



City of Killeen

- WHEREAS** America has recognized black history annually since 1926, first as Negro History Week and later as Black History Month and National African American History Month; and
- WHEREAS** African Americans have left an indelible mark on this great nation, and their story is too often left out of the historical narrative; and
- WHEREAS** Black History Month serves as a call to action to honor the contributions of African Americans, to remember their service and sacrifice and to ensure that future generations learn from those who went before; and
- WHEREAS** The 2018 Black History Month theme, "African Americans in Times of War," is of particular significance in our community because of its close ties to the military; and
- WHEREAS** Just one year after the establishment of Camp Hood, the 761st Tank Battalion arrived bringing a unit of African American soldiers to train; and
- WHEREAS** The battalion's legacy was to be far more than just a mention in military history; the distinguished and honorable service of its members would nationally compel the integration of the United States Army and locally force the early integration of Killeen schools; and
- WHEREAS** Reminding our nation of the heroic and dedicated military service of African Americans, which they provided in spite of discriminatory treatment by the very country they served, is essential to preserving a full and accurate history for future generations; and
- WHEREAS** It is our collective responsibility to bring light to issues of the past and the present in order that they never be overlooked, ignored or forgotten.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jose L. Segarra, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Killeen do hereby proclaim February 2018 as a month for remembrance and celebration of:

Black History Month

May we stand united as a community this month and every month to honor the great contributions made by African Americans for we know that diversity is both our greatest strength and our greatest hope.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Killeen to be affixed this 1st day of February, 2018.


Jose L. Segarra, **MAYOR**