

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-R-94

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
JUNETEENTH AS A HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF NORTH
MIAMI; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND ALL
OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, for more than 130 years, Juneteenth National Freedom Day has been the oldest and only African American holiday observed in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the announcement of the abolition of slavery which occurred in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865; and

WHEREAS, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular the State of Texas and the other Southwestern States, until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than 2½ years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth recognizes the day all remaining slaves were freed; and

WHEREAS, many states recognize Juneteenth as a state holiday, including Florida, which in 1991 officially designated June 19 of each year as “Juneteenth Day;” and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth provides an opportunity for the City to celebrate Black American heritage and honor the lives, sacrifices, and contributions that are woven into the American fabric; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth also acknowledges America’s commitment to liberty and equality in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, along with the Emancipation Proclamation, and the 13th Amendment to the Constitution which abolished slavery, ratified by Congress on December 6, 1865; and

WHEREAS, the candid acknowledgment of this history is necessary if we, as a nation, state, or city, are successful in our effort to build a truly equitable community that exemplifies and

promotes the fundamental American values of freedom, diversity, equality, liberty, and justice; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami desires to recognize Juneteenth Day, on June 19, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Declaration. The City of North Miami, Florida, does hereby declare June 19, Juneteenth, as an annual celebration of the past, present, and future of Black and African American liberation.

Section 2. Recommendation. The City of North Miami, Florida, urges all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in Black and African American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a 5 - 0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 13th day of June, 2023.



ALIX DESULME, Ed.D.
MAYOR

ATTEST :



VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



JEFF P. H. CAZEAU, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: VICE-MAYOR MARY ESTIMÉ-IRVIN

Moved by: Estimé-Irvin

Seconded by: Charles

Vote:

Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Vice-Mayor Mary Estimé-Irvin	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilman Scott Galvin	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilwoman Kassandra Timothe, MPA	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilman Pierre Frantz Charles	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)