



PROCLAMATION

*Office of the Mayor
Town of Eatonville, Florida*

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation 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, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two-and one-half years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

WHEREAS, Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states in the South and Southwest, and in other parts of the nation; and

WHEREAS, June 19th has a special meaning to African Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African American community for over 150 years; and

WHEREAS, events in observance of Juneteenth will be held in the Town of Eatonville June 14 – 19, 2024 to include the Juneteenth Festival scheduled on Saturday, June 15, 2024. Freedom Day is an observance holiday in the Town of Eatonville.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Angie Gardner, Mayor of the Town of Eatonville, Florida, do hereby declare June 19, 2024, as

JUNETEENTH DAY

in the Town of Eatonville, Florida, urge The Eatonville Community to observe and to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.

ATTEST:

VERONICA L. KING, Town Clerk

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Eatonville, Florida to be affixed this 15th day of June 2024.

ANGIE GARDNER, Mayor