

Proclamation

Juneteenth Celebration 2010

- WHEREAS, On June 19, 1865, two-and-a-half years following President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Major General Gordon Granger led Union Army troops into Galveston, Texas, and issued the order to free the Black Africans enslaved in that state; and
- WHEREAS, First celebrated 144 years ago, Juneteenth is the first and oldest African-American holiday observance in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, In 1979, the state of Texas was the first to officially proclaim the 19th of June as a state holiday – Juneteenth; and
- WHEREAS, Thirty-six states now have some official recognition of Juneteenth, and are joining the efforts of the 16-year-old National Recognition of Juneteenth Movement led by Dr. Ronald Myers; and
- WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a celebration of the values that define Americans, including the love of freedom, passion for justice, and commitment to equality; and
- WHEREAS, As the Universal African Flag and the Juneteenth Flags will be hoisted with Old Glory at this year's festivities at the Fountain Valley Recreation & Sports Park on June 5; and
- WHEREAS, Honoring African-American history and commemorating the end of slavery in our nation ensures that the strength and sacrifices of those who came before us are not forgotten, all citizens will continue to reflect upon the absolute right to freedom now protected for all American citizens, made complete by the passage of the 13th Constitutional Amendment; and
- WHEREAS, The City of Garden Grove joins the State of California in recognizing the historical significance of proclaiming the third Saturday in June as Juneteenth National Freedom Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Garden Grove City Council does hereby proclaim June 19, 2010, as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day" in Garden Grove.

May 25, 2010

Recommended for Approval


Matthew Feral
City Manager