



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, effectively banning the enslavement of African Americans in the Southern States; and

WHEREAS: Following the surrender of Confederate troops and the end of the United States Civil War, Emancipation was proclaimed in Tallahassee, Florida on May 20, 1865; and

WHEREAS: Emancipation legally freed every African American citizen in the state of Florida, banned the enslavement of African Americans, and ended the 246 years of Chattel Slavery in the Americas; and

WHEREAS: The enslavement of African Americans in the United States remains one of the darkest periods of American history. African American citizens continue to be impacted the effects of systemic oppression and discrimination; and

WHEREAS: In 2021, Emancipation Day was declared a national holiday in the United States. Citizens are encouraged to learn the history surrounding emancipation, explore what emancipation means to them, and acknowledge the need for further conversation and justice for systemically oppressed members of our community; and

WHEREAS: The City of Jacksonville is proud to celebrate Florida's Emancipation Day and to honor the legacy and contributions of all those who came before and continue to work towards equality and justice for all.

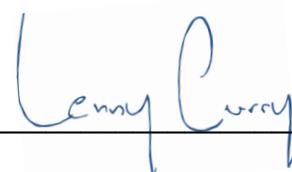
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby recognize May 20, 2023 as the

EMANCIPATION DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to learn about the history of Emancipation Day and continue to advocate for equality and justice for all.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 25th Day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA