



# PROCLAMATION



**WHEREAS**, *The Emancipation Proclamation was signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863 declaring the slaves in Confederate Territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Texans did not receive word of the Emancipation Proclamation until June 19, 1865, two and half years after it was signed into law, when Major General Gordon Granger sailed into Galveston Island announcing that the Civil War had ended, reading the proclamation, and issuing a general order declaring that "in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free; and*

**WHEREAS**, *2024 marks the 161<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the law; and*

**WHEREAS**, in 1979 Texas State Representative Al Edwards sponsored HB 1016 in the Legislature, which was signed by Texas Governor Bill Clements, making Juneteenth an official state holiday in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, June 19<sup>th</sup> has a special meaning to African American's and is called Juneteenth combining the words June and Nineteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, an annual holiday originating in Texas but celebrated in over 35 states, the District of Columbia, and internationally; and

**WHEREAS**, On Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Bastrop Juneteenth Committee will recognize the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of an organization celebrating this event. The 2024 Bastrop Juneteenth Committee continues the tradition established by several other Juneteenth Committees through the years to organize the celebration. The Committee will celebrate and honor African American citizens who have contributed to the Bastrop Community with a parade and festival to commemorate the rich heritage of African Americans in our history. The Juneteenth Committee in partnership with the City of Bastrop and numerous sponsors, organizations, and citizens of our community, join to make this year's event, and future events an annual success.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Lyle Nelson, Mayor of the City of Bastrop, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as:

**JUNETEENTH DAY**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Bastrop, Texas to be affixed this 11th day of June, 2024.

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*Lyle Nelson, Mayor*

