

*Office of the Mayor*  
**Fountain Inn, South Carolina**  
**Proclamation**

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WHEREAS, The principles of inclusivity guide the City of Fountain Inn in its commitment to help improve the lives of all individuals in the diverse community we serve; and

WHEREAS, Fountain Inn recognizes the importance of exploring historical issues which have shaped race relations in America and consequently impact the health and wellness of our Black community members; and

WHEREAS, African American history is the chronicle of the men and women who prevailed with extraordinary courage and faith during their struggles for freedom and equality in our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, In 1926, Carter G. Woodson and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, initiated Black History Week; and

WHEREAS, The second week of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures; and

WHEREAS, President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history” ; and

WHEREAS, Across the generations, countless Black Americans have demonstrated profound moral courage and resilience to help shape our Nation for the better. Today, Black Americans lead industries and movements for change, serve our communities and our Nation at every level, and advance every field across the board, including arts and sciences, business and law, health, and education, and many more. In the face of wounds and obstacles older than our Nation itself, Black Americans can be seen in every part of our society today, strengthening and uplifting all of America; and

WHEREAS, As we celebrate National Black History Month, let us all recommit ourselves to reach for that founding promise that Black History is American History. Let us continue to fight for the equity, opportunity, and dignity to which every American is due in equal measure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I George Patrick McLeer, Jr., Mayor of the City of Fountain Inn, South Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2022 as

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

and encourage all our citizens to recognize this opportunity to honor and celebrate the contributions of Black Americans in all facets of endeavor in our community and to continue to work toward the ideals of equality, freedom, and opportunity that our city represents.



*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand  
and caused this seal to be affixed.*

  
George Patrick McLeer, Jr, Mayor

Attest:

  
Sandra H. Woods

Date: February 10, 2022