



June 19, 2025

Re: Dr. Rhonda L. Hamilton, proud daughter of an American Army Veteran and Washington, DC resident, wishes you a Happy Juneteenth Day! (Happy Belated Birthday, and Happy 250<sup>th</sup> to the U.S. Army.)

Dear Mr. President,

My recent correspondence to you sent on February 19, 2025, and March 26, 2025 concerning the wellness of our nation and the continued threats to my city of Washington, D.C., since you have been sworn into office as the 47<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, underscores the urgent need for dialogue, transparency, and decisive action to ensure the safety and stability of not only our capital but also the nation, and the values that we hold dearly.

On this day, June 19, 1865, two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, Union General Gordon Granger announced in Galveston, Texas, the freedom of enslaved people.

America's history, though plagued with ugliness and moments of trauma for many, is also filled with many proud moments of reverence and humanity. As the current leader of our great nation, a nation composed of such historical American figures to include Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Shirley Chisolm, W.E.B. Du Bois, Fannie Lou Hamer, Muhammad Ali, and far too many more to list here, it is concerning to witness such mockery and intentional disrespect to the heritage of Black people in our great nation. It seemingly undermines the dignity and the shared history that binds us together as a nation, and threatens to erode the foundational values of respect and unity that we should all strive as Americans to uphold for generations of our legacies to come.

Juneteenth Day is a powerful reminder of freedom, resilience, and the ongoing journey toward justice and equality. It commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and celebrates progress while recognizing the work still ahead to achieve true liberty and equity for all. Embracing this day encourages reflection on history, honor for those who fought for freedom, and a commitment to building a more inclusive and just future.

I remain interested in meeting with you to further discuss your plans to unite our country around our rich history and your healthy commitments to correct the inappropriate and counterproductive measures that are demeaning the lives of my constituents here in Washington, DC, and that are creating unnecessary division within our great nation. An excellent American author, Mr. Jim Rohn once wrote, "The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not a bully; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant."

Happy Juneteenth Day, Mr. President! Please enjoy this wonderful day of reflection and American history!

In Solidarity,  
Dr. Rhonda L. Hamilton