



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF ALABASTER

***PROCLAMATION***

**WHEREAS**, June 19<sup>th</sup>, or Juneteenth, became nationally recognized as National Freedom Day, commemorating the abolition of sanctioned slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, when Union Army General Gordon Granger landed at the Texas Port City of Galveston in 1865 as the Civil War ended, one of his first actions was to read General Order #3, which stated that all slaves are free and that former masters and slaves have absolute equality of personal and property rights; and,

**WHEREAS**, following his statement, June 19<sup>th</sup> (Juneteenth) became the emancipation date of those long suffering for freedom; and,

**WHEREAS**, since then, as the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of slavery in America, this tradition of celebration has remained strong well into the 21st century to recognize the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery and to honor the strength, endurance, and faith of African American ancestors; and,

**WHEREAS**, we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal and have been endowed by our Creator with the unalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

**WHEREAS**, we demand of ourselves and the City of Alabaster's legislative body--in keeping with the principle of equal civil rights for all--unequivocally oppose any manifestation of social injustice and prejudice towards any group or individual; and

**WHEREAS**, we encourage citizens to observe Juneteenth as an opportunity to reflect, rejoice and plan for a brighter future as we continue to address racial injustices in our society today;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Scott Brakefield, Mayor of Alabaster, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2025 as **Juneteenth Celebration Day** in Alabaster. I encourage all citizens to observe Juneteenth as an opportunity to reflect, rejoice and plan for a brighter future as we continue to address racial injustices in our society today.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alabaster, Alabama to be affixed, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

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Mayor Scott Brakefield

ATTEST:

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J. Mark Frey, City Clerk

