



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-63

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 2024 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

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

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

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Attest:

Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners