

Jane Castor, Mayor

Dear Tom and Gronk,

I want to personally welcome you both to Tampa! We are all very excited to have you here in our beautiful city. You will quickly find that Tampa has a lot to offer. For starters, you can leave your winter clothes behind, all you need here are shorts and sunscreen. A popular misconception is that there are no seasons here in the Sunshine State, however you will find that we have endless summers, 3 or 4 cold days in the winter, and of course allergy season.

Tom, my apologies for the miscommunication when you arrived – not the best first impression. But given my law enforcement background, I couldn't help but have someone investigate the sighting of a G.O.A.T. running wild in one of our beautiful city parks. No harm – no foul, and thanks for being a good sport.

I also want to thank you and Gisele for your generous donation to Feeding Tampa Bay. Our community comes together in good times and bad to lend a hand. In this unprecedented time your kindness has shown brightly and will help so many in need.

There are so many wonderful activities for your family to enjoy, including Busch Gardens, The Florida Aquarium, Zoo Tampa, museums, and world class beaches, just to name a few. We also have parades for just about every occasion, but our signature event is the Gasparilla Pirate Invasion and Parade (falls into the 'have to see it to believe it' category). This third largest parade in the nation is always big fun, so you must be ready to pARRGHty... but not too hard (I'm talking to you Gronk), as Super Bowl LV is the following weekend and we need to keep our eye on the prize – a dent free Lombardi trophy!

There is plenty for you to do as well Gronk. Although we have to socially distance right now, in no time you will be able to enjoy our nightlife and eclectic neighborhoods. Places like SoHo, Armature Works, Sparkman Wharf and Ybor City, which is home to the Cuban Sandwich, the cigar industry and wild chickens (seriously). Just remember 'No Shirt, No Shoes, No Service' is still in effect around here.

We are so glad to have you here. While most people retire and come to Florida, you came out of retirement to head our way. That shows the competitive mindset we are used to, while sticking it to the AARP at the same time. Looking forward to growing used to the Gronk Spike!

So let's get serious, how can we help you guys win the Lombardi trophy in Super Bowl LV? It is our aim to be the first team to win a Super Bowl in our own backyard. We dream big and set the bar high around here, more importantly, we get things done.

Thanks again for choosing the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and, in turn, our beloved city. This is a very exciting time and we look forward to welcoming you with (virtual) open arms. A proper Tampa welcome will have to wait for a while.

Tampa is the greatest city in the nation and it is my sincere hope that you will both be proud to call it home.

Mayor Jane

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P.S. - Tom, It's Tampa Bay. You win us a Super Bowl and we'll discuss Tampa Brady.