

**PROCLAMATION**  
**“JUNETEENTH”**

**WHEREAS**, On September 22, 1862, with an effective date of January 1, 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, by his authority as Commander in Chief under Article II, section 2 of the United States Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Emancipation Proclamation marked the beginning of America’s abolishment of Slavery, freeing all slaves in the Confederate States of South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, and North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the institution of Slavery for over two hundred years, subjugated an estimated eleven million African’s shipped to the Americas, forcing individuals as property into lives of forced labor, destroying families, institutionalizing poverty, and exposing innocents to torture and brutality; and

**WHEREAS**, although effective January 1, 1863, two years and five months after the effective date of the Emancipation Proclamation, Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to take possession of the state and force the emancipation of its slaves; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1865, on the balcony of Ashton Villa, General Granger read the following orders: *“The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with the 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 becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere”*.

**WHEREAS**, the possession of Texas by the Union, and the enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, marking the notification of the last effected state, is commemorated by the holiday of Juneteenth, a portmanteau of the words June and nineteenth; and

**WHEREAS**, six months later, on December 6, 1865, with the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment, slavery was effectively abolished in the United States.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Mark Chilton, the Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim observance and commemoration of **Juneteenth** in the Town of Carrboro, and encourage residents to learn about, and celebrate this historic occasion, and reflect on the moral responsibility of societies.

This the 4th day of June 2013

---

Mark Chilton, Mayor

---

**Mark Chilton, Mayor**