

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa and the citizens of Tampa, Florida are extremely proud of our exceptional professional **Tampa Bay Lightning** ice hockey team, who were established in 1991, and played their first National Hockey League (NHL) season in 1992, to the delight of Tampa hockey fans; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay Lightning, known as the “**Bolts**” are a top-rated member of the NHL’s Atlantic Division in the Eastern Conference, and they play with determination, excellence, and extraordinary skills, and their home games are held in the Amalie Arena located on Channelside Drive in downtown Tampa, where they delight their cheering and loyal fans; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Bolts have brought national and international exposure to our community with their history of successes including earning fifteen Stanley Cup playoffs which are the NHL’s annual elimination tournaments, and five championships that resulted in winning three Stanley Cups, in 2004 and back-to-back wins in 2020 and 2021; and

WHEREAS, committed to the community, the Tampa Bay Lightning Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission includes using the power of Lightning hockey to make an impact in the greater Tampa region, has generously supported and been involved in many important areas that benefit our city and residents, local sports, and children, and in collaboration with the Vinik Family Foundation, its signature event is the Lightning Community Heroes event that honors a local hero and awards \$50,000 to a nonprofit charity of their choice, to-date they have celebrated over 550 heroes and distributed more than \$29 million; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is honored to join with Jeffrey Vinik, Chairman of the Vinik Sports Group, Coach Jon Cooper, the entire Tampa Bay Lightning team, and Bolt’s fans everywhere in celebration of the start of the Tampa Bay Lightning season on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, when they play the Nashville Predators, and we will be cheering them on throughout the season to success and a fourth Stanley Cup Championship, bringing the trophy back home to Tampa.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, October 10, 2023, as

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING “GAME ONE - 2023-2024 OPENING DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in support of our outstanding Bolts, and in thanking our home team for their contributions to our community both on and off the ice rink.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 10th day of October 2023.



Jane Castor
Mayor