

RESOLUTION 21-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY TO RENAME THE ALACHUA COUNTY CRIMINAL COURTHOUSE IN HONOR OF THE LATE JUDGE STEPHAN P. MICKLE, SR.; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners (“BOCC”) owns the Alachua County Criminal Courthouse building; and

WHEREAS, the Naming Alachua County Facilities Policy permits the dedication of a County building to an individual; and

WHEREAS, Stephan P. Mickle was born in New York City on June 18, 1944. After his formative years, he moved with his parents to Gainesville, Florida. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1961. In 1962, he, along with six other African American students, integrated the University of Florida (UF). In 1965, he became the first African American to obtain an undergraduate degree at UF and continued his studies at UF to earn his master’s degree. He then entered the UF College of Law where he became the second African American to earn a law degree in 1970, making him a triple Gator; and

WHEREAS, Stephan Mickle served as a professor of law at UF, a position that he held for several decades, until he became Professor Emeritus. In 1973, he established a successful law practice, becoming the first African American to practice law in the history of Alachua County since Reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, Stephan Mickle became Alachua County’s First African American County Court Judge in 1979. In 1984, he was appointed as the first African American Circuit Court Judge in the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida. In 1993, he was appointed as the first African American, and only lawyer from the Eighth Judicial Circuit, to serve on the First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee, Florida. In 1998, he was nominated by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the United States Senate as the first African American United States District Court Judge in the history of the United States Northern District of Florida. In 2009, he became the Chief Judge of the United States Northern District of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Judge Mickle served on the UF National Alumni Association Board of Directors, and on the UF College of Law Board of Trustees, Law Center Association. He was a dedicated lifetime member of Mount Carmel Baptist Church where he chaired the Board of Trustees, taught Sunday school, and served with the Men’s and Marriage Ministries. He was a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, Judge Mickle was proudest to be the husband to his beloved wife of fifty-two years, Evelyn Moore Mickle; father to their three children, Stephanie, Amy Grace

and Stephan, II; as well as a nephew, son and grandfather. He also leaves to cherish his memory, his mother, Catherine B. Mickle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners names the Alachua County Criminal Courthouse the "JUDGE STEPHAN P. MICKLE, SR. CRIMINAL COURTHOUSE."

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED in regular session, this ____ Day of _____, A.D., 2021.

Board of County Commissioners
of Alachua County, Florida

By: _____
Ken Cornell, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. Irby, Clerk

(seal)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:
David Forziano

70E5E81DBE1E4D3
Alachua County Attorney