

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, in 1987, the United States Congress named the month of March as “**Women’s History Month**” in special recognition of the many contributions women have made to our country’s history and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is proud to join in the celebration of Women’s History Month, and the 2024 theme, ***Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion*** honors women who understand that, for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the tradition of recognizing excellence and service to the City of Tampa, the **Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award** was established to be given annually to a current or former City of Tampa female employee who is a pioneer in her profession and/or excels in a field or level where women are underrepresented, and who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to her position and community; this year, the **2024 Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award** is presented to **Ocea Wynn**, City of Tampa Administrator of Neighborhood and Community Affairs, in recognition of her long-standing commitment to the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ocea has always encouraged education to those she mentors and she leads by example including earning a Master’s Degree in Public Administration (MPA) with focus on Environmental Management, a Public Management Certification from Florida State University, completing the Executive Leadership Course and Implementing Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School, and she continues to participate in classes and programs that keep her well-informed and leadership abilities honed, and in 2005, she brought her knowledge and skills from previous experiences as an electrical engineer, her work in private industry and with United States Department of Defense to the City of Tampa, where she has made a difference in each role she has assumed including as Operations Manager for the Wastewater Department, as Director of Logistics and Asset Management, and currently as the Administrator of Neighborhoods and Community Affairs where she oversees six vital City departments, and she was appointed as the City’s first Chief Diversity Officer; Ocea is a dedicated public servant with the City and is well-known for her commitment, concern for others to include implementing employee safety procedures, and for her compassionate nature. Ocea goes beyond her role with the City through involvement in many worthy organizations including as a volunteer with the Hillsborough County Community Action Board, as a trustee with the City of Tampa Fire and Police Pension Board, and as a board member with the Tampa Theatre, Henry B. Plant Museum, United Way Suncoast, Admiral Society, and others, and she raises funds for Moffitt Cancer Center, the American Heart Association, American Lung Association, and more, and she helps to keep Tampa fit by teaching spin classes at the Al Lopez Park’s Cordelia B. Hunt Center; and

WHEREAS, Ocea Wynn’s legacy is officially recognized on Wednesday, March 5, 2024, during the **27th Annual Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award Ceremony** held at the Tampa Bay History Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2024 as

“WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to pay tribute to Ocea on her selection for this honor, and to observe this month by giving special recognition in their own way to all women who have positively affected their lives.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 5th day of March 2024.



Jane Castor

Mayor