



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 Mike Dasher, Chair
 Diana Hales, Vice Chair
 Jim Crawford
 Franklin Gomez Flores
 Karen Howard

COUNTY MANAGER: Dan LaMontagne

RESOLUTION DECLARING JUNE 19TH AS JUNETEENTH AND PROCLAIMING IT A COUNTY HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, declared enslaved people in states of rebellion free; and

WHEREAS, April 9, 1865, marks the unofficial end of the American Civil War, with the surrender of General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox, though the formal declaration of the end of the war by President Andrew Johnson would not come until August 20, 1866; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, enslaved people in Galveston, Texas were among the last to be informed that the Emancipation Proclamation was in effect and slavery had been abolished in states of rebellion, including Texas; and

WHEREAS, in 1866, freed people in Texas celebrated the anniversary of June 19th with church gatherings and worship; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the combination of the words June and Nineteenth; and

WHEREAS, it is also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day and Cel-Liberation Day; and

WHEREAS, for the over 150 years since the end of the American Civil War, Juneteenth has been one of the oldest national celebrations of the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a time to reflect and take stock of the progress made since the abolition of slavery as well as the progress unmade and not made; and

WHEREAS, this great American holiday remains largely unknown to most Americans and was not been made an official federal holiday until 2021.

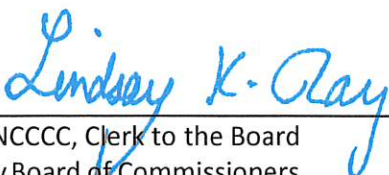
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners declares June 19th of every year Juneteenth and establishes that day as a recognized county holiday and residents and employees are encouraged to take the day to reflect and take action to advance freedom and equality.

Adopted this, the 21st day of June, 2021.



 Mike Dasher, Chair
 Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



 Lindsay K. Ray, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board
 Chatham County Board of Commissioners

