

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the practice of law is a demanding, challenging and complex endeavor, one in which the rights, liberties and safety of our citizens have been protected and preserved for centuries; and

WHEREAS, members of the bar require knowledgeable and reliable assistance to fulfill the duties of their profession and paralegals have become an invaluable source of support, providing a variety of skilled professional services; and

WHEREAS, paralegals are highly educated, trained, and experienced professionals with expertise in legal and case research, interviewing clients and witnesses, legal and correspondence writing, and other critical areas of successful and efficient law practice; and they are dedicated to maintaining integrity and a high degree of competence throughout the legal profession; and

WHEREAS, the value of talented paralegals is often overlooked by the general public, but their worth is never underestimated by the lawyers and firms for which they work, and through the assistance of paralegals, the cost of providing legal service to our citizens is reduced; and

WHEREAS, the Hillsborough County Chapter of the Paralegal Association of Florida, Inc., the Tampa Bay Paralegal Association, Inc., and many other professional organizations are dedicated to the advancement of the paralegal profession through education, a network of support, and raising public awareness and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, during the annual campaign for Paralegal Week one day is set aside as Paralegal Day, and this year it is recognized on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, and members of the bar and legal offices will pay special tribute to paralegals that contribute so much to the legal profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of June 2-8, 2013 as

## **"PARALEGAL WEEK"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in expressing appreciation to this group of professionals for their many contributions to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2013.

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Mayor