

# Proclamation



*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. **Gayle Sierens**, WTVT-TV FOX 13 Anchor, and Tampa, Florida community leader, is one such person; and

**WHEREAS**, born in Jacksonville, Florida and raised in Tampa, Gayle attended Florida State University, receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications, and she began her stellar professional career at WFSU-TV in Tallahassee, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, returning to the Tampa community where she grew up, Gayle joined WFLA-TV Channel 8 in 1977, serving as the Weekend Sports Anchor and Reporter, and thereafter became the 11:00 p.m. Weekday Sports Anchor in 1983. Her professionalism and passion led to her transition to News Anchor, where she continued her high standards and steadfast commitment to the viewing public of insightful and accurate news reporting, endearing her to Tampa Bay residents. Considered a Tampa Bay icon, Gayle is one of the most recognized and respected News Anchors, and in her thirty-eight year tenure, she was an integral part of the WFLA-TV Channel 8 organization, and she established a dedicated following of viewers and a unique rapport with the community; and

**WHEREAS**, during her nearly four decades of broadcasting in the Tampa region, Gayle made television history as the first woman to do a play-by-play for the National Football League during the Kansas City Chiefs – Seattle Seahawks game, she traveled globally covering topics of interest including a visit with the Pope at the Vatican, and political unrest in Seoul, Korea, and she has received several Florida Emmy Awards for excellence in both sports and news reporting; and

**WHEREAS**, devoted to the Tampa Bay community, Gayle regularly volunteers her time and talents for many community functions and non-profit organizations, and serves on several Advisory Boards that include Elon University's School of Communication, Village Partners International, and The Junior League of Tampa. She has received numerous well-deserved honors including winning the Florida Holocaust Museum's *Loebenberg Humanitarian Award*, named *Humanitarian of the Year* by the Judeo Christian Health Clinic, designated *Women of Distinction* by Girl Scouts of America, Suncoast Chapter, and the **Gayle Sierens Volunteer of the Year Award** was established by the Association of Fundraising Professionals in her honor; and

**WHEREAS**, as one of the most popular television and speaking personalities in the Tampa Bay area, and well respected by the citizens and television audience, her peers in broadcasting, and the media, the City of Tampa is honored to congratulate Gayle Sierens on her retirement after an incredible thirty-eight year career in our city, and is grateful for the many contributions she has made to our community and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 19, 2015 as

## **“GAYLE SIERENS DAY”**

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking her for her many contributions to our community and in wishing her continued success and happiness in her future.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.



*Bob Buckhorn*  
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Mayor