

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024, AS JUNETEENTH DAY IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring that all persons held as slaves shall be free; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas, with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, June 19th, known as “Juneteenth” and also called “Emancipation Day,” is the oldest known celebration, which started in 1866, commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in the State of Texas and in remembrance of the day all remaining slaves acquired their freedom in the United States of America; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, on June 17, 2021, Juneteenth was signed into law, declaring it a national holiday; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, Juneteenth reminds us of the promises of freedom, equality, opportunity, and the celebration of Black freedom, culture, and achievements made; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the Juneteenth Festival will take place on Wednesday, June 19, in the City of Norman at Reaves Park and provide a community event of celebration and inclusion, bringing together families, visitors, and local officials to celebrate this national holiday;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 7. Do hereby proclaim Wednesday, June 19, 2024, as Juneteenth in the City of Norman and invite all citizens to join me in celebrating this important holiday while continuing to strive towards full equality.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of June, 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

