a management capacity, and a thorough understanding of the principles of municipal administration and of applicable provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. The mayor shall fill any vacancy in the position of Chief Administrative Officer within 60 days of such position becoming vacant.

Last week, we learned Mr. Sam Mousa, Chief Administrative Officer, is retiring after decades of public service and that Mayor Curry is appointing Mr. Brian Hughes as his replacement. While Mr. Mousa's satisfaction of the Charter qualifications is crystal clear, the same cannot be said for Mr. Hughes.

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In satisfaction of the oath I took to support, protect, defend and honor the Charter laws, and to ensure we clearly communicate to the people of Jacksonville who overwhelmingly supported the strengthening of the Chief Administrative Officer qualifications in the Charter, I am asking the following:

- 1. What is Mr. Hughes' biographical history of education and experience?
- 2. What are Mr. Hughes' qualifications in satisfaction of Article 6, Section 6.07(b) of the Charter?
- 3. What does *or an equivalent combination of education and experience* mean in the context of the language immediately preceding such phrase in the Charter?
- 4. Who has the authority to evaluate or an equivalent combination of education and experience in the Charter?

Mr. Gabriel, thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincere regards,

Anna Lopez Brosche

cc: The Honorable Mayor Lenny Curry

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Mr. Sam Mousa, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Brian Hughes, Chief of Staff Honorable City Council Members