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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the University of Tampa (UT) was founded on October 5, 1931 as Tampa Junior College, and its home is located at the former iconic Tampa Bay Hotel overlooking the Hillsborough River, and it is globally well-known for its world-class education, its outstanding academic programs, extraordinary beauty and architecture with spectacular domes, cupolas, and minarets atop Plant Hall, and it is designated a National Historic Landmark and is a proud Tampa treasure; and

WHEREAS, a private university, UT's mission includes delivering challenging and high-quality educational experiences to a diverse group of learners and is committed to developing each student to become productive and responsible citizens, and its highly qualified faculty members are committed to teaching, advising, and continuing intellectual growth, and are supportive of all aspects of student development including through activities, community service, honors, leadership, study abroad programs, and championship sports; and

WHEREAS, the University of Tampa Spartans Athletic Program has been led by Director Larry Marfise, and under his leadership, it has consistently earned Conference Championships, its athletes have earned All-American titles and named Academic All-Americans, bringing state, national and international acclaim to the Tampa Bay area; and

WHEREAS, the University of Tampa has claimed 21 National Championships in collegiate sports, including the *University of Tampa Men's Lacrosse Team* who, undefeated and ranked number one, on Sunday, May 29, 2022, won the *National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II National Title* when the UT Spartans defeated the Mercy College Mavericks at the Pratt and Whitney Stadium on Rentschler Field in East Hartford, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, led by Head Coach J. B. Clarke, and Assistant Coaches Adam Hardy and Mark Penn, the committed and talented University of Tampa Men's Lacrosse Team played with determination during the season and especially during the final championship game where they held the lead throughout the final game, adding another victory to the University's Wall of Champions, and the dedicated players and coaches consistently play with professionalism, spirit, and dignity, and they serve as positive role models for the youth and fans in our community, state and nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, September 13, 2022 as

## "UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA SPARTANS LACROSSE DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join with the UT Spartan fans in celebrating the impressive accomplishments of their Home Team, support the Spartan Lacrosse Team as they continue to compete, and congratulate them for their impressive efforts on and off the lacrosse fields.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 13th day of September 2022.

Dave Contar Mayor