



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2025-47

Juneteenth

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, freeing all enslaved people living in states that had joined the Confederacy was issued on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, two years later, Major General Gordon Granger announced to the town of Galveston, Texas, that all enslaved people were to be freed, making Texas the last Confederate State to abolish slavery; and

WHEREAS, June 19th or Juneteenth as it is commonly called, became the most celebrated emancipation day for Black people across the United States because it was the last emancipation day for enslaved people; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over slavery and in 2021 Juneteenth was made a Federal Holiday, affirming its national importance; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, known as Emancipation Day and Freedom Day serves as a tribute to the Black community for their strength and resilience; and

WHEREAS, Charles County honors the strength, culture and achievement of the Black community recognize Juneteenth as a time to educate, engage and celebrate freedom.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2025 as **Juneteenth** in Charles County encourage all residents, organization and institutions to commemorate this historic day with activities that honor Black history, promote cultural awareness and support equity and unity for all.



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, Ed.D.
District 3

Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners