

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the **Tampa Organization of Black Affairs (TOBA)**, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, was created in 1979 by Robert Morrison, David McQuay, and Delano S. Stewart to address political, educational, social, and economic development concerns in the Tampa, Florida African American community in a meaningful manner, and the vision and mission of inspiring, empowering, and preparing new generations of leaders was set forth; and

**WHEREAS**, celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, TOBA has been dedicated to its goals including being a catalyst for leadership within the business community through the promotion of minority economic development by supporting increased African American business ownership, creating opportunities for advancement in the workplace, and expanding awareness with African American consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, these goals also include promoting political education, voter registration and participation, the encouragement of minority individuals to seek elected and appointed public positions, and youth development by encouragement and supporting academic achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, TOBA continues to pursue its mission and goals through local involvement and collaboration with other organizations as well as programming to develop youth leadership, service projects, advocating for minority and disadvantaged business, education equality, youth scholarships, and promoting enhancement initiatives, and they annually hold its signature Leadership Breakfast to bring together the public and private sectors and the community-at-large to honor the principles, ideals, life, and legacy of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**; and

**WHEREAS**, on Monday, January 20, 2025, the Tampa Organization of Black Affairs will host its **45<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Breakfast** held at the JW Marriott Tampa Water Street hotel featuring the theme *Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future*, and the event will foster positive community relations, recognize corporations and individuals for their positive contributions, and features special guest speaker, **Reverend Dr. Howard-John Wesley**, Senior Pastor of Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia, who is nationally recognized with prestigious awards including the NAACP's Chairman's Award, is a popular radio host featuring his program "Faith Forward," and is highly respected for his firm commitment to social justice and advocacy for justice.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Monday, January 20, 2025, as

## **"TAMPA ORGANIZATION OF BLACK AFFAIRS DAY"**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking TOBA for its contributions to our community, congratulating them on this 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and wishing them success in their continued efforts to build upon the rich heritage, traditions, and mission of this valued organization.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor