

## Mayor Christian Price

**Whereas**, Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States dating back to June 19<sup>th</sup> 1865; and

**Whereas**, Union soldiers Commanded by **Major General Gordon Granger** landed in Galveston, Texas with the news that the Civil War had ended and that slaves were FREE. Although the news was two and a half years delayed after President Lincoln's **Emancipation Proclamation**; and,

**Whereas**, the relationship between slaves and their masters became one of hired laborer and employer with the slaves having the rights to stay or leave which many chose to do, especially those with families in adjoining states; and,

**Whereas**, General Order Number 3 as read to the people of Texas was as follows: "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer."

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christian Price, Mayor of the City of Maricopa, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 "JUNETEENTH" in the City of Maricopa, Arizona, and urge all citizens to recognize the significance of Juneteenth to African American culture and History.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020

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Christian Price, Mayor