

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens. **The Honorable Chris W. Altenbernd**, a well-known and respected Appellate Judge with the Florida Second District Court of Appeal is one such person; and

**WHEREAS**, born in Muscatine, Iowa in 1949, Judge Altenbernd graduated from Muscatine High School in 1967, and during his high school years, his father taught him carpentry; skills he used during his college years. He attended Harvard Law School from 1967 to 1969 when he took a hiatus to volunteer with the Delta Ministry in Greenville, Mississippi, and thereafter he earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree with honors in Psychology from the University of Missouri and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) Degree from Harvard Law School and a Master of Laws in Judicial Process from the University of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Altenbernd made Tampa, Florida his home when he began his law career in private practice as a civil litigator with the law firm Fowler, White, Gillen, Boggs, Villareal & Banker, P.A. where he became a partner in 1979 and a member of its Board of Directors in 1986; and

**WHEREAS**, Judge Altenbernd was appointed to the Second District Court of Appeal by Governor Bob Martinez on January 3, 1989, and for twenty-seven years he has faithfully and fairly served the citizens of the community and those who entered his Courtroom, and he served as Chief Judge of the Court from 2003 to 2005, and President of the Conference of District Court of Appeal Judges in 2006 and 2007, and during his tenure, he authored several publications including *Briefly State: The True Confessions of a Legal Grease Monkey*, *The Record*, *Journal of Appellate Practice & Advocacy Section*, and he has contributed to *The Florida Bar*, Volumes III, XVIII and LXXXVI; and

**WHEREAS**, known for his leadership and commitment to the community, Judge Altenbernd was a member of the Florida Defense Lawyers Association and International Association of Defense Counsel, served as Chairman of the Florida Bay Area March of Dimes, is the liaison for the American Inns of Court, a member of the Cheatwood Inn of Court and the Jacob Criminal Appellate Inn of Court, a trustee of the Conn Memorial Foundation, and he is an Eagle Scout who serves as Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 100; and

**WHEREAS**, among his many honors, Judge Altenbernd was named *Jurist of the Year* by the Florida Board of Trial Advocate and also by the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, he received the Appellate Practice and Advocacy Section of The Florida Bar's *James C. Adkins Award*, the American Inns of Court's *A. Sherman Christensen Award*, and he has served on several Supreme Court committees including the Committee on Standard Jury Instructions in Civil Cases; and

**WHEREAS**, well-respected among his peers and those in the legal profession for his ethics and dedication, Judge Altenbernd has always demonstrated his commitment to the Second District Court of Appeal and to the citizens it serves, and the City of Tampa is pleased to offer best wishes in his retirement as he leaves a legacy of admiration for his dedication to the law, to fairness, and for the wise decisions that he made in the best interest of the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Thursday, February 25, 2016 as

## **“THE HONORABLE CHRIS W. ALTENBERND DAY”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking him for his contributions to the citizens of our community and wishing him continued success and happiness in his future.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*  
Mayor