

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. is an organization established in 1979 devoted to preserving and promoting Tampa's diverse Hispanic culture, and together with corporate partners, has honored those men and women who represent excellence by their outstanding achievements, endeavors, and contributions and that have helped to enrich the lives of other Hispanics in our community; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. will celebrate its 33rd Annual Hispanic Gala with the presentation of the **2021 Hispanic Woman of the Year Award** to a person chosen to be honored, a well-known individual admired and respected for her commitment to others, and who has dedicated her life to promoting and preserving the Hispanic culture and traditions through her community and civic service; and

WHEREAS, born in Zacatecas, Mexico, this year's honoree is **Monica Rodriguez** who made America her home at age thirteen and attended Long Beach City College and Thomas University in Thomasville, Georgia studying Human Services, and she later settled in Tampa, Florida, and worked as a supervisor for Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County whose mission is to improve health for pregnant women, and she currently serves as Senior Sales Manager at CarePlus Health Plans; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rodriguez is a recognized leader in the Tampa Bay region, and among her contributions to many organizations include the Tampa Bay Latino Coalition where she has led the efforts in educating individuals and groups on hurricane preparedness and the opioid crisis to help keep the Hispanic community safe, she was instrumental in providing assistance to families in need with the donation of food and backpacks, and Ms. Rodriguez has led public campaigns to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to serving the Tampa Bay area, Ms. Rodriguez serves as President of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Hispanic Advisory Council, is a member of the Hispanic Women Association, and is the business manager for the Latin American Motorcycle Association which hosts charitable fundraising events benefiting Moffitt Cancer Center and St. Joseph Children's Hospital; in addition, Ms. Rodriguez is involved with the Hillsborough Community College Community Advisory Committee, Children's Board Grant Community Review Committee, and the Behavioral Health and Opioid Subcommittee Task Force for Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. Ms. Rodriguez consistently demonstrates her commitment to the Tampa Bay area and is dedicated to assisting, guiding, and educating members of the community, and she serves as an inspirational role model and is very deserving of being named the **2021 Hispanic Woman of the Year**.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, October 16, 2021 as

MONICA RODRIGUEZ, HISPANIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR DAY

in the city of Tampa, Florida and call upon all residents to join me in recognizing, commending, and thanking her for all she contributes to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 16th day of October, 2021.



Jane Castor
Mayor