

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has named the month of March as “**Women’s History Month**” in special recognition of the many contributions women have made to our country’s history and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is proud to join in the nation’s celebration of “Women’s History Month” and this year’s theme, *Weaving the Stories of Women’s Lives*, highlights the individual and collective accounts of remarkable women, a proven essential to the fabric of our nation’s history; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the tradition of recognizing excellence and service to the City of Tampa, the *Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award* has been established to be given annually to a current or former City of Tampa female employee who is a pioneer in her profession or excels in a field or level where women are underrepresented, and has demonstrated outstanding commitment to her position and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award for 2015 is presented to the **Honorable Gwendolyn “Gwen” Miller**, in recognition of her commitment to the City of Tampa and her many efforts on behalf of the citizens of our community; and

WHEREAS, the first African American woman elected to Tampa City Council, Mrs. Miller served with distinction from 1995 through 2011, and during her tenure she served as Chair from 2003 to 2007, and Chair Pro-Tem from 1998 through 2003 and again in 2007 until her retirement in 2011. During her time of service on Tampa City Council, Mrs. Miller was well-known for her dedication to developing and strengthening the community’s youth and families through educational, recreational and social opportunities. Mrs. Miller led many neighborhood initiatives including funding for the renovation of the Belmont Heights Little League, and the community centers for Woodlawn Terrace and Williams Park. On April 1, 2011, the Woodlawn Terrace Park Community Center in East Tampa was renamed the Gwendolyn M. Miller Community Center in her honor and in recognition of her many contributions to the city of Tampa. Her dedication and commitment to the City of Tampa and community make her truly deserving of this honor.

WHEREAS, this recognition will be officially announced on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at the *Nineteenth Annual City of Tampa Women’s History Month Celebration* held in Tampa City Council Chambers.

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 month of March 2015 as

“WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in paying tribute to Gwendolyn Miller on her selection for this honor and to observe this month by paying special recognition in their own way to all women who have positively affected their lives.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 12th day of March, 2015.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor