

## PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring those kept as enslaved persons in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment, which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed 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 19th has a special meaning to those who wish to commemorate this day, and is called "JUNETEENTH," combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by some in the African-American community for over 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Jason F. Cilento and the Borough Council of the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey, have unanimously recognized Juneteenth as a Borough Holiday.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, along with the Dunellen Borough Council, do hereby declare, June 19, 2026, as JUNETEENTH in the Borough of Dunellen, New Jersey, and encourage all citizens and businesses to celebrate the importance of this holiday to commemorate and corroborate that all men are truly created equal.

Dated this 1st of June 2026

  
Jason F. Cilento, Mayor  
Borough of Dunellen, NJ