

NEW HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNETEENTH PROCLAMATION

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

WHEREAS, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

WHEREAS, Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states in the South and Southwest, and in other parts of the nation; and

WHEREAS, June 19th has a special meaning to African Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African American community for over 150 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners that June 19, 2023 will be recognized as JUNETEENTH in New Hanover County, and 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 County.

ADOPTED this the 19th day of June, 2023.



NEW HANOVER COUNTY

William E. Rivenbark

William E. Rivenbark, Chair

ATTEST:

Kymberleigh G. Crowell

Kymberleigh G. Crowell, Clerk to the Board