

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026, 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 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 int a national holiday; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, 2026’s national theme “Juneteenth Brings Balance to America’s Celebration of Freedom,” honors the joy of emancipation while recognizing the ongoing responsibility to advance fairness and equal rights; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the Juneteenth Festival will take place on Friday, June 19, 2026, at Reaves Park providing a community celebration that fosters inclusion and unity, bringing together families, visitors, and local leaders in honor of this important national holiday.

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

- § 7. Do hereby proclaim Friday June 19, 2026, 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 9th day of June 2026.

Mayor, Stephen T. Holman

ATTEST:

City Clerk

