

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING JUNE 19TH, 2025, AS JUNETEENTH: NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY

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 – tasted hard-won freedom for the first time; 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 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 reflect, celebrate, and continue the journey towards freedom.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Lake County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognize June 19th, 2025, as Juneteenth National Freedom Day in Lake County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of June 2025.

ATTEST: SUSAN PARKER
Clerk to the Board

By: _____



COUNTY OF LAKE

Chair, Board of Supervisors