

PROCLAMATION

OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FOLSOM
PROCLAIMING JUNE 19, 2022

AS

JUNETEENTH NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY IN THE CITY OF FOLSOM

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived on July 4, 1776, with the Declaration of Independence. One of the foundational statements of the Declaration was:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness"; and

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 over two years, finally reaching authorities and African Americans in the South and Southwestern United States on June 19, 1865; and

WHEREAS, June 19th has a special meaning, and is called "Juneteenth" combining the words June and Nineteenth. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and it is considered the longest-running African American holiday; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also called Juneteenth National Independence Day, Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Black Independence Day, and Juneteenth Independence Day, commemorates the emancipation of African American slaves. It officially became a federal holiday in 2021, and it is a day that should be celebrated by all Americans:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Folsom City Council hereby proclaims June 19, 2022 as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day" in Folsom. Juneteenth is an opportunity to learn about American history and the ideals of equality and freedom. We encourage residents, schools, businesses, and community groups to celebrate Juneteenth as a day of remembrance and celebration.

PROCLAIMED this 14th day of June 2022.

Attest:

Kerri M. Howell, Mayor

Christa Freemantle, City Clerk

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