



Proclamation Celebrating Juneteenth

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed to free all enslaved people, enslaved Americans in Galveston, Texas, were finally told that they were free from the bondage of slavery and were, for the first time, recognized as citizens of our Nation; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans came to commemorate this day as Juneteenth with celebrations across the country, building new lives and a new tradition that we honor today; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the cultural and historical significance of emancipation and the universally cherished values of liberty and justice; and

WHEREAS, the County of Albemarle, in keeping with the core principles of the United States of America, believes that all persons are created equal and possess unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby recognize June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth to celebrate freedom, the centuries of struggle and progress for civil rights, and to commit towards ensuring an equitable, inclusive community for all.

Signed this 7th day of June 2023.

Donna Price, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors