



WHEREAS, our country was founded July 4, 1776, holding “these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;” and

WHEREAS, yet the enslaved peoples of Africa on these same lands were still excluded from such rights when President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 as an effort to end the Civil War - its news reached the city of Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, by way of General Gordon Granger; and

WHEREAS, Texas Freedmen, the formerly enslaved, named the event of that news as “Juneteenth” and marked their first anniversary of Freedom with parades and gatherings, music, food, prayer, and speeches – some purchased land specifically for Juneteenth activities – and many of those traditions have spanned the generations even until now; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1980, the State of Texas officially recognized “Emancipation Day in Texas” to honor Juneteenth, and on June 17, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act with an overwhelmingly affirmative vote of 415-14; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth has been celebrated in McKinney, Texas, for more than 120 years, and we proudly continue in the tradition of acknowledging a meaningful moment in history and embracing freedom and justice for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE FULLER, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM JUNE 19TH, 2022 AS

JUNETEENTH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY

IN MCKINNEY, TEXAS, WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 7TH DAY OF JUNE, 2022.

SIGNED:

GEORGE C. FULLER, Mayor

ATTEST:

EMPRESS DRANE, City Secretary