

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, The City of Tampa is proud to recognize those businesses and individuals who have made a mark in our city by their economic investment and involvement in the community, and **Thompson Cigar Company**, celebrating its **100th Anniversary**, is one such company; and

WHEREAS, by the early 1900's, Tampa, Florida was known as the *Cigar Capital of the World* and the output by Tampa workers by 1929 exceeded 500,000,000 cigars, and the industry created a unique culture and heritage that continues to instill pride in the citizens of the Tampa community; and

WHEREAS, established in 1915, Thompson Cigar Company was founded by M.A. Thompson in Key West, Florida, and after hurricanes destroyed most of the cigar factories in the region, he moved the company in 1920 to Tampa; and

WHEREAS, Thompson Cigar Company is the oldest mail order cigar company in the United States providing customers with cigars, including private label and national brands, and cigar accessories. The company has the distinction of holding the United States Postal Service's *Mail Permit #1* for the city of Tampa, and it has the largest inventory storage humidor in the nation; and

WHEREAS, proud to be part of the Tampa Bay area, and civic and community minded, Thompson Cigar Company contributes sponsorships and support to organizations including the Tampa History Center, Thanks to the Troops Golf Tournament, Southeast Guides Dogs & Paws for Patriots, Cigars & Guitars, and since World War II, it has donated over 300,000 cigars to American military troops; and

WHEREAS, Thompson Cigar Company is hosting its **100th Anniversary Celebration** on Saturday, May 30, 2015, and its owners, Robert Franzblau, Alix Franzblau, and Carlo Franzblau, the dedicated staff, and guests will take the opportunity to reflect on the company's rich history and all that has been accomplished over the past century.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 30, 2015 as

"THOMPSON CIGAR COMPANY DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating them on this special 100th Anniversary milestone occasion, thanking them for their commitment to the Tampa community, and in wishing them continued success in the future.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, 30th day of May, 2015.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor