

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 Howard D. “Medford” Gimbel, a devoted public servant and beloved City of Tampa Police Officer, who passed away on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at age 53; and

WHEREAS, born on November 29, 1962 in Burlington, Vermont, Officer Gimbel enjoyed playing Little League Baseball in his childhood and his talents led to his participation in a Little League World Series championship, and thereafter his family relocated to Hollywood, Florida, and he then moved to Tampa to attend college where he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Electric Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Officer Gimbel began his stellar twenty year law enforcement career with the Tampa Police Department in 1996 serving the community in Districts 2 and 3 prior to joining the Traffic Squad and its elite Motorcycle Patrol Unit in 2004 where he served with honorable dedication as a Master Patrol Officer, Motor Squad Officer and a Traffic Homicide Investigator. He was known as the “Squad Bulldog” by fellow officers for his relentless dedication to each case he was assigned, and he excelled in each of his assignments, always resolute, tenacious, and professional; and

WHEREAS, recognized for his professional accomplishments and greatly respected by fellow officers and command staff in the Tampa Police Department, Officer Gimbel merited numerous *Unit Citation Awards* and was named *Officer of the Month* in August 2014; and

WHEREAS, Officer Gimbel was considered a man of great integrity who could be relied upon and trusted throughout his career, always on task to ensure the safety and well-being of the community and his fellow officers, ready to assist others when needed, and he served the Tampa Police Department with honesty, courage, and a genuine concern for others; and

WHEREAS, Officer Gimbel enjoyed softball, video games and skeet shooting with his beloved daughter, and he was especially known as a caring man with a sense of humor, and a devoted and loving husband and father. Although we are grieved at the loss of this great man and outstanding citizen, his legacy will continue to live on in all those whose lives he has touched.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by the 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 Howard D. Gimbel Family, his wife Tonya, daughter Sarah, sister Dara, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their cherished memories and the impact of his life on our community.

Dated this 20th day of May, 2016.



Mayor

