

Celebrating Florida's Emancipation Day

May 20, 2021, marked 156 years since President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was formally announced from the steps of the Knott House.

Here are pictures and proclamations celebrating this monumental day that ended slavery in the state of Florida:



- **Proclamation - City of Bartow**
- **Proclamation - City of Deland**



Pictured left to right: Sean King, President of West Volusia NAACP Sean King, Dr. Primrose Cameron, Sisters Build Network for Girls, DeLand City Commissioner Jessica Davis and Bishop Eugene Collier of New St. John Missionary Baptist Church.



The City of Lakeland celebrated Emancipation Day on the shore of Lake Wire where the Buffalo Soldiers encamped during the Spanish American War.



In recognition of Emancipation Day in Florida, the City of Tallahassee and the John G. Riley Center held a community Commemorative Civil War Grave Decorating Service.

[Click here to view more pictures from the service.](#)

[Click here to watch a recording of the service.](#)