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COUNCIL**

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MEDIA RELEASE
AMENDED

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Contact: Council President-Designate Sam Newby (904) 255-5219

Council President - Designate Newby makes a statement regarding the Orange Crush Festival Expectations.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – As the current President Designate of the Jacksonville City Council, I support the Orange Crush Festival planned for Jacksonville and its local beaches. Additionally, I support our local law enforcement officers, JSO, who work each day to serve and protect us.

However, the recent proposal shared by JSO to create additional space in our local jails to address anticipated arrests during the Orange Crush Festival concerns me. The implication of a proposal of this nature appears to target Orange Crush Festival patrons.

I have shared my concerns with Sheriff Mike Williams. He has assured me that this procedure is being implemented because our local jail continues to operate under Covid-19 protocols. Sheriff Williams has also assured me that the goal of this plan is not to unfairly target nor discriminate against the individuals planning to attend the Orange Crush Festival.

In closing, not only is the Orange Crush Festival yet another opportunity to showcase that Jacksonville and its Beaches are the best places to live work and play, the potential economic boost for the business community cannot be denied. Therefore, I challenge everyone to use this as an added occasion to take pride in our city and its beaches by following the established protocols. Let's prove the predictions and assumptions incorrect. The participants will enjoy a successful, enjoyable and peaceful celebration of summer.

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