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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Surgical Assistants are integral members of the healthcare system and surgical teams, and they provide critical services to ensure the patient's safety and general well-being before, during, and after surgical procedures; and

WHEREAS, National Surgical Assistants Week, celebrated this year on April 14–18, 2025, commemorates surgical assistants throughout our nation, highlighting their vital contributions to healthcare and patient well-being, and it recognizes their dedication and the pivotal role they play in maintaining safety standards during surgeries; and

WHEREAS, for over forty years, surgical assistants have been instrumental in the care and health of patients, and they are well-educated, highly skilled, fully trained, professional, and versatile, and are committed to the highest standards in patient care, and currently there are approximately 20,000 surgical assistants in the United States with 1,050 serving in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, surgical assistants actively participate in technical functions, assist surgeons in completing invasive operations safely, strive to prevent life-threatening surgical site infections, and are entrusted with the lives of their patients, and the demand for surgical assistants has grown over the years as their value and importance in the surgical theater continues to be elevated; and

WHEREAS, surgical assistants graduate from an accredited program and receive certification from the National Commission for Certification of Surgical Assistants (NCCSA) and the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA), and they are required to complete continuing education to maintain their certification.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 14–18, 2025, as

"NATIONAL SURGICAL ASSISTANT WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in acknowledging the critical role of the surgical assistants in the care of and compassion for their patients and in thanking them for their professional dedication and commitment to the health and safety of the residents of our community, and throughout the nation.

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Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 14th day of April 2025.