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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, dedicated Letter Carriers in our community who, in addition to maintaining high standards of quality mail delivery, are always eager to do their part to make a positive difference in the lives of the people they serve; and

WHEREAS, millions of Americans need supplemental food assistance each month to feed their families, and Tampa, Florida is not untouched by these statistics; and

WHEREAS, every year on the second Saturday in May, the United States Postal Service in conjunction with the National Association of Letter Carriers tackle the hunger problem nationwide through its **Annual Stamp Out Hunger Campaign**, and since the program was created in 1991, more than 1.82 billion pounds of non-perishable food have been collected to benefit food insecure families; and

WHEREAS, during this special day, Letter Carriers will, on a volunteer basis, pick up non-perishable food items that are left in or by the mailboxes of concerned and giving citizens, and the donations will be delivered to selected key points for later distribution to local shelters, food kitchens, and other programs designated for those who are less fortunate and need food assistance; and

WHEREAS, locally, the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 599, established in 1924 and representing the Tampa, Brandon, Plant City, Ruskin, and Sun City Center communities, are dedicated to this Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive campaign, and the non-perishable food donations collected from residents will remain locally to feed the hungry within the Tampa Bay area.

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, May 13, 2023 as

"LETTER CARRIERS ANNUAL STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in saluting the United States Postal Service and its dedicated Letter Carriers for their participation in this valuable campaign, and in applauding the generosity of those who will be contributing non-perishable food items for pick-up by these compassionate and civic-minded citizens.

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Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 17th day of April, 2023.