



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-59

Juneteenth Day

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, freeing all enslaved people living in states that had joined the Confederacy was issued on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, two years later, Major General Gordon Granger announced to the town of Galveston, Texas, that all enslaved people were to be freed, making Texas the last Confederate State to abolish slavery; and

WHEREAS, June 19th or Juneteenth as it is commonly called, became the most celebrated emancipation day for Black people across the United States because it was the last emancipation day for enslaved people; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over slavery; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Juneteenth was made a Federal Holiday; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, known as Emancipation Day and Freedom Day serves as a tribute to the African American Heritage for their spiritual strength and resilience.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, proclaim June 19, 2024 as **Juneteenth Day** in Charles County and join the State and Nation in an effort to promote and enhance unity and encourage all residents to observe and celebrate this day to honor and recognize the value of all human lives.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, Ed.D.
District 3



Attest:

Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners