



*"The Peak of Good Living"*

# TOWN OF APEX NORTH CAROLINA

## *Proclamation*

**Juneteenth 2025**

*from the Office of the Mayor*

WHEREAS, Juneteenth stands as a historic milestone in our nation's journey toward freedom, recognizing the end of slavery for Black Americans in the United States, and provides an opportunity for communities to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of Black Americans; and,

WHEREAS, On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States, and on June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger announced General Order No. 3, proclaiming that all enslaved individuals were free; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest Black-American holiday that observes and commemorates the day when a quarter of a million enslaved peoples learned of their freedom two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation; and,

WHEREAS, Although slavery in the United States is in the past, civil rights and equality issues for Black-Americans still persist, and we are committed to efforts that ensure the progress that has been made only continues to move forward; and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex is proud to host our annual Juneteenth Festival, organized by the Apex Juneteenth Festival Committee, beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at Town Hall Campus for a day full of celebrations, music, food, stories, and much more.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the 19th day of June 2025 as "Juneteenth" in the Town of Apex, and encourage all residents to join in the celebration of freedom that Juneteenth represents, and continue our efforts to help make Apex a community that is a welcoming place where all have the opportunity to thrive.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex,  
North Carolina, to be affixed this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor