



New Jacksonville pizzeria brings taste of Chicago

LOCAL, 1B

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Gun logbook statements differ

Ex-city official denied OK'ing use, as claimed in AG's lawsuit

David Bauerlein
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

A lawsuit filed by the state attorney general contends the city of Jacksonville's use of gun logbooks had approval from Charles Moreland when he was the city's deputy chief administrator, but Moreland said last year in a sworn interview with prosecutors he never saw anything proposing the logbooks and

didn't approve them. The use of the logbooks for compiling information about people carrying guns into City Hall and the Yates Building was investigated first by the State Attorney's Office, which found no criminal intent, and now is at the heart of a lawsuit filed by state Attorney General James Uthmeier. The civil action by the state attorney general's office seeks the maximum \$5 million fine if a court finds the city violated a 2004 law against local govern-

ments "knowingly and willfully" keeping a list, record or registry of gun owners "with the knowledge or complicity" of management. Moreland said in a September 2025 interview with the State Attorney's Office he didn't sign off on the gun logbooks and did not know they were being used until April 2025, when news broke that the state attorney had opened an investigation of them. The lawsuit says Mike Soto, the facil-



Moreland

ities manager overseeing security in city buildings, came up with the proposal for the logbooks. The lawsuit says Soto emailed Moreland a copy of a security directive that covered several changes including the use of gun logbooks for recording the name, age, state-issued ID number and weapon type of anyone carrying a firearm or weapon into City Hall or the Yates Building.

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Why Americans feel bad about the economy



Housing is an essential need, but it's slipping out of reach for many Americans. ANDREW CARTER/MARION STAR FILE

For 5th year, more people say things getting worse

Jessica Guynn, Ken Alltucker, Betty Lin-Fisher and Andrea Riquier
USA TODAY

As the impacts from the Iran war spilled over into everyday life, more Americans have said they are worse off today than at most any point in the last 25 years. More than half — 55% — say their financial situation is deteriorating, ac-

ording to a new Gallup poll. While that figure is similar to the slumping sentiment Gallup registered in 2025, the ranks of the disaffected have grown. Only 47% of Americans were bummed about the economy in 2024. This poll also marks the fifth straight year that Americans complained things are getting worse, not better. The only time the national mood plunged this

low was during the Great Recession. Financial worries are coming to the fore amid international conflict and ahead of the November midterm elections, putting pressure on President Donald Trump and Republicans. Since the start of the year, Trump has asked Congress to pass legislation that would cap credit card interest rates at 10% and directed the Department of Justice to investigate meatpackers in a bid to bring down beef prices.

See **ECONOMY**, Page 7A

Rep. Nixon arrested in office of DeSantis

Lawmaker refused to leave sit-in protest

James Call, Jim Rosica and Alicia Devine
USA TODAY NETWORK - Florida

A Democratic state lawmaker who held a sit-in protest in Gov. Ron DeSantis' Capitol office lobby was arrested on a trespassing charge May 15 after she refused law enforcement's requests to leave.

Rep. Angie Nixon, a Jacksonville Democrat and candidate for the U.S. Senate, planted herself in the governor's office, clad in her trademark pink, vowing not to leave until DeSantis met with her and agreed to another special legislative session to again redraw Florida's congressional map.

Nixon, however, cast her protest as more than a dispute over redistricting, saying the fight over maps reflects a broader failure of state leadership to address Florida's affordability crisis. She said Republican leaders are pursuing what she called an illegal partisan gerrymander while ignoring rising costs of living and spending millions of taxpayer dollars on what she said were DeSantis' questionable priorities.

Earlier in the week, she was reprimanded by the House Rules & Ethics Committee for a previous incident at the end of the redistricting special session, when she walked up and down

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Nixon

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