

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, established in 1982, the **George Edgecomb Bar Association** (GEBA) is Tampa, Florida's largest predominately African American voluntary bar association and is named for the late **Honorable George E. Edgecomb**, and

WHEREAS, the Honorable George E. Edgecomb was a native of West Tampa, and Hillsborough County's first African American judge, for which the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Courthouse was dedicated, and he was the first African American Chief Assistant County Solicitor and Assistant State Attorney, and he was highly accomplished throughout his lifetime and contributed greatly to the Tampa Bay community; and

WHEREAS, the members of the George Edgecomb Bar Association strive to maintain the ideals and principles that Judge Edgecomb embodied during his lifetime, and the organization is dedicated to the promotion and recognition of minorities within the legal profession and the judiciary, and following in his legacy of community leadership, the membership is committed to increasing the legal profession's involvement in community affairs and public service; and

WHEREAS, led by its 21st President, Cornelius C. Demps, Esq., the current motto is ***A Legacy of Excellence. A Foundation for the Future***, and it speaks to the past four decades of the George Edgecomb Bar Association's investment in the Tampa Bay area and to its commitment to the future leaders of our community through mentorship, and the awarding of scholarships to youth and law students; and

WHEREAS, for forty years, the George Edgecomb Bar Association has been dedicated to excellence, and it has supported and elevated its members to ensure their success and that high ethical standards are maintained in their roles in the legal, judicial, and public service professions, and annually, the organization hosts a Scholarship Banquet whereby students are awarded financial assistance, and members and community leaders receive recognition for their many contributions.

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 24, 2023, as

"GEORGE EDGECOMB BAR ASSOCIATION 40th ANNIVERSARY DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the organization for their commitment to the legal profession and to the Tampa Bay community, and in congratulating them on their 40th Anniversary milestone.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 24th day of February, 2023.



Jane Castor
Mayor