

# In Memoriam



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens. One of these individuals was Sherry Lillian Crawford, a Tampa, Florida native, and well respected and beloved retired employee of the City of Tampa, who passed away on November 21, 2011 at age 61; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning her career with the City of Tampa on February 15, 1968 while still in high school as a member of the Neighborhood Youth Corps and assigned to the Model Cities Program, Sherry became a permanent employee upon graduation from Brandon High School. Her exceptional pride in her work, commitment, attention to detail, and eagerness in learning new and challenging tasks made her a valued clerical assistant in the many departments she was associated with, and was soon promoted to Administrative Assistant to Directors and Division Heads, performing all office management responsibilities, including staff supervision; and

**WHEREAS**, Sherry's dedication to the City of Tampa and its citizens, her extensive knowledge and abilities were held in the utmost regard, and from 1986 until her retirement in April, 2011 she served in Executive Aide positions, working directly for three mayors, Mayor Sandra Freedman, Mayor Dick Greco, and Mayor Pam Iorio, and was well known for her high ethical standards, professionalism, and loyalty. Sherry was proud to be a public servant and loved assisting the citizens of the community, making sure their concerns were addressed, finding them answers to their questions, and treating each one with respect and personal attention; and

**WHEREAS**, recognized by all as the consummate wordsmith, Sherry was valued for the proclamations and letters she composed, researching the information and creating beautifully written documents that live on in history, commemorating organizations, businesses, individuals and events, and her abilities are widely recognized, setting the standard for how official documents should be created; and

**WHEREAS**, in the four decades of service to the City of Tampa, there is not a department that Sherry did not impact, and few employees that did not know and value her genuine kindness and friendliness, enthusiasm, and willingness to go above and beyond to assist others, and the Tampa community is a better place because of the many lives she touched. Sherry's compassionate nature, mentoring, and strength of character have set an example for us all and she will be greatly missed by so many.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby urge all citizens to join me in publicly expressing sorrow and heartfelt appreciation to her husband Jim, son Michael, daughters Michelle, Andrea and Jamie, family and many friends, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the impact of her life on our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011.

  
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Mayor

