Proclamation

Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, annually, November 18th is designated as **National Injury Prevention Day**, created to raise awareness about the burden of injury and violence and the need for change, and it is dedicated to educating and empowering communities to make a difference in reducing injuries and deaths; and

WHEREAS, injuries are the leading cause of death and disabilities for children in the United States ages one to 18 years old, with 24 children dying every day from preventable injuries, and locally, over 750 children were admitted to the Muma Children's Hospital at Tampa General last year because of serious traumatic injury, sadly an increase from the previous year, and it affects children of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, preventable injuries are tragic and devastating to children and their families, and reducing the incidence of childhood injuries is of the utmost importance to communities across our nation, and **National Injury Prevention Day** brings public awareness about the causes of these injuries and how to prevent them; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation, including Tampa, Florida, are pushing for change and working to end preventable injuries and deaths with evidence-based campaigns and educational information for the community, and **National Injury Prevention Day** on November 18, 2026, will bring awareness to this important initiative; and

WHEREAS, Muma Children's Hospital at Tampa General, affecting change in the community and playing a significant role in injury prevention, provides specialized expertise, education, and resources tailored to children's unique needs, and the hospital has joined with other hospitals that have created and reinforced an environment of comfort and safety for pediatric patients and their families while advocating for the most important people in our community – the children; and

WHEREAS, a Level 1 pediatric trauma center and the first in Florida to achieve verification from the American College of Surgeons, Muma Children's Hospital at Tampa General is a member of the Injury Free Coalition for Kids, with 42 sites housed across 40 cities nationwide, and is a leading and effective injury and violence prevention organization whose mission includes preventing injury to children, and it is comprised of hospital-based, community-oriented programs whose efforts are anchored in research, education, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, on the **7th Annual National Injury Prevention Day**, held November 18, 2026, Muma Children's Hospital at Tampa General will join with the Injury Free Coalition for Kids as a local partner, and other organizations to push for change, raise awareness, and empower communities to make a difference.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 18, 2026, as

NATIONAL INJURY PREVENTION DAY

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join the efforts of Muma Children's Hospital at Tampa General and organizations such as Injury Free Coalition for Kids in their commitment to raise public awareness and become educated on injury prevention measures to save lives and reduce trauma, especially among the vulnerable children in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30th day of October 2026.

Jane Castor

Mayor