



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH 2025

WHEREAS, from 1619 to 1808, hundreds of thousands of African people were forcibly brought to what is now the United States, stripped of freedom and humanity under the brutal system of chattel slavery; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring enslaved persons in Confederate states to be free; and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation did not end slavery nationwide, excluding states like Missouri and Delaware and withholding full rights from Black Americans; and

WHEREAS, many enslaved people in Texas remained in bondage until June 19, 1865, when federal troops enforced emancipation, freeing 250,000 people and sparking what became known as Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, slavery was officially abolished with the 13th Amendment in December 1865, though its exception clause has fueled the disproportionate incarceration and exploitation of Black Americans; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is an opportunity to educate, honor the contributions of African Americans, and recommit to ending racism and promoting equity in all areas of society; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County supports grassroots efforts such as Juneteenth Lompoc that engage the community through education, arts, and advocacy for a more inclusive future; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, we mark Juneteenth as both a historic milestone and a continued call to advance freedom, justice, and equity for Black residents throughout the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara declares June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth Independence Day in Santa Barbara County; and encourages all residents to take part in Juneteenth events, reflect on the struggles and triumphs of Black Americans, and help eliminate racial injustice in our communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 10th day of June 2025, by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Maria Diaz
Clerk of the Board

Paul Lee

Supervisor - 1st District

John H. H. H.

Supervisor - 2nd District

John H. H. H.

Supervisor - 3rd District

Bob H. H.

Supervisor - 4th District

Steve H. H.

Supervisor - 5th District