

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF JUNETEENTH 2025

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced that all enslaved people were free, an event now commemorated as Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day of profound significance in American history, a day to reflect on the end of slavery and to celebrate the promise of freedom and the ongoing struggle for equality and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, the journey from emancipation to full equality has been marked by perseverance, resilience, and an unyielding demand for the rights and dignities afforded to all citizens, a journey that continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, Tarrant County is home to a vibrant and diverse African American community that has enriched our county's cultural, social, and economic fabric through its countless contributions in the arts, education, business, public service, and every field of endeavor; and

WHEREAS, we honor the legacy of Fort Worth's own Dr. Opal Lee, whose tireless advocacy and symbolic walk to Washington, D.C., brought national attention to this historic day and was instrumental in Juneteenth being recognized as a federal holiday, reminding us that the pursuit of freedom is a cause that unites us all; and

WHEREAS, Tarrant County is a majority minority county and is committed to upholding the principles of equity, representation, and justice that are at the heart of the Juneteenth commemoration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, Texas, do hereby recognize and celebrate Juneteenth and encourage all citizens of Tarrant County to acknowledge the contributions of African Americans during Juneteenth and throughout the year;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of Tarrant County to be affixed this 1st day of July 2025.