

# Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay Islamic community is a vibrant and important part of the diverse and multiethnic society that comprises the citizens of the Tampa, Florida area; and

**WHEREAS**, *Ramadan* is the holiest month of the Islamic calendar, marking the first revelation of the *Quran* to the Prophet Muhammad, and it lasts for twenty-nine to thirty days based on the timing of the astronomical new moon, and this year in 2019, Ramadan begins the evening of Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and ends the evening of Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the five pillars of the Islamic faith, Ramadan is a time for reflection, contemplation and celebration, and it includes fasting (*Sawm*) each day from sunrise to sunset, and at the end of the day at sunset, the fast is broken (*Iftar*) and often celebrated with family, friends and the community, and is followed by the evening prayer (*Tarawih*); and

**WHEREAS**, the month of Ramadan ends with *Eid al-Fitr*, a festival of breaking the fast, a very happy, joyous celebration with family and friends, and includes eating, gifts to children, the sharing of sweets, and dressing in fine clothing; and

**WHEREAS**, many Islamic organizations, families, individuals and guests will celebrate Eid al-Fitr in Tampa, Florida on the morning of Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at the Florida State Fairgrounds and the event will include prayer, chanting, breakfast, and great celebration.

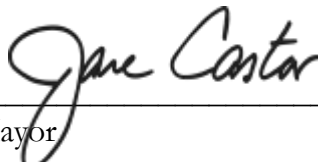
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, June 4, 2019, as

## **"EID AL-FITR DAY"**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join in the festivities and thank the Islamic organizations of our community for their many contributions to our city and nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.



  
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Mayor