

PROCLAMATION

BY MAYOR JOEL GREER

WHEREAS, in 2002, it was signed into law, legislation establishing “Juneteenth National Freedom Day” as an official Iowa Holiday, making Iowa the 7th state to do so;

WHEREAS, in 1839, the Iowa Supreme Court ruled that a slave from Missouri was a free man; in 1868, Iowa became one of the first states to grant African-American men the right to vote, and also in 1868, Iowa became the first state to desegregate public schools, many decades before the U.S. Supreme Court did so, and Marshalltown’s first high school graduate (in 1903), Laurence Clifton Jones, graduated from the University of Iowa and went on to establish the integrated Piney Woods School in Mississippi, earning him the highest awards from the University of Iowa and from the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Marshalltown has embraced and celebrated its diversity and its commitment to end racism; and

WHEREAS, Marshalltown has enjoyed a recent revival of heightened awareness of the need for all cultures and races to eliminate racism, and seen more recently with the Marshalltown Police Department and the Youth and Shelter Services partnership’s MPACT program that promotes good relations between the police, social services, and our diverse community; and

WHEREAS, the next generations should grow up in an environment where systemic racism is taught in history books and not experienced in our city any longer.

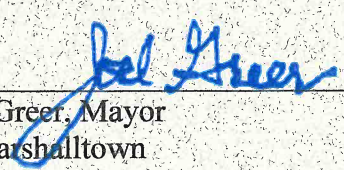
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED I, Joel T.S. Greer, Mayor of Marshalltown, Iowa do hereby proclaim June 19, 2025, as

"JUNETEENTH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY"

throughout the City of Marshalltown commemorating the emancipation proclamation that ended slavery in the United States and to recognize and celebrate the importance of this day to every person who cherishes liberty and equality for all people.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused my seal to be affixed on this 19th day of June 2025.


Joel T.S. Greer, Mayor
City of Marshalltown