

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens; **J. Leonard Levy**, a well-respected businessman and community leader is one such person; and

**WHEREAS**, born and raised in Tampa, Florida, Mr. Levy graduated from Henry B. Plant High School and attended the University of Florida where he currently serves as a Director with the Gator Boosters, Inc., and thereafter served our nation as a Commissioned Officer in the United States Marine Corps prior to his business career serving as President of Hillsboro Printing where he earned the respect of the community for his commitment to ethical and quality service; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Levy's love for the Tampa Bay community has been evident throughout his life, especially in successfully bringing sports and economic growth to our region, and he is well known for his visionary leadership with the Tampa Bay Expansion Committee in bringing the National Football League's (NFL) 27<sup>th</sup> franchise in 1974, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to our city, and he immediately thereafter he began his fervent quest to bring an NFL Super Bowl to his beloved hometown, and he served as Chair of the Task Force for Super Bowl XVIII (18) in 1984, as Co-Chair of Super Bowl XXV (25) in 1991, and his leadership brought Super Bowl XXXV (35) in 2001, Super Bowl XLIII (43) in 2009, and ultimately his influence resulted in Tampa hosting Super Bowl LV (55) with the great NFC Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who were the NFL 2003 Super Bowl XXXVII (37) Champions, playing against the AFC Kansas City Chiefs in our own Raymond James Stadium on Sunday, February 7, 2021, the first time in NFL history a home team has played in the Super Bowl host city; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Levy has contributed in so many ways over the years including serving as Chairman of the Tampa Sports Authority, President of the Tampa Hillsborough Convention and Visitors Association, on the Board of Directors for the Tampa Bay Sports Commission, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, the Gold Shield Foundation and the Salvation Army, and he has established many youth athletic programs, is credited with being instrumental in bringing other professional teams to our area, with naming our region "Tampa Bay," and establishing other major events such as the annual Outback Bowl in our city; and

**WHEREAS**, his contributions over the years have been recognized by the community including receiving the 51<sup>st</sup> *Lightning Community Heroes Award*, named *Citizen of the Year* by the Civitan Club among other recognitions, and he is loved and respected by the Tampa Bay community for his encouraging and innovative nature, and for his enthusiasm for our city and its growth.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, February 5, 2021 as

## **"J. LEONARD LEVY DAY"**

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking him for all he has contributed to the community over the years including helping to change the landscape of our region and in putting Tampa



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor