



CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that “all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free,” and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 1865, a month after the end of the Civil War, Union Brigadier General Edward M. McCook arrived in Tallahassee, Florida to seize the city from Confederate powers; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 1865, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed, General McCook formally announced the Emancipation Proclamation from the steps of the Knott House in Tallahassee, freely enslaved African Americans in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Emancipation Day is traditionally celebrated on May 20 in the State of Florida and provides an important opportunity to celebrate and commemorate the achievements and contributions African-Americans have made, and will continue to make in Fort Pierce, the State of Florida and the United States,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 20th as:

Emancipation Day

in the City of Fort Pierce and encourage our citizens to celebrate the end of the Civil War and the emancipation of Black Americans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 16th day of May 2022.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER

