

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM
COURT OF THE COUNTY OF
WASHINGTON, STATE OF ARKANSAS,
A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED:**

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE
SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH IN THE
HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.**

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the longest recognized celebration that commemorates the emancipation of African-American slaves; and,

WHEREAS, the name Juneteenth was created in response to the June 19, 1866 adoption of Black Independence Day in Galveston, Texas; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth celebrates America's commitment to liberty and equality for all as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Lincoln on January 1, 1863, and the abolition of slavery codified by the 13th Amendment to the Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, Washington County is committed to the advancement of racial healing, racial reconciliation and restoration, ensuring justice, and furthering equitable opportunities for all people; and,

WHEREAS, Arkansas, along with forty-six other states, recognizes and honors Juneteenth annually; and,

WHEREAS, in 1997 Congress recognized Juneteenth as the Independence Day Observance of Americans of African Descent; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth's recognition has been passed on through rich familial and societal traditions and underscores the American guarantee to respect freedom for all people; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth's significance in American history must not be overlooked.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS:

ARTICLE 1. That the Washington County Quorum Court hereby implores all residents to observe Juneteenth in recognition of it being the last day enslaved people in America were freed and to recognize Juneteenth’s significance in the history of the United States.

JOSEPH K. WOOD, County Judge

DATE

BECKY LEWALLEN, County Clerk

Introduced by: **JP Shawndra Washington**
Date of Passage:
Members Voting For:
Members Voting Against:
Members Abstaining:
Members Absent: