

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the Veterans of the United States Armed Forces have served this nation in times of both peace and war, and in doing so have assured the safety and prosperity of all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, as we enjoy our freedom, we should remember the sacrifices made on our behalf by the men and women of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy who bravely served our country to protect the liberty of Americans and others around the globe; and

WHEREAS, to honor the many Veterans who have valiantly served, the Gary Sinise Foundation, founded by actor Gary Sinise, and the Stephen Siller Tunnel To Towers Foundation are dedicated to the ***Building For America's Bravest*** program whereby specially-adapted customized "Smart Homes" are built for the most seriously wounded United States service personnel; and

WHEREAS, each "Smart Home" will provide personal independence and freedom to each of the twelve severely injured servicemen that have been chosen to receive them, and each will also receive a benefit concert in their honor performed in their hometown by *Gary Sinise and the Lieutenant (Lt.) Dan Band*, with the proceeds supporting the building of the homes; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that Gary Sinise of the Gary Sinise Foundation, and Frank Siller of the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, will gather at Heroes Plaza in Tampa, Florida to show support for Veterans and to announce the first 2013 "Smart Home" honoree is Tampa's hometown hero United States Marine Corps **Sergeant Michael Nicholson**, and the benefit concert in his honor will be held May 10, 2013 at Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa joins in the tribute to the many citizens that have served, and are continuing to serve, in the protection of our country and its freedoms, and is appreciative of the price many have paid.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim, on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2013 as

"TAMPA LOVES VETERANS DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing all Military Veterans and thanking them for the extraordinary service and sacrifice they have made on our nation's behalf.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 13th day of February, 2013.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor