

In Memoriam



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. One of these individuals was **Cleanza Mariea Lanier**, a well-respected real estate professional and community leader, who passed away on Friday, February 7, 2014 at age 52; and

WHEREAS, a Huntsville, Alabama native born on May 24, 1961, Ms. Lanier was the gifted youngest daughter of the late Maceo Lanier and the late Dr. Elnora Clay Lanier, and graduated from S. R. Butler High School in 1979, and thereafter attended Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, receiving her Bachelor of Science in Business in 1982, and her Master of Business Administration from the University of Hartford, Connecticut in 1991, earning both degrees with honors; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lanier joined AETna Life & Casualty Insurance Company in 1982 as an Underwriter, Auditor, and Editor-in-Chief of the company's national publication *The Underwriter*, transferring to offices across the United States prior to receiving a promotion to Human Resources Director and being assigned to Tampa, Florida in 1991, where she purchased her first home, leading to her passion for the real estate industry; and

WHEREAS, beginning her career in 1992, working with Keller Williams Realty Tampa Properties where she was eventually asked to join the firm as an owner, Ms. Lanier was a Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist and recognized as a paramount real estate professional. An expert, specializing in exclusive high-tier markets, she consistently ranked among the top in her industry nationwide, her clients became customers and friends for life, many of them professional sport figures and celebrities who trusted her business sense, integrity and dedication. In 1998, she opened her own firm, Cleanza Lanier Enterprises, Inc., and as its President managed several successful businesses, including Minding Your Personal Business, a lifestyle management company, and in 2012, she earned the #22 *Ranking of the Top 50 Black-Owned Businesses in Tampa Bay* by Power Broker Magazine; and


WHEREAS, among her many other honors and recognitions, Ms. Lanier consistently received the #1 *Top Individual Agent Award* and *Top Regional Producer* with Keller Williams Realty, voted the *Most Outstanding General Real Estate Agent of the Year in Hillsborough County* by the Greater Tampa Builders Association, she was featured twice in *The Florida Realtor Magazine*, and named "Realtor to the Pros" by the St. Petersburg Times, now the Tampa Bay Times, in 2002; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the community, Ms. Lanier served on the board of directors for The Centre, was a Diamond Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Tampa Alumnae Chapter, and founded and served as Chief Executive Officer of Delta Enriches Life Through Training and Awareness (D.E.L.T.A., Inc.); and

WHEREAS, a friend, mentor and inspiration to all who knew her, she will be forever remembered for her love of family and friends, high ethical standards, wonderful sense of humor and generous nature, and although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, her legacy will continue to live on through the improvements she brought to our community and in all those whose lives she has touched.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby urge all citizens to join me in publicly expressing sorrow and heartfelt appreciation to the Cleanza Mariea Lanier Family, her brother Odysseus, her sister Andrea, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the impact of her life on our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 13th day of February, 2014.



Mayor

