

# 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 the 2018 theme, **Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women**, honors women who have shaped America’s history and its future through their tireless commitment to ending discrimination against women and girls, and those who will not be silenced; and

**WHEREAS**, in keeping with the tradition of recognizing excellence and service to the City of Tampa, the **Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award** was 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 who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to her position and community involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial Award for 2018 is presented to **Barbara Tripp**, Rescue Division Chief with Tampa Fire Rescue (TFR), in recognition of her commitment to the City of Tampa and her many efforts on behalf of the citizens of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Barbara, dedicated to the well-being of others, has served with TFR for twenty years, beginning her tenure as a Firefighter, and her prior experience as an Aviation Ordinance Petty Officer in the United States Navy, along with her Bachelor’s Degree as a Registered Nurse, her determination, skills and commitment has led to many advancements, and her promotion to Rescue Division Chief gave her the distinction of being the first African American female selected to serve as Chief. Barbara demonstrates superior leadership qualities, leading by example, and she has great enthusiasm along with a determination to achieve excellence for herself and others. Barbara is inspiring, and is the author of the “Q’s” column in TFR’s quarterly newsletter, and she mentors many women seeking careers in firefighting and paramedics. Her leadership involvement includes serving with the Florida Fire Chiefs Association, participation in the Great American Teach-In, volunteering with the TFR Food Basket Program, Trinity Café, First Baptist Church of Progress Village’s Prison Ministry, Paint Your Heart Out Tampa Bay and several charity events. Barbara has been recognized for her commitment to others, public service and community involvement with many honors including receiving Camp Hopetake’s *Counselor of the Year Award* and she received the Tampa General Hospital Ambulatory Service’s *Nurse of the Year Award*. Her dedication and commitment to the City of Tampa and the Tampa community make her truly deserving of this honor; and

**WHEREAS**, this honoree is officially recognized on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at the **Twenty-Second Annual City of Tampa Women’s History Month Celebration** held at the Tampa Bay History Center featuring keynote speaker Jane Castor, former City of Tampa Chief of Police.

**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 2018 as

## “WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to tribute to Barbara Tripp 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor