

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING JUNE 19TH, 2026 AS JUNETEENTH: NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY IN LAKE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest national commemoration of the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States and is a profoundly significant celebration of freedom, symbolizing the end of the oppressive era of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 19th each year, we look back to this day in 1865, on which Union General Gordon Granger led troops into Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of the Civil War and the insidious institution of slavery. Thousands of enslaved people in Texas – among the last to learn of their independence – were finally freed, more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, over the next several decades, African Americans who journeyed out of the South seeking better lives brought Juneteenth celebrations with them. The thousands who settled in California, especially in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, taught our state that America's struggle for independence did not end in 1776 or 1865, but continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, we are urged to reflect on the ongoing cause of freedom and equality for Black Americans – remembering that, though General Granger's announcement in 1865 called for "absolute equality," that vision was, and remains, far from complete; and

WHEREAS, as we recognize the significance of this pivotal moment in history and its enduring impact on the struggle for equality and justice, we urge people of all backgrounds to continue the journey towards freedom.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Lake County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognize June 19th, 2026 as Juneteenth National Freedom Day in Lake County and asks citizens to celebrate how far we have come and reflect on how far we must go to truly realize our nation's founding ideals.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of June 2026.

ATTEST: SUSAN PARKER
Clerk to the Board

By: _____



COUNTY OF LAKE

Chair, Board of Supervisors