



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Virtual Meeting**

**New Items Agenda**

**Thursday, July 30, 2020, 10:00 AM**

**Second Set**

[20-3476](#)

**Sponsored by:** DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**ESTABLISHING JUNETEENTH AS A COOK COUNTY HOLIDAY AND DAY OF LIBERATION EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS,** On January 1, 1863 President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation; and

**WHEREAS,** That established that all enslaved people in Confederate states and against the Union shall be set free from slavery; and

**WHEREAS,** Many slave owners in the state of Texas did not release their slaves; and

**WHEREAS,** On June 19th, 1865, General Gordon Grainger and his troops made their way to Galveston, Texas after the surrender of General Robert E. Lee on Appotomox, Virginia. Upon Gen. Grainger's arrival in Texas soil, he issued Generals Order No. 3; and

**WHEREAS,** This order officially declared the immediate release and freedom of the remainder of slaves located in Texas;  
and

**WHEREAS,** Slaves that were forcefully held captive almost three years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued were finally pronounced freemen; and

**WHEREAS,** The year following 1865, freedmen in Texas organized the first of what became the annual celebration of "Jubilee Day" on June 19. In the ensuing decades, Juneteenth commemorations featured music, barbecues, prayer services and other activities; and

**WHEREAS,** The last of the people that were freed from slavery in Texas, made it a custom to go back to Galveston to celebrate their freedom. These former slaves pioneered and spread the celebration of Juneteenth throughout the entirety of the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** Although slaves were considered freemen, they continued to receive harsh treatment and were discriminated against by a large population of America; and

**WHEREAS,** Jim Crow Laws were placed to enforce the racial segregation of African- Americans and were often barred from participating in the celebration of Juneteenth; and

**WHEREAS,** This led to the eventual purchase of private lands, such as Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas, and the Booker T. Washington Park in Mexia, Texas for individuals to celebrate Juneteenth; and

**WHEREAS**, June 19 is now officially recognized as a ceremonial holiday in forty-seven of the fifty states, with Texas being the first to declare Juneteenth a state holiday in 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, Today, the celebration of Juneteenth is stronger than ever before, as it's been fueled by the unfortunate, but extremely impactful deaths of African -Americans, such as George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless more victims; and

**WHEREAS**, Slavery and has had brutal impacts on African Americans and their families including but not limited to disparities in economics, healthcare, housing, the pursuit of happiness, education and the social determinants of health.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Cook County Government will declare June 19th each year as a Cook County Holiday promoting and honoring the true emancipation of slaves on June 19, 1865 (Jubilee) otherwise known as Juneteenth Day.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Cook County**, President and Board of Commissioners shall promote Juneteenth as a day of education partnering with organizations and community to celebrate contribution of the many African- Americans from the past and today whose families were liberated, thereby allowing them to be free today.

[20-3460](#)

**Sponsored by:** STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

##### JUNETEENTH RECOGNIZED AS A COOK COUNTY HOLIDAY

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 44 HUMAN RESOURCES, ARTICLE III. VACATION AND SICK LEAVE, SEC. 44.92 of the Cook County Code is hereby amended as Follows:

#### **Sec. 44.92. Designation of Holidays**

(a) The following days are hereby declared holidays, except in emergency and for necessary operations, for all salaried County officers and employees in the County offices, departments, or institutions:

- (1) New Year's Eve, January 1.
- (2) Martin Luther King's Birthday, Third Monday in January
- ~~(2)~~(3) Lincoln's Birthday, February 12.
- ~~(3)~~(4) Washington's Birthday, Third Monday in February 22.
- (5) ~~Good Friday, Last Friday before Easter.~~ Casimir Pulaski's Birthday, First Monday in March
- (6) Memorial Day, Last Monday in May 30.

(7) Juneteenth, June 19.

~~(7)(8)~~ Independence Day, July 4.

~~(8)(9)~~ Labor Day, First Monday of September.

~~(9)(10)~~ Columbus Day, Second Monday in October ~~+2~~.

~~(10)(11)~~ Veterans' Day, November 11.

~~(11)(12)~~ Thanksgiving Day, ~~The day appointed by the Governor, or by the President of the United States~~ Fourth Thursday in November.

~~(12)(13)~~ Christmas Day, December 25.

(14) Floating Holiday

(b) It is the intent of the County Board that all salaried Cook County employees be granted ~~++~~ 14 holidays, or equivalent paid days off per year.

(c) Should a certain holiday fall on a Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be set as the holiday; should a certain holiday fall on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be set as the holiday.

(d) In addition to the above, any other day or part of a days shall be considered a holiday when so designated by the County Board.

**Effective date:** This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

[20-3482](#)

**Sponsored by:** KEVIN B. MORRISON, LARRY SUFFREDIN and STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**REQUESTING HEARINGS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE FROM THE SENIOR STAFF OF THE COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Sheriff's Office implements one of the core functions of County government through jail and law enforcement operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the stated mission of the Cook County Department of Corrections is to ensure the safety of the citizens, correctional staff, and inmates of Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department is the third largest police department in the State of Illinois, with more than 500 officers and 100 civilian personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Sheriff's Office budget over \$600 million dollars, the second largest budget outside of the healthcare system, is the largest of any single elected office in Cook County Government; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County's authority is to have the power and perform any function pertaining to its

government and affairs including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Board of Commissioners has a vested interest in understanding the operations and policies of the Cook County Sheriff's Office to ensure the safety and welfare of all Cook County residents including inmates at the Cook County Jail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Board of Commissioners also has a fiduciary duty to Cook County taxpayers and regular updates from the Sheriff are necessary due to the size of the office's budget; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an important discussion happening in our country about the reimagining of the criminal justice system because of the systemic racism and disproportionate impact of the system on Black residents; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request meetings of the Criminal Justice Committee be convened every month that there is a full Board of Commissioners meeting scheduled to discuss the operations of the Cook County Jail and Cook County Sheriff's Police Department including but not limited to issues around use of force, commissary services, phone and tablet services, and healthcare and be prepared to provide documentation regarding these programs and topics; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Sheriff and the senior staff of the Cook County Sheriff's Office appear before the Committee and be prepared to update the Committee on these topics and all operations at the Cook County Jail and Cook County Sheriff's Police Department.