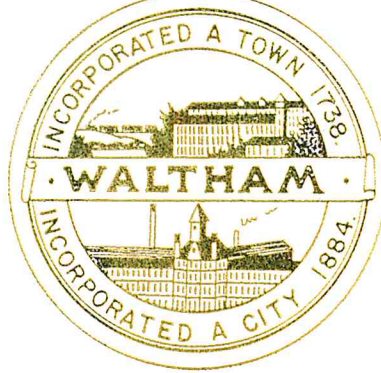


# City of Waltham Massachusetts



## Official Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states in the South and Southwest, and in other parts of the nation; and

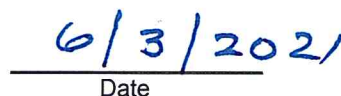
**WHEREAS**, June 19<sup>th</sup> has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has recognized June 19<sup>th</sup> as a legal holiday to celebrate the emancipation of African-Americans and their contribution; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Jeannette A. McCarthy, Mayor of Waltham do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 19, 2021, as "*Juneteenth Day*" in the City of Waltham, and urge all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in the African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Waltham, Massachusetts to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2021.

  
Signature

  
Date