

# Proclamation

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

- WHEREAS,** National Coming Out Day was founded on October 11, 1988 by Robert Eichsberg and Jean O'Leary marking the anniversary of the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights; and
- WHEREAS,** **Come OUT St. Pete** was formed in 2017 to celebrate this annual event locally; and
- WHEREAS,** St. Petersburg and the surrounding Tampa Bay communities have continued to be a destination for LGBTQ+ people to live, work, and play; and
- WHEREAS,** The LGBTQ+ community adds to the unique fabric of St. Petersburg, creating neighborhood diversity and expanding arts and cultural opportunities, and more; and
- WHEREAS,** The Grand Central District has one of the largest concentrations of LGBTQ+ owned or managed businesses in the country; and
- WHEREAS,** St. Petersburg aims to be a welcoming and safe place to members of the transgender community, especially as egregious hate crimes and murders of trans people grow nationally.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, **Kenneth T. Welch**, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2022 as

## COME OUT ST. PETE DAY

in St. Petersburg and urge citizens to show support for and acceptance of each other on this and every day.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of St. Petersburg, County of Pinellas, and State of Florida to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2022.



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**Kenneth T. Welch**  
Mayor