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STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 48

CELEBRATING AND COMMEMORATING JUNETEENTH (June 19, 2021)

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, U.S. Major General Gordon Granger, having arrived the previous day with his troops announcing the end of the Civil War, issued General Order No. 3, declaring that all enslaved persons in that state and throughout the United States were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation and were now forever free from bondage;

WHEREAS, June 19th has come to be known as “Juneteenth” and accepted and celebrated as the commemorative end of slavery known as Freedom Day in the United States, as the residents of the state of Texas were the last population in the United States to be officially informed of the Emancipation Proclamation and the legal abolition of slavery in the United States;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is now recognized as the oldest known celebration of the end of enslavement in the United States, and has been celebrated as a symbol of universal freedom for all Americans, a reminder of the terrible hardships and losses suffered by African Americans in their centuries-long struggle to attain freedom, and a tribute to the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in this quest;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth represents an opportunity for all residents of Anne Arundel County to mark a holiday of education, reflection, and celebration, to educate ourselves on the history of our County, to celebrate the end of enslavement, and to redouble our efforts to rid our society of its shameful legacy of racism, discrimination, and inequity;

WHEREAS, it is fitting that all residents of Anne Arundel County join to commemorate such an important day in our nation’s history, and to reflect upon and rejoice in the freedom and civil rights that we all share as Americans and as residents of Anne Arundel County;

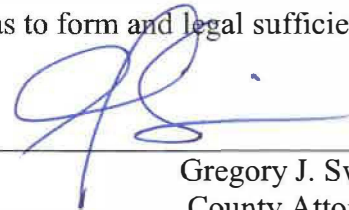
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stuart Pittman, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, do hereby proclaim and order on this 2nd day of June, 2021:

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1. June 19th is hereby officially recognized as Juneteenth, and since Juneteenth falls on a Saturday this year, on Friday, June 18, 2021, all County offices shall be closed in recognition of Juneteenth, and all full-time County employees in the classified or exempt service shall receive administrative leave on June 18, 2021, and if required to work on June 18 due to the nature of their position, shall receive one day of annual leave.
 2. I pledge to advance appropriate legislation to make Juneteenth a recognized annual County holiday for all County employees and facilities, pursuant to § 6-1-301(a) of the County Code.
 3. This Executive Order No. 48 shall take effect immediately.
 4. The County Public Information Office shall immediately disseminate notice of this Executive Order to the appropriate news media and to the general public. This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law.



STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:



Gregory J. Swain
County Attorney