

Proclamation



Jane Castor, 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. **Steve Andrews**, WFLA-TV Senior Investigative Reporter, Journalist, and Emmy Award recipient, is one such person; and

WHEREAS, born in Springfield, Massachusetts, Steve attended high school and college in Rhode Island, and he began his stellar career in 1973 in Lewiston, Maine working in radio and as a television reporter, and thereafter he and his family relocated to San Antonio, Texas where he worked with KSAT TV prior to making Tampa, Florida home; and

WHEREAS, Steve joined **WFLA-TV** in 1985, becoming the face of the station's popular **8 On Your Side**, personifying its mission statement, ***Giving a Voice to the Voiceless, Holding the Powerful Accountable and Viewer Advocacy***, and during his tenure, he endeared the viewing audience with his kind and honest nature and his trailblazing and trustworthy investigative reporting, exposing dishonesty and crimes against citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a champion for those who have been victimized and a strong advocate for the needs of our nation's military veterans, Steve's diligence throughout his career disclosed corporate, governmental, and charitable organizational waste, corruption and fraud, resulting in criminal investigations and arrests; and

WHEREAS, Steve's efforts on behalf of military service personnel and veterans brought about expanded benefits for them including his efforts in the passing of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 that extended eligibility for disability compensation and health care for tens of thousands of veterans, and he is was instrumental in the enactment of a federal law that grants the right for active-duty military members to hold government doctors accountable for negligence and malpractice; and

WHEREAS, Steve has been recognized for his investigative reporting and commitment to ethical journalism including eleven *Emmy Awards*; receiving the prestigious Investigative Reporters and Editors Association's *IRE Medal*; the Radio, Television, Digital News Foundation's *Lifetime Achievement Award*; earning several investigative reporting awards from the United Press International for his work on Florida's foster care failings; and he has numerous honors from the Associated Press and Society of Professional Journalists; and

WHEREAS, Steve is respected by his peers in the broadcasting and journalism industry and is one of the most notable television personalities in the Tampa Bay area, and he is well-known for his professionalism and credibility, and admired for his love and support of his family including his wife Paula and daughters Erin and Kendra, and for his integrity and humility. The City of Tampa is honored to congratulate Steve Andrews on his retirement from WFLA-TV after thirty-five years and grateful for the many contributions he has made to our community and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, October 9, 2020 as

“STEVE ANDREWS DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in thanking him for his efforts on behalf of the



Jane Castor

Mayor