

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION OF JUNETEENTH

WHEREAS,

the Emancipation Proclamation was formally issued on January 1, 1863, declaring that enslaved Africans in the Confederate States of America were to be freed; and

WHEREAS,

news of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation was not immediately delivered to the most remote areas of the Confederate States of America; and

WHEREAS,

news of the abolition of the enslavement of Africans was not delivered to all the Confederate States until after the conclusion of the American Civil War; and

WHEREAS,

all of the Confederate States received news of the end of enslavement of African people on June 19, 1865; and

WHEREAS,

June 19th – JUNETEENTH a linguistic blend of the words June and nineteenth, was adopted to commemorate this historical and pivotal date in American history; and

WHEREAS,

beginning on January 1, 1980, several states and municipal governments in the United States have declared June 19th – JUNETEENTH a legal holiday; and

WHEREAS,

June 19th – JUNETEENTH, is celebrated nationally and internationally to recognize the end of the enslavement of Africans in the United States and to celebrate the culture and achievements of African Americans; and

WHEREAS,

June 19th – JUNETEENTH was made an official City holiday in 2022 to provide all City residents an opportunity to learn, reflect and celebrate the rights, privileges, culture, achievements, and sacrifices of African Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Noah Walker, as Mayor of the City of Lake City, Florida, do hereby declare June 19th, 2025, as JUNETEENTH in the City of Lake City and urge our citizens to participate in events that celebrate freedom for all.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed this 16th day of June 2025.



**Seal of the City of Lake City
State of Florida**

Noah Walker, Mayor
City of Lake City