

# A Note About Juneteenth

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The Juneteenth holiday recognizes a significant date in American history, June 19, 1865. The date on which a Union Army made its way to Galveston, Texas to announce and enforce the freedom of enslaved people pursuant to the Emancipation Proclamation signed over two years prior.

As celebrated [this week], Juneteenth is an opportunity for Americans to reflect on the history of our nation and set a reminder as to the changes we as a society must continue to encourage to ensure the continued freedoms of us all. The holiday is celebrated in a number of ways, from cookouts, 5ks, parades, seminars, service projects and a personal favorite: music festivals. However, of most importance, is the dialogue that is created from the recognition of this day. Educating each other of the meaning of this holiday and taking the time to reflect on its impact generations later stands as the true importance of its recognition and celebration.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Attorney [Joy Bonner](#) practices litigation in MGC's Atlanta office. Prior to litigating cases, Bonner served as a legal fellow for the University of Georgia Athletic Association, where she assisted in the athletic and academic compliance of UGA's athletic programs. She earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia School of Law and a Bachelor of Science from Georgia Southern University, where she graduated summa cum laude. Bonner is a member of Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Georgia Association for Women Lawyers and State Bar of Georgia. She also volunteers with Meals on Wheels in Atlanta.

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