



Proclamation Recognizing July 12, 2019 John Henry James Day

WHEREAS, following Reconstruction, the crime of lynching succeeded slavery in the United States as an expression of racism and upholder of white supremacy until the middle of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, the lynching of Mr. John Henry James on July 12, 1898 was determined to have taken place in the County of Albemarle; his body shot dozens of times and his corpse hanging for hours; and

WHEREAS, 99 percent of all perpetrators, including those who murdered Mr. James, escaped punishment by State or local officials; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes that a history of racial injustice must be acknowledged, recognized, and most especially, remembered before a community may heal and that July 12, 2019 marks the 121st anniversary of the lynching of Mr. John Henry James; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors do hereby recognize this tragic anniversary and declare July 12, 2019, as John Henry James Day in remembrance of our shared community history and as a demonstration of our commitment that this tragedy will be neither forgotten nor repeated.

Signed this 3rd day of July 2019

*Ned Galloway, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors*