

Proclamation



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 is **David Taylor Price**, an American Major League Baseball (MLB) left-handed Starting Pitcher for the **Tampa Bay Rays**, a man of integrity and inspiration; and

WHEREAS, David Price was born on August 26, 1985 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee and fell in love with baseball growing up as an Atlanta Braves fan and admiring great players such as outfielder David Justice. He was an outstanding athlete for the Blackman High School basketball and baseball teams, receiving several awards including the Rutherford County Most Valuable Player (MPV) Pitcher Award twice and Male Athlete of the Year Award for three consecutive years, and selected to play in the 2004 High School All-American Game; and

WHEREAS, drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers after high school graduation, David chose not to sign, electing to attend Vanderbilt University on an academic scholarship, majoring in Sociology, and pitched for the Vanderbilt Commodore Baseball team for three years, earning him Freshman All-American by *Baseball America* magazine and *Collegiate Baseball* newspaper his first year in 2005, setting a university single-season record in strike-outs in 2006, and was the United States top strike-out pitcher in 2007, receiving the Dick Howser Trophy and the Brook Wallace Award. During this period David also pitched for the United States National Team and was instrumental in the team bringing home the Gold Medal in the World University Baseball Championship held in Cuba in 2006; and

WHEREAS, selected as the First Overall in the 2007 Major League Baseball Draft by the Tampa Bay Rays, David made his major league debut in September 2008 against the New York Yankees and helped his team reach its first World Series, becoming a full-time starter in 2009. A valued member of the organization and a consistent part of its success, David has been recognized for his contributions numerous times including receiving the MLB All-Star Award three times, the Black Entertainment Television (BET) Major League Baseball Rookie of the Year Award, American League All Star Starter Award, the Warren Spahn Award, and recently the prestigious **2012 American League Cy Young Award**, an honor given annually to the best pitcher in the league, the first in the Tampa Bay Rays franchise history; and

WHEREAS, beloved by the Tampa Bay area not only for his great athletic abilities, sportsmanship and spirit he brings to the fans, but for his love of community, serving as a positive role model and mentor to young people with his many appearances, partnerships and funding of youth and educational projects including founding Project One Four that supports programs and charities, sponsoring recreational centers through the Rays Dugout Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters with the David Price Bowling Tournament, and involvement with the Miracle League of St. Petersburg.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim December 11, 2012 as

DAVID PRICE DAY

in the city of Tampa and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating David Price on his many accomplishments, wishing him continued success in the future and thanking him for his contributions to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 11th day of December, 2012.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor