



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Our country is made up of people from every nation on earth, who are declared equal not only in freedom but also in justice, both of which are essential for a healthy human civilization; and

**WHEREAS**, Our nation was conceived on July 4th, 1776 with the Declaration of Independence, the classic statement being: *"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness";* and

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, providing that all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State **"shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free;"** and

**WHEREAS**, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some 2½ years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

**WHEREAS**, June 19<sup>th</sup> 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; and

**WHEREAS**, many cities across America and beyond celebrate Juneteenth with community events such as parades, cookouts, prayer gatherings, musical performances and historical cultural readings; and

**WHEREAS**, across our country, the celebration of Juneteenth reminds each of us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity which are at the core of the American Dream.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of North Lauderdale, Florida, I, Ana M. Ziade, together with the City Commission do hereby declare June 19, 2020, as **JUNETEENTH 2020** in the City of North Lauderdale 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 country. Respect and appreciation for all of our differences grows out of exposure and working together.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020

  
MAYOR ANA M. ZIADE