

Proclamation

Recognizing and Celebrating Juneteenth

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation ending slavery in the Confederacy effective January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, the news that slavery had officially ended and that the slaves were free throughout the land now known as the United States was neither announced nor enforced in the western former Confederate states such as Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas in particular, until two and a half years after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation due to a low presence of the Union Army in those areas; and

WHEREAS, when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to establish the Union Army's command over Texas, he announced to the people of Texas on June 19, 1865, the end of slavery and the freedom of the slaves; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as an extremely significant day of remembrance and acknowledgment of the history, freedom, culture, strength, perseverance, and achievement of the past, present, and future generations of the African American community; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth holds an important place not only in African American history, but in United States history for all Americans to reflect on, learn about, and appreciate the struggles, triumphs, and continued growth of our nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, local communities throughout the United States, such as our home parish of Caddo Parish, support the significance of Juneteenth and all that it symbolizes in the history, memory, and culture of African American people, and the resulting societal impact that has reverberated to all people in our community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission adopted Resolution 44 of 2020 to commit that Juneteenth Independence Day would be recognized and celebrated in perpetuity, followed by the passage and signing into law by President Joe Biden of a bill officially proclaiming Juneteenth as a national holiday in 2021; and

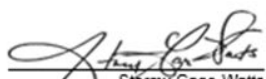
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in legal session convened, that it does hereby recognize June 19th, 2025, as:

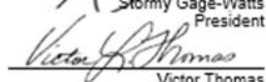
“Juneteenth”

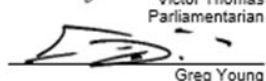
in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, urging all citizens to join with the Caddo Parish Commission to celebrate the Juneteenth holiday.

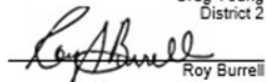
ATTEST:



Jeff Everson
Commission Clerk



Stormy Gage-Watts
President

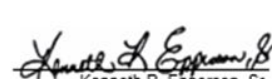

Victor Thomas
Parliamentarian

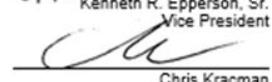

Greg Young
District 2

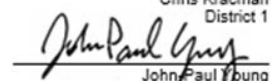

Roy Burrell
District 5

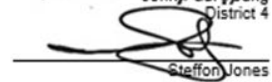

Grace Anne Blake
District 8



Ron Cothran
District 10

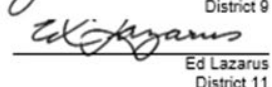

Kenneth R. Epperson, Sr.
Vice President


Chris Kraeman
District 1


John Paul Young
District 4


Steffon Jones
District 6


John E. Atkins
District 9


Ed Lazarus
District 11