



PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH

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

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 enduring cultural and historical significance of emancipation, acknowledges the universally cherished values of liberty and justice, and emphasizes our common humanity; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors encourages all persons in Albemarle County to recommit to our shared work to ensure racial justice and equity and to commemorate the centuries of struggle and progress led by educators, civil rights advocates, abolitionists, activists, lawyers, trade unions, religious leaders, public officials, and everyday Albemarle County residents who have brought us closer to fulfilling this promise.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors do hereby recognize June 19, 2024, as Juneteenth and celebrate the joy of people finally being free.

Signed this 12th day of June 2024.

Jim H. Andrews, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors