

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, Western Michigan University (WMU) was founded in 1903, and it is a well-respected public university whose mission includes providing leadership in teaching, research, learning, and service and it is committed to enhancing the future of our global citizenry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Thomas E. Brennan, Sr. (1929-2018), a former Chief Justice for the Michigan Supreme Court, established the WMU-Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1972, with the goal of expanding access to legal education and, by doing so, diversified the population of those who practiced law, and he pioneered access to a legal education by providing enrollment opportunities three times a year, offering day, evening, and weekend classes, and allowing for part-time students; and

**WHEREAS**, the WMU-Thomas M. Cooley Law School is named after the Honorable Thomas Cooley (1824-1898) who served as a Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court whose legacy set the high standards focused on professionalism, ethics, and deep commitment to inclusion and diversity, and of providing transformative practical legal education that prepares and inspires students to become lifelong learners and agents for positive change in their communities and their profession; and

**WHEREAS**, the WMU-Thomas M. Cooley Law School provides transformative practical legal education that prepares and inspires its students to become lifelong learners and agents for positive change in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 31, 2012, the WMU-Thomas M. Cooley Law School opened its Tampa Bay Campus, and its students, faculty, and staff have contributed to the success of our region through their volunteer efforts, community service, and pro bono legal services, and its graduates have become outstanding leaders in the legal profession, and serve as prosecutors, public defenders, judges, and legislators at the local, state, and national levels.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Thursday, September 22, 2022, as

## ***“WMU- THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL TAMPA BAY CAMPUS DAY”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating the WMU-Thomas M. Cooley Law School on its milestone 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and further commending and celebrating its Tampa Bay Campus on its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and in wishing the school and students continued success.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 2022.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor