

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. **Laura Harris**, Emmy Award winning Journalist and Anchor with WFTS/ABC Action News is one such person; and

WHEREAS, raised in Atlanta, Georgia, Laura attended Georgia Southern University where she was a member of the Southern Conference Division 1 Women's Soccer Team for four years and where she graduated *summa cum laude*; and

WHEREAS, Laura began her stellar career in journalism working with CNN Sports, TNT Sports, and television stations in Toccoa, Georgia, Athens, Georgia and then Charleston, South Carolina prior to making Tampa, Florida her home when she joined WFTS/ABC Action News in July 2012 as a Morning Reporter, and her genuine nature, vibrancy and smile soon endeared her to the Tampa Bay viewing audience; and

WHEREAS, Laura serves as Anchor for ABC Action News' popular *The Now Tampa Bay* airing weekdays at 4:00 P.M., as Co-Anchor with Paul LaGrone weekdays at 5:30 P.M. and she hosts *Tricks to Save Money*, and among her many accomplishments during her tenure with ABC Action News include covering President Obama's 2016 visit to Cuba, the Tampa Bay Rays versus the Cuban National Team baseball game in Havana, Pope Francis' historic visit to Cuba in 2015, and both the 2016 Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio and the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, involved in the community, Laura is a valued member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a Meals on Wheels Volunteer, and active in her church, and she has been recognized with numerous honors that include receiving a *Suncoast Emmy Award*, the Society of Professional Journalists' *2016 Anchor of the Year Award*, she was named Cystic Fibrosis Association's *2012 Best and Brightest: Lowcountry's Finest Young Professionals*, and the National Council of Negro Women's *2011 Innovators 35 and Under*; and

WHEREAS, as one of the most well-known personalities in the Tampa Bay area, the City of Tampa is honored to wish Laura all the best as she leaves our community to bring her expertise, professionalism and enthusiasm to Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas when she joins NBC 5 – KXAS TV as Anchor and Reporter .

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, July 18, 2018 as

“LAURA HARRIS DAY”

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

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 18th day of July, 2018.

Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

