



# City of McKinney Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, on September 22, 1862, United States President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation, which read in part,

“...all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, on January 1, 1863, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom;” and

**WHEREAS**, the Emancipation Proclamation freed the enslaved in primarily southern States, was consequential to the conclusion of the American Civil War, and preceded the 13<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment to abolish slavery in all States; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 19, 1865, U.S. Army General Gordon Granger delivered notice to the city of Galveston, Texas, announcing,

“The people are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property, between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them, become that between employer and hired labor;” and

**WHEREAS**, the annual celebration of Emancipation on June 19<sup>th</sup>, known both as *Juneteenth* and *Emancipation Day*, became a tradition spreading across Texas, the United States and the world - it commemorates an indelible milestone along the arduous, centuries-long journey toward a more free nation and encourages the perpetual strengthening of equality for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, The Texas House of Representatives of the 66<sup>th</sup> State Legislative Session passed House Bill 1016, which added to the list of legal state holidays: the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, designated “Emancipation Day in Texas” in honor of the emancipation of slaves in Texas, effective 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, historic records indicate Juneteenth celebrations in the form of picnics, special worship services, and musical presentations, were held in McKinney, Texas, as early as 1902, in communities including “The Run” and “Lewisville” and picnic grounds located at present-day Old Settler’s Park.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE FULLER, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM JUNE 19TH, 2020 AS**

## JUNETEENTH

**IN MCKINNEY, TEXAS, WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 16TH DAY OF JUNE, 2020.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GEORGE C. FULLER, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EMPRESS DRANE, City Secretary

