



## **Proclamation Celebrating Liberation and Freedom Day**

**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 the twenty-second day of September, in the year 1862, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, an emancipating declaration that: on the first day of January, in the year 1863, all persons held as slaves shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and

**WHEREAS,** on the third day of March, in the year 1865, the liberation of the estimated 14,000 enslaved persons, or almost 52% of the total population in the Charlottesville/Albemarle area, was enforced; 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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognize today, March 3, 2021 as Liberation and Freedom Day and celebrates the joy of people finally being free.

**Signed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2021.**

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Ned Gallaway, Chair  
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors