

City of Hampton
Virginia

Proclamation

PROCLAIMING JUNE 19, 2020

AS

FAITH WALK - HAMPTON AND JUNETEENTH DAY

IN THE CITY OF HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, the Hampton faith community has gathered on this day in agreement to show their solidarity in addressing racial justice and inequality;

WHEREAS, the faith community acknowledges their complicity and complacency in fostering these injustices for the past 401 years;

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America;

WHEREAS, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years in reaching authorities and African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States;

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced the end of both the Civil War and slavery;

WHEREAS, celebration of the end of slavery, which became known as "Juneteenth," combining the words June and Nineteenth, is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom and celebrates the successes gained through education and greater opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the annual Juneteenth celebration will take place in the City of Hampton on June 19, 2020.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donnie R. Tuck, Mayor, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2020, as

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in the City of Hampton, Virginia, in conjunction with the City's Juneteenth Annual Celebration. Furthermore, I urge all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Hampton, Virginia, to be affixed, this Nineteenth Day of June, Two Thousand and Twenty.


Donnie R. Tuck
Mayor