

PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: Jacksonville native William Wiley Gay, known to many as Bill, attended Robert E. Lee High School, serves in the Merchant Marines during WWII, and graduated from the University of Florida where he began his career in mechanical contracting; and

WHEREAS: His hard work and tenacity lead to him organizing W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractor, Inc. in 1962, a company that is prominent in Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS: Not only was Bill a successful businessman, he spent his free time giving back to his community and was involved in many civic and philanthropic organizations: he was a member of St. Johns Presbyterian Church, Past Board President of the Gator Bowl Association, Past President of the Jacksonville Mechanical Contractors Association, Past President of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), Past Chairman of Jacksonville Plumbers and Pipefitters Apprenticeship Committee, Past Chairman of the Southern Apprenticeship Council, Past Director of the YMCA Board Life Member Navy League of the United States, Past Board Member and Chairman of WJCT, Inc., Past President of North Florida Council Boy Scouts of America, Past Chairman of the Methodist Hospital Foundation, Past Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100, Past President of the Board of Junior Achievement, Past President and Charter Member of Westside Rotary Club, Past Chairman of the Duval County United Negro College Fund Drive, Past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville University, and took part in many other organizations receiving numerous awards and accolades for his charitable work; and

WHEREAS: He was instrumental in the development of Jacksonville as a leader, a citizen, and as a mechanical contractor. There are very few buildings in Jacksonville that do not have the fingerprints of Bill Gay. He gave credit to God for all his successes and he lived his faith out daily; and

WHEREAS: His proud legacy lives on in the lives of his four children, eight grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, sister, cousins, nephews, nieces, the family he found in his close friends, and the numerous lives he touched and influenced; and

WHEREAS: W.W. "Bill" Gay made significant contributions to our country, state, and city. The impact he made on our community will be cherished for decades to come.

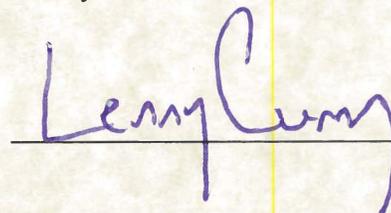
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby recognize and honor the distinguished legacy of

W.W. "BILL" GAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to join me in celebrating his life and contribution to Jacksonville on October 15, 2020 what would be his 94th Birthday.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 9th day of October
in the year Two Thousand Twenty



MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA