

Established in 1826



OFFICE of the
MAYOR

Resolution

A RESOLUTION to Honor United States Colored Troops

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the City of Decatur recognize the heroic service rendered by African-Americans to the United States armed forces during the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, as part of the commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, black soldiers are being honored for their courageous and valiant service to their country in the Union Army, during that war; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans were initially barred from serving in the U.S. military during the Civil War; however, during and after 1863, black recruitment was pursued in earnest; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5000 African-Americans from Alabama, mostly runaway slaves joined the Federal Army as United States Colored Troops (USCTs); and

WHEREAS, Decatur is the first of two Alabama towns to raise a USCT Regiment, the 4th Alabama Regiment (African Descent), on March 31, 1864; its designation was changed to the 106th United States Colored Infantry May 16, 1864; and

WHEREAS, at noon, 150 years ago, Federal Colonel Thomas F. Morgan and the 14th United States Colored Infantry stepped off a Chattanooga train to reinforce the tiny Union garrison facing off against more than 30,000 in Hood's army. The 14th gallantly charged along the riverbank toward the Confederate line of battle, against Confederate artillery positions at Decatur; and

WHEREAS, the brave men of United States Colored Troops served their country gallantly during the Civil War, and their courage in the face of great adversity should be remembered on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF DECATUR, that as we observe the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, we honor the memory of African-American soldiers and the valiant men of the United States Colored Troops and commemorate their distinguished service to the city of Decatur and to their country as soldiers and citizens during the Civil War.

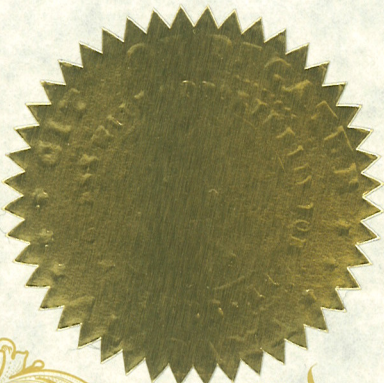
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to preserve the legacy of the United States Colored Troops, that Tuesday, October 28th be declared USCT Day in the City of Decatur, AL.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed at Decatur, Morgan County, Alabama.

Mayor: Don Klee

Attest: Stacy Green

Date: October 24, 2014



A Grand City on a CHARMING SCALE