

Whereas, June 19th known as "Juneteenth" in Texas, marks 148 years since emancipation was announced to former slaves in Galveston, Texas; and

Whereas, Victory Warriors Academy in community partnership with the Health and Human Services Commission Center for the Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities are seeking to provide an "Undoing Racism Training" in our community; and

Whereas, Victory Warriors Academy is hosting "Soul Food for All Souls" with a dinner on Saturday, June 15th and a luncheon and dinner on Sunday, June 16th. Each of these events will offer participants a variety of authentic, tantalizing and delicious African-American Soul Food while they are being entertained with live Soul Music from the incomparable talents of Billy Townes, Sha Vonne Williams & "The Vibe" and El Paso's own Mike Hamilton in an unforgettable celebration of Juneteenth with proceeds to benefit the "Undoing Racism Training"; and

Whereas, the Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities; HHSC Office of Border Affairs; Texas Department of Family and Protective Services; Adult Protective Services; West Texas Community Supervision and Corrections Department; El Paso County Sheriff's Office; Juvenile Probation Department; Amerigroup; Aliviane; El Paso Diabetes Association; and YWCA Racial Justice Program are working together with Victory Warriors Academy to raise public awareness of disproportionality and disparity through this celebration of freedom on "Juneteenth"; and

Whereas, Sheila Craig, Director of the HHSC Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities, will speak to the issues of disproportionality and disparities within our society at this event with a call to action; and

Whereas, Unity of all races, ethnicities, and nationalities makes us stronger as a community and as a nation.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the El Paso County Judge and Commissioners' Court that June 19, 2013 be known as,

“Celebrating Freedom Day”

SIGNED, 10th day of June, 2013

Commissioner Carlos Leon, Pct. 1

Commissioner Sergio Lewis, Pct. 2

Commissioner Vincent M. Perez, Pct. 3

Commissioner Daniel R. Haggerty, Pct. 4

Veronica Escobar
County Judge