



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2026-06

Black History Month

WHEREAS, Charles County residents of all backgrounds and experiences contribute to our County's rich cultural diversity, storied history and promising future, and it is important for all residents to recognize the positive contributions made by people of all heritages and races; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans and African Americans play an important role in Charles County and American history, and Charles County has been home notable African American leaders and countless other unsung heroes whose contributions have strengthened our communities and enriched our shared heritage; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by Black Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual and political development; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, noted Black American scholar and son of former slaves, initiated Black History Week in 1926, to be recognized the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, as part of the Nation's bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded and became a month-long recognition, and is now celebrated throughout North America; and

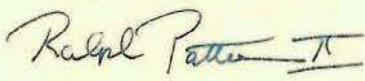
WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month calls our County and Nation's attention to the continued need to confront racism, acknowledge the vast achievements of all Black Americans across many disciplines and continue building a society that lives up to its democratic ideals; and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2026 Black History month, "A Century of Black History Commemorations", recognizes one hundred years of intentional efforts to preserve, celebrate, and educate the public about the history, culture, resilience, and contributions of Black Americans.

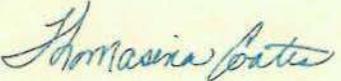
NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND do hereby proclaim February 2026 as **Black History Month** in Charles County and encourage all residents to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities honoring the achievements and enduring legacy of Black Americans.

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:


John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioner