



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION  
to Adopt Juneteenth as a County Holiday**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners maintains the right to modify its personnel ordinance and policy to affect a more desirable result for eligible employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of June is the time that many in our nation, recognize Juneteenth as the holiday that celebrates Emancipation Day, the day in history when the last state ratified the Emancipation Proclamation; and

**WHEREAS**, this date marks the time period where African Americans of Texas received notice from President Lincoln that slavery had been abolished a declaration that was codified in the 13th amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, June 19th also marks the day that African Americans in the southern states exercised independence from those who benefitted from their labors in the founding of this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the journey of African Americans represents both great achievements and great hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, our nation is currently witnessing the injustice of the African American journey that have existed for far too long, this June 19th celebration weighs heavily on our hearts and our minds in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd and others who have not been treated equally under the law; and

**WHEREAS**, the pain and anguish displayed on our national stage developed from generations of systemic racism that impacts our employees and community; and,

**WHEREAS**, this Board is committed to identifying actionable items to improve policies and procedures, to improve access to opportunities and to ensure that employees do not experience inequities in Wake County Government; and

**WHEREAS**, we value diversity and are united in our opposition to racism and hate. We stand in solidarity with our African American employees and their families.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Wake County Government does hereby recognize June 19 as Juneteenth, which shall be a paid holiday for Wake County Government Employees.

**ADOPTED** this the 6th day of July 2020.

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Gregory D. Ford, Chair  
Wake County Board of Commissioners