

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, Tampa is proud to be known as the home of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) at MacDill Air Force Base and the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), and the military families, veterans, and active-duty personnel are a special and valued part the Tampa community; and

**WHEREAS**, established October 1775 and celebrating its **250<sup>th</sup> Birthday**, the **United States Navy** is the naval warfare service branch of the United States Armed Forces under the United States Department of Defense, and its role includes naval warfare, power projection, nuclear deterrence, and sealift, and has stood as pillars of national strength, freedom, and global presence since its founding; and

**WHEREAS**, the world's finest navy, the United States Navy protects our nation's interests at sea, provides humanitarian relief, disaster response, and is a forward presence worldwide, and its motto is ***Semper Fortis*** (Always Courageous) and its mission is maintaining, training and equipping combat-ready Naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, and its over 330,000 active duty personnel and approximately 58,000 reserve units are firmly dedicated to the security and well-being of our nation and its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Tampa Bay Navy League Council** is a civilian nonprofit organization and is a member of the Navy League of the United States that was founded in 1902, and its mission includes dedication to the education of American citizens including elected officials, and the support of youth and the men and women of the sea services and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Blue Star Families** organization was founded in 2009 by military spouses and is a national nonprofit dedicated to empowering, strengthening and supporting military and veteran families, and they strive to ensure that wherever the families go, they can feel connected so they may thrive in every community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay Navy League Council and the Blue Stars Families Tampa Chapter are hosting the **Tampa Bay 250<sup>th</sup> Navy Birthday Ball** on Saturday, October 18, 2025, held at the Seminole Hard Rock & Casino, and featuring the theme ***Rock the Fleet*** and special guest speaker Vice Admiral Brad Cooper.

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

## **“UNITED STATES NAVY 250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY BALL DAY”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in expressing profound appreciation to the United States Navy, its leaders, personnel, veterans and navy families for the role they play in protecting our freedom and in celebration of Tampa's longstanding support and close relationship with our nation's Navy, and in thanking the Tampa Bay Navy League Council and Blue Stars Families Tampa Bay for their many contributions to the nation and to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2025.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor