

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens; **Darrell Dean Dirks, Esquire**, Assistant State Attorney, Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office is one such person; and

WHEREAS, a native of Grundy Center, Iowa, Mr. Dirks attended Iowa State University, receiving a bachelor's degree, and then he earned his Juris Doctor (J.D.) from prestigious Drake University located in Des Moines, Iowa, and currently is a member of the Florida and Iowa State Bars; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dirks began his tenure with the State Attorney's Office, 13th Judicial Court in 1980, within five years received a promotion to Chief of the Drug Trafficking Division, then Chief of the Felony Division in 1986, and a career capstone as Chief of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO)/Drug Trafficking Prosecutions, and his skills, expertise, and tenacity, including in wiretapping cases were instrumental in assisting law enforcement to secure many high-profile convictions, particularly those in drug trafficking and murder cases, which resulted in keeping our community safer; and

WHEREAS, results-oriented and dedicated to the rule of the law, Mr. Dirks has successfully handled many noteworthy cases during his 44 years with the State Attorney's Office including as the lead prosecutor during racketeering enterprise investigations that culminated in the arrest of over 300 key figures affiliated with regional, national, or international drug trafficking organizations; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure with the State Attorney's Office, Mr. Dirks commitment, advocacy for justice, and superior legal abilities in and out of the courtroom earned him the respect of his peers, the courts, and community, and he has earned the Tampa Police Department's *Bell/Childers Award* for his efforts, and he received an *FBI Director's Certificate* for his key role in successfully prosecuting the mastermind behind the worldwide twitter hack in 2020; and

WHEREAS, as Mr. Dirks retires from the State Attorney's Office, he leaves a legacy of high standards, legal acumen, passion for holding defendants accountable and fighting for the victims of crime, willingness to mentor and elevate others, and he has set an example for others to emulate.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, January 31, 2024, as

"DARRELL DEAN DIRKS DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking him for his dedication to the legal profession and many years of successful prosecutions, congratulating him on his retirement from the State Attorney's Office, and in wishing him continued success in his future endeavors.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 22nd day of January, 2024.



Jane Castor
Mayor