

1 By County Executive Crowley, Supervisors Nicholson,  
2 Clancy, Czarnecki, Goodwin, Sr., Haas, Johnson, Jr.,  
3 Martin, Rolland, Shea, and Wasserman  
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File No. 20-463

6 **A RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE**  
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8 To amend Section 17.17(3) of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances  
9 designating Juneteenth Day, June 19<sup>th</sup>, as a minor holiday for County employees to  
10 permit workers to observe this day to celebrate African American freedom and  
11 achievement  
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14 WHEREAS, June 19<sup>th</sup> is Juneteenth Day, which marks the date in 1865 when  
15 Union soldiers arrived in Texas to read and enforce the Emancipation Proclamation to  
16 the last Confederate State to receive the announcement of the end of slavery in the  
17 South, which was a step toward abolishment of slavery in the United States which  
18 occurred after ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution in December  
19 1865 and;  
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21 WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest celebration of the end of slavery in the  
22 United States and is a day to celebrate African American freedom, culture, and  
23 achievement, encourage continuous self-development and respect for all cultures, and  
24 reflect on the history of slavery and the lives lost in the fight for equal rights; and  
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26 WHEREAS, Juneteenth has been celebrated by the people of Milwaukee in an  
27 organized capacity since at least 1971 with the Northcott Neighborhood House  
28 Juneteenth Day Parade and Festival, drawing thousands of people, hundreds of  
29 vendors, and spanning four city blocks; and  
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31 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County adopted File No. 20-174 on April 17, 2020, which  
32 created Chapter 108 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances "Achieving Racial  
33 Equity and Health" and formally recognizing Juneteenth Day; and  
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35 WHEREAS, formally recognizing Juneteenth Day will provide official recognition  
36 of this momentous day by the Milwaukee County Government, and increase awareness  
37 of the past, present and future struggle for equality; now, therefore  
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39 BE IT RESOLVED, beginning in 2020, June 19<sup>th</sup> shall be observed as a minor  
40 holiday in accordance with Milwaukee County's vacation policy, and County offices,  
41 departments, and institutions shall recognize it as such going forward; and  
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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, since this resolution/ordinance will not be adopted  
44 prior to June 19, 2020, the Office of the Comptroller is authorized and directed to  
45 compensate employees consistent with minor holiday pay practices for June 19, 2020,  
46 provided the County Executive issues an Administrative Order prior to that date  
47 declaring Juneteenth Day a holiday this year for Milwaukee County employees; and

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Section 17.17(3) of the Milwaukee County Code  
49 of General Ordinances shall be amended to reflect the new minor holiday designation  
50 so that County employees may observe this day with appropriate service, community,  
51 and educational programs to celebrate Juneteenth Day by adopting the following:

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**AN ORDINANCE**

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The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Milwaukee does ordain as follows:

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**SECTION 1.** Section 17.17(3) of the General Ordinances of Milwaukee County is hereby amended as follows:

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17.17

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(3) The following days of each year are holidays: January 1, the third Monday in January, the third Monday in February, March 31, the last Monday in May, June 19, July 4, November 11, the fourth Thursday in November, December 25, the day appointed by the governor as Labor Day, and the day of holding the general election in November, unless as otherwise may be provided for by collective bargaining agreements; county departments, offices, and institutions may be closed on these holidays: January 1, the third Monday in January, the last Monday in May, July 4, the first Monday in September, the fourth Thursday in November, and December 25. Effective in 2002 the Friday after the fourth Thursday in November shall be a holiday for non-represented employees and employees who are represented by a collective bargaining unit which has agreed to this provision. All county departments, offices and institutions shall be open to the public for business on all other statutory holidays. All employees, including those in the building and mechanical trades group in subsection 17-32(2)(c) [sic], except employees paid on an hourly or per diem basis and firefighter and equipment operators who receive off days in lieu of holidays and assistant chiefs of airport rescue and firefighting who receive off hours in lieu of holidays, shall be granted leave with pay on these days, provided that if an employee is required to work on such days because of the needs of the service, he shall be given equivalent time off or shall receive additional compensation, if such compensation is authorized by the provisions of subsection 17-16(5). Firefighter and equipment operators, who receive seven (7) off days in lieu of all holidays, shall be granted such off days during their first calendar year of employment as provided for in their collective bargaining agreements. Assistant chiefs of airport rescue and firefighting, who receive one hundred nine (109) hours of holiday time in lieu of holidays, shall be granted fifty-four and one-half (54.5) hours, or one-half (½) of the annual allotment, on January 1st of each year and the second half of the annual allotment, fifty-four and one-half (54.5) hours, on August 1st of each year.

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**SECTION 2.** The provisions of this ordinance shall become effective upon passage and publication.