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CTPF Office will Close for Juneteenth Observance

June 18, 2020

CTPF Recognizes Juneteenth Holiday

Board of Trustees votes to recognize Friday, June 19, 2020, as an employee holiday.

Acts of racism and injustice are too familiar and wholly unacceptable. In the wake of George Floyd's death at the hands of police and the Black Lives Matter protests that have followed, Illinois private and public companies are joining employers elsewhere in the nation in marking Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day or Freedom Day. At their June 18, 2020, meeting the CTPF Board of Trustees voted to recognize Juneteenth, by closing the CTPF office on Friday, June 19, 2020, and giving employees a paid holiday.

The holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, the day Union Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of the Civil War and slavery.

Board of Trustees President Jeffery Blackwell remarked, "We must vow to do better to address and dismantle racism and systemic inequality in all of our communities, our places of work, and in this world. This may be challenging and uncomfortable work but it is essential, and the brunt of it should not rest on the shoulders of our black and brown sisters and brothers. We must collaborate, educate, create, and stand for a more equitable and just society.

"Our Board of Trustees recognizes that knowledge and understanding of diversity is the cornerstone of who we are as an organization. For 125 years we have made equality a priority and will continue to do so."

The office will reopen for business at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 22, 2020. The office is currently operating remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Find more information at www.ctpf.org/covid-19.