

Proclamation

The seal of the City of Tampa, Florida, featuring a ship on the water, surrounded by the text "CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA" and "ORGANIZED JULY 15, 1887".

Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens. **The Honorable Lesley “Les” Miller, Jr.**, a well-respected Public Servant, Community Leader, and a Hillsborough County Commissioner is one such person; and

WHEREAS, a Tampa, Florida native, Commissioner Miller served our country in the United States Air Force as an Administrative Specialist and upon his honorable discharge, he attended the University of South Florida (USF) where he received his Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science and studied public administration within the master’s program, and where he served as the first African American Student Government President, and he received an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humane Letters from Florida A&M University; and

WHEREAS, prior to his stellar career as a public servant, Commission Miller’s career highlights include serving as an Associate Vice President and Dean for Students at USF and as Manager of Minority Business Development and Governmental Relations for Tampa General Hospital; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to public service, Commissioner Miller was a member of the Florida Board of Regents (1977-1979), served on Tampa City County (1991), elected to the Florida House of Representative (1992-2000) and the Florida State Senate (2000-2006) and in both capacities he served as the Minority Leader, he was appointed to the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission from 2007-2008, elected to the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners in 2010 representing District 3 and where he served as Chairman, and his leadership was invaluable on many Boards and Councils including the Tampa Aviation Authority, the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority, Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority, Chairman of the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group, Visit Tampa Bay, Metropolitan Planning Organization, and more; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Commissioner Miller has led by example and made a difference by generously giving his time, energy and expertise to the community and others through his involvement in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Harram Temple No. 23-Prince Hall Shriners, the United Supreme Council-33rd Degree Mason, the Tampa Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Tampa, Inc. where he serves as a Deacon, and other organizations who benefit from his involvement, and he is a strong advocate for Moffitt Cancer Center, cancer funding, research and awareness; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Miller is respected by his peers and within the community for his integrity, compassion, intellect and dedication to service and equality, and he has received numerous honors over the years including the Florida Education Association’s *President’s Award*, USF’s Presidents’ *Distinguished Citizens Award*, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Memorial Service’s *Robert W. Sanders Award*, the Early Learning Coalition *Legislative Excellence Award*, the Florida League of Cities’ *Legislative Award* and the Florida Housing Coalition’s *Legislative Award*, and he is well-known for his humble nature, concern for his community, and especially for the deep love for his family and friends, and for his strong faith.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, November 13, 2020 as

“COMMISSIONER LESLEY MILLER, JR. DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking him for all he has contributed over his lifetime to our community, and in wishing him continued success and happiness.

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Mayor