

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, founded in 1956, the **University of South Florida** (USF) is one of the largest public and global research universities in the United States, and it delivers outstanding internationally recognized programs for undergraduates, graduates, professionals and the greater community; and

WHEREAS, USF is a top-tier university that has developed and grown substantially for almost six decades, and the Tampa Bay region is proud of the institution's many accomplishments including programs in the USF Department of Athletics, home to the **Bulls** - named for USF's mascot, the Golden Brahman; and

WHEREAS, the USF Department of Athletics provides leadership for the University of South Florida's National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Intercollegiate Athletics program, and its vision is to position each team and every student-athlete to compete for national championships; and

WHEREAS, the USF 2014-2015 Women's Basketball Team, under the guidance of Head Coach Jose Fernandez and his staff, continue to bring national and international acclaim to Tampa by reaching the ***National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Women's Basketball Tournament*** for three years - in 2009, 2013, and 2015; and

WHEREAS, the USF Women's Basketball Bulls, in the bold colors of **Green** and **Gold**, has earned the admiration of the sports world, fellow athletes and fans alike, and for the first time in the University's history, they earned the *Top 25 Ranking* with both the Associated Press (AP) and Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), and ten players posted grade point averages that earned them Atlantic Coast Conference's (ACC) *All-Academic Team* honors; and

WHEREAS, sports opens doors of opportunity, and women's athletics has grown in participation, popularity and prominence, and the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball is accepted nationwide as a marquee sport, and USF Women's Basketball Team members provide positive role models for the youth in our community; and

WHEREAS, with dedication and leadership, Head Coach Jose Fernandez has steered the USF Bull student-athletes to record-breaking post-season play in eleven of the last twelve seasons, and has tallied more men and women team victories than all of the basketball coaches in USF history, and he and the remarkable USF Women's Basketball Team consistently play with professionalism, dignity, and spirit.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, August 26, 2015 as

"USF WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens and Bulls Fans to celebrate the impressive accomplishments of their Home Team.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of August, 2015.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor