



EXECUTIVE ORDER #169

Relating to a Proclamation that the Juneteenth Flag Be Flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building

WHEREAS, slavery was a legal institution that served as a tool of oppression and exploitation in the United States for nearly 250 years;

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, news of the Emancipation Proclamation at last reached people enslaved in Galveston, Texas—over two years after it was issued;

WHEREAS, for 157 years, Juneteenth has been celebrated on June 19th to commemorate the formal end to slavery in the United States, and to recognize Black history, culture, and excellence while acknowledging the work we have yet to do in delivering on our country's promises of justice, freedom, and equality;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is formally recognized and celebrated in almost every U.S. state, as well as the District of Columbia, with Wisconsin becoming the 32nd state to formally recognize Juneteenth in 2009, and in 2021, Juneteenth was celebrated for the first time as a federal holiday in the United States;

WHEREAS, though the formal institution of slavery was made illegal, its legacy continues to pervade our country's culture and institutions, resulting in deep, institutionalized racial disparities, including access to wealth, education, health, employment, voting rights, and justice;

WHEREAS, due in particular to the steadfast advocacy, activism, and sacrifices of Black Americans, our country has made significant though incomplete progress in the movement toward racial equality and equity, and on Juneteenth, the people of Wisconsin are called to remember our collective history, celebrate the resilience and countless cultural, entrepreneurial, and intellectual contributions of Black Americans, and recommit ourselves to the unfinished, ongoing work toward justice, equality, and equity; and

WHEREAS, the Juneteenth Flag was raised over the Wisconsin State Capitol for the first time in our state's history in 2020, and the red, white, and blue elements of the Juneteenth Flag remind us that those who were enslaved and their descendants are Americans "forever free."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby:

1. Order that the Juneteenth Flag shall be flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building, beginning on Friday, June 17, 2022, and ending at sunset on Sunday, June 19, 2022.
2. Authorize state buildings and any jurisdiction of the State of Wisconsin to fly the Juneteenth Flag from Friday, June 17, 2022, until sunset on Sunday, June 19, 2022, for the purpose of recognizing Juneteenth.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this seventeenth day of June in the year of two thousand twenty-two.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

Douglas G. LaFollette

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State