



## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13<sup>th</sup> 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 African-Americans, and is called “**JUNETEENTH**” combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 17, 2021 President Joe Biden signed into law Juneteenth as the first new federal holiday created by Congress in nearly four decades.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Casey Hancock, Mayor of the City of Hartsville, South Carolina, hereby proclaim June 19, 2023 as

### **“JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION DAY”**

in the City of Hartsville urge all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration of African-American History and in the heritage of our Nation and City.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the seal of the City of Hartsville.

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Casey Hancock, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sherron L. Skipper, City Clerk