



**PROCLAMATION  
RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH 2026**

**WHEREAS:** The institution of slavery in America began in 1619 with the landing of the first slaves on our shores and continued officially until President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863;

**WHEREAS:** Although this historic proclamation was issued in 1863, Texas slaves waited two-and-a-half years to receive word of their liberation when, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger landed at Galveston and announced that all Texas slaves were free; and

**WHEREAS:** The Nineteenth Day of June—or Juneteenth—commemorates the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas and became a day of jubilation and liberation for former slaves and today is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery in our nation.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CALDWELL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT THAT** the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026, should be celebrated as:

**JUNETEENTH OR EMANCIPATION DAY**

In recognition of the importance of Juneteenth to human freedoms so cherished by the people of Texas and the United States.

**PROCLAIMED** this the 11th day of June, 2026.

Handwritten signature of Hoppy Haden in blue ink.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hoppy Haden  
Caldwell County Judge

Handwritten signature of B.J. Westmoreland in blue ink.

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B.J. Westmoreland  
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Handwritten signature of Rusty Horne in blue ink.

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Rusty Horne  
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Handwritten signature of Ed Theriot in blue ink.

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Ed Theriot  
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Handwritten signature of Dyral Thomas in blue ink.

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Dyral Thomas  
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Teresa Rodriguez in blue ink.

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Teresa Rodriguez  
Caldwell County Clerk

