

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, considered a serious public health challenge, drugs and alcohol misuse affects individuals, families, and communities across the United States, and the difficulties that can occur as a result of substance misuse include altered brain chemistry, health complications, infections, legal and financial problems, accidental injuries, and even death; and

WHEREAS, the largest drug-abuse prevention campaign in the United States, **Red Ribbon Week** was established by the United States Congress in 1988 to encourage a drug-free lifestyle and involvement in drug prevention and reduction efforts, and to memorialize and honor the late Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent Enrique “Kiki” Camarena who was killed in 1985 because of his diligence in the battle against illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, held each year in the month of October, this year the 2020 Red Ribbon Week theme is *Your Future is Key, so Stay Drug Free*, and it advocates for a healthy, drug-free lifestyle by raising awareness and demanding reduction of common drugs such as tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, prescription drugs and marijuana that are in homes and neighborhoods, and are often easily accessed by children and young adults; and

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week also provides an opportunity to recognize dedicated men and women whose efforts make a difference in our nation in keeping drugs out of our communities including businesses, governments, media, health care providers, faith based and nonprofit organizations, schools, first responders, and law enforcement agencies such as locally, the Tampa Police Department, Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office, Hillsborough County Anti-Drug Alliance, and the United States Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration and its Tampa District Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 23-31, 2020 as

“RED RIBBON WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in showing their support of this vital awareness campaign by committing to a healthy, drug-free lifestyle, and by wearing a red ribbon during Red Ribbon Week.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 12th day of October 2020.



Jane Castor
Mayor