



## *A Proclamation by the Governor*

**WHEREAS**, the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified in Nevada on February 16, 1865, and nationally in December, 1865, forever ending the abhorrent institution of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth, or June 19, 1865, nationally recognized as the date when freedom was announced to some of the last slaves in America by General Gordon Granger, who issued General Order Number Three in Galveston, TX, almost two and one-half years after President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation, continues to be a significant observance recognizing a momentous occasion in our history; and

**WHEREAS**, "Juneteenth Independence Day" commemorates the survival, due to strength and determination, of those subjected to slavery and the extreme adversity and hardship they endured; and

**WHEREAS**, African Americans in Nevada contributed invaluable to the Silver State's early mining industries in Virginia City in 1866, helped establish the role of the Black Cowboys, participated in the building of the Hoover Dam, and continue to play an integral role in shaping the future of this state; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans of all colors, creeds, cultures, religions, and walks of life, share in a common love and respect for freedom, as well as the determination to protect liberty through the democratic institutions by which the tenets of our freedom are secured; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Nevada is one of 43 states to officially recognize Juneteenth Independence Day as a state holiday or state observance, and proudly commemorates this occasion as a pivotal step toward realizing the ideals of liberty and freedom upon which our state and our nation were founded; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim June 16, 2016 as**

### **JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY IN NEVADA**



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016.

By the Governor:

Governor

*Bairava K. Legarski*  
Secretary of State

By \_\_\_\_\_

Deputy