

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, October is designated as **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** to bring attention to this horrific disease, and during the month, October 13<sup>th</sup> is named **Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day**; and

**WHEREAS**, breast cancer is the most common diagnosed cancer in women in the United States, and it currently ranks as the second leading cause of cancer death among women following skin cancer, and it is estimated one in eight women and one in 833 men in the nation will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetimes, and this year, approximately 290,000 women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer with an additional 51,400 cases diagnosed as non-invasive; and

**WHEREAS**, metastatic breast cancer (MBC) occurs when breast cancer spreads (metastasized) beyond the breast to other parts of the body including the bones, lungs, liver, and brain, and it has an average life expectancy of 26 months, and regardless of early detection, about 30 percent of stage 0 to stage 3 breast cancer will return as stage 4, resulting in almost 43,800 deaths, 98 percent due to metastatic breast cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, *META*ivor *Research and Support, Inc.* is a national metastatic breast cancer research, support, and awareness organization whose mission includes transitioning metastatic breast cancer from a terminal diagnosis to a chronic, manageable disease with a decent quality of life, they are dedicated to the specific fight of women and men living with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer, and their goal includes dramatically increasing the current percentage of United States breast cancer research dollars from less than 5 percent to 30 percent for the already metastasized patient; and

**WHEREAS**, while the pink ribbon is well-known for representing the fight against early-stage breast cancer, it is not inclusive of stage 4, so the Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Ribbon is tri-colored in **teal**, to portray healing and spirituality, **green** to represent the triumph of spring over winter and life over death, and **pink** overlay to signify that the cancer originates in the breast; and

**WHEREAS**, to bring metastatic breast cancer awareness to the nation and honor daily loss of lives to the disease, the **#LightUpMBC** campaign highlights illuminating landmarks in the metastatic colors of teal, green, and pink throughout the nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, locally, on October 13, 2022, the City of Tampa, Florida, will join the **#LightUpMBC** campaign to bring awareness about metastatic breast cancer, and will illuminate its iconic landmarks including Old City Hall, Curtis Hixon Park, the Tampa Riverwalk, City Bridges, and more.

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

**“METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join the efforts of organizations such as *META*ivor *Research and Support, Inc.* in their commitment to raise awareness and needed funding in the worthy fight against metastatic breast cancer.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2022.



*Jane Castor*  
Mayor