

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, John “Jack” Fitzgerald Kennedy, affectionately known as JFK, was born in Brookline, Massachusetts on May 29, 1917, and grew up to be the 35th President of the United States of America, and was assassinated on November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas; and

WHEREAS, an energetic and charismatic man with a young family, President Kennedy was inspirational and instilled patriotism in the nation, and was beloved by the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, just four days before the tragedy in Dallas, Texas, President Kennedy became the first sitting United States President to visit Tampa, Florida, and the city was alive with excitement and in anticipation of seeing and hearing this well-respected leader, the citizens of the community took time away from work and children were given the day off from school for this historic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 1963, President John F. Kennedy’s plane, Air Force One, landed at MacDill Air Force Base, and he greeted 4,000 military personnel before helicoptering to Al Lopez Field where he addressed a full capacity crowd, who were eager to hear him speak, and thereafter he rode in an open convertible in the longest presidential motorcade at the time – 28 miles – through downtown Tampa to Fort Homer Hesterly Armory on Howard Avenue for a speech before invited guests, and then on to the International Inn at the Tampa Airport for a special event; and

WHEREAS, during President Kennedy’s time in Tampa, tens of thousands of Tampa citizens cheered, and the President took time to shake their hands, wave and smile at them, and he was genuinely glad to be with them before the motorcade took him back to MacDill Air Force Base for his departure; and

WHEREAS, while the citizens of our city have mourned the loss of this great President, as the entire nation has for the past 50 years, we celebrate the historic visit he made to our city and the importance his visit had on our community and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 18, 2013 as

“PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY DAY”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in taking this opportunity to pay tribute to John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States, and the impact he had on our city, our state, our nation, and the world.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 18th day of November, 2013.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

