

**BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PROCLAMATION**

**A PROCLAMATION OBSERVING THE WEEK OF JUNE 12  
THROUGH JUNE 19, 2023, AS JUNETEENTH FREEDOM WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, 2023 is the 158<sup>th</sup> year of Juneteenth Freedom Day; a Federally recognized day which celebrates the rich culture, legacy, and heritage of African Americans in the state of Washington; **and**

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the abolition of slavery in the United States; dating back to June 19, 1865, when union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War was ended, freeing all of the enslaved, giving all African Americans in America an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the Yakima County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is dedicated to ensuring a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the Yakima County NAACP implores Yakima County to ensure the symbolic events of 1865 are not forgotten in the state of Washington, and to encourage all residents to recognize and honor the significance of Juneteenth festivities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** Members of the Board of Yakima County Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of June 13 through June 19, 2023, as "Juneteenth Freedom Week" throughout Yakima County.

**DONE** JUN 06 2023

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LaDon Linde, Chair

Attest:

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Julie Lawrence, Clerk of the Board or  
Erin Franklin, Deputy Clerk of the Board

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Amanda McKinney, Commissioner

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Kyle Curtis, Commissioner  
Constituting the Board of County Commissioners  
for Yakima County, Washington