



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-58

National Black Business Month

WHEREAS, National Black Business month was founded by historian John William Templeton and engineer Frederick E. Jordan, Sr. in August 2004; and

WHEREAS, Black business owners account for about 10 percent of U.S. businesses and about 30 percent of all minority-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, that amounts to approximately two million companies owned by African Americans; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 U.S. Census reported that there were 196 black-owned employers operating in Charles County with total sales and receipts of \$112,505,000.000 and that these businesses employed a total number of 942 employees; and

WHEREAS, patronizing small businesses is a vital way of participating in the U.S. economy, and frequenting black-owned businesses in particular can help support and grow their representation in the nation's overall commercial landscape; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that Charles County's being predominately African American (Black) community, we encourage all County residents to redirect a portion of their spending power to shop with black-owned business in order to strengthen their sales and employment numbers.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, proclaim August 2023 as **National Black Business Month** in Charles County and urge residents of Charles County to support Black owned businesses during this month and throughout the year.



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners