

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: : NO. 551
: :
ORDER DESIGNATING SPECIAL 2021 : JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION DOCKET
COURT HOLIDAY COMMEMORATING :
JUNETEENTH :
: :
:

ORDER

PER CURIAM

AND NOW, this 20th day of May, 2021,

WHEREAS Juneteenth is a date of great historical and cultural significance, marking the date in 1865 when news of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation two years earlier by President Abraham Lincoln reached Galveston, Texas, the furthest point in the South, with the arrival of Union soldiers; and

WHEREAS commemoration of Juneteenth celebrates that event, and further serves as an occasion to promote the advancement of unity, equality and justice for all Pennsylvanians; and

WHEREAS on June 19, 2019, the Governor of Pennsylvania signed legislation designating June 19 as “Juneteenth National Freedom Day,” and recognizing it as an annual observance in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS the Governor has designated June 18, 2021 as a special holiday for employees in agencies under the Governor’s jurisdiction;

IT IS ORDERED pursuant to Article V, Section 10 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania that June 18, 2021 is hereby designated as a special holiday for state-level employees of the Unified Judicial System; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all courts of the Unified Judicial System shall be closed other than for essential functions or other proceedings as may be deemed necessary in the discretion of President Judges.

This **ORDER** shall be effective immediately.