

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, during the holidays, the number of families needing assistance increases throughout our nation including the Tampa Bay community, and the children of these families are often left out of the holiday festivities simply because their family's financial situation does not allow for gifts or other holiday traditions that bring joy to a child's heart; and

WHEREAS, acts of kindness, generosity, and humanitarianism are the cornerstones of a thriving and harmonious society, and the holiday season is a time when the warmth of community and the spirit of compassion shine brightest, and individuals and organizations generously support efforts to ensure a happy holiday for those less fortunate, especially the children, ensuring no child feels forgotten; and

WHEREAS, the United States Marine Corps Reserve has been bringing the joy of the holiday season to children since 1947 with its **Toys For Tots** program, and over the years has grown to a nationally well-known and beloved organization, encompassing over 800 campaigns around the nation; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys For Tots campaign is to collect new, unwrapped toys during the months of October, November, and December each year, and distribute the toys as holiday gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted, including Tampa, Florida which is led by, the **4th Assault Amphibian Battalion Toys for Tots Foundation** that strives to provide hope and joy to our city's youngsters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa and the Marine Corps Reserve 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion want all children to be included in the joy and happiness the holiday's bring by receiving a gift of their own, and encourage our kind and generous citizens to visit the <http://tampa-fl-toysfortots.org> website to learn more about the Toys For Tots campaign in our community, and by participating and making a difference in the lives of children this holiday season.

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 2, 2023, as

“SPREADING JOY: TOYS FOR TOTS DAY”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all residents to support this special effort by participating in community events, gatherings, and initiatives that foster unity, understanding, and goodwill, and commit to bringing joy to others.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30th day of September 2023.



Jane Castor
Mayor