

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) is the worldwide headquarters for Special Operations Forces (SOF) of the United States Military and is located at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, founded in 1980 and based in Tampa, the **Special Operations Warrior Foundation** (SOWF) was originally known as the *Colonel Arthur D. "Bull" Simons Scholarship Fund* and created to care for the seventeen children of the nine fallen or incapacitated soldiers of the Iranian hostage rescue attempt known as Desert One, and thereafter was expanded to encompass all Special Operations Forces; and

**WHEREAS**, currently celebrating its **34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**, the Special Operations Warrior Foundation's mission is to provide a college education to every child who has lost a parent while serving in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps Special Operations during an operational or training mission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Special Operations Warriors Foundation's programs include *College Scholarships* whereby every eligible child is contacted and advised that the funding for up to a four-year post-secondary degree is available to them, *Educational and Family Counseling* with counselors and staff, and *Wounded Special Operators* which provides a \$3,000 stipends for immediate needs such as airfare, rental cars, child care, hotels and meals for the families of severely wounded Special Operations personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is extremely proud of USSOCOM and the outstanding job its military forces and civilian employees are performing locally and worldwide, and appreciative of the Special Operations Warrior Foundation that is dedicated to the families of the brave men and women who have given the ultimate price in the name of freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, as the only Special Operations charity, it is appropriate that the Special Operations Warriors Foundation be recognized on its 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the 2014 International Special Operations Forces Conference (SOFIC) held at the Tampa Convention Center in Tampa, Florida on May 19-23, 2014.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 20, 2014 as

## **"SPECIAL OPERATIONS WARRIORS FOUNDATION DAY"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating the organization on its 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and in thanking them for their extraordinary efforts and dedication on behalf of the children and families of our nation's fallen heroes of the Special Operations Forces.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.



City of  
**Tampa**  
Florida

Bob Buckhorn

Mayor