



# DEOMI

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute  
*'READINESS... Is Our Guiding Principle'*



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## DEOMI Releases 2023 Juneteenth Poster

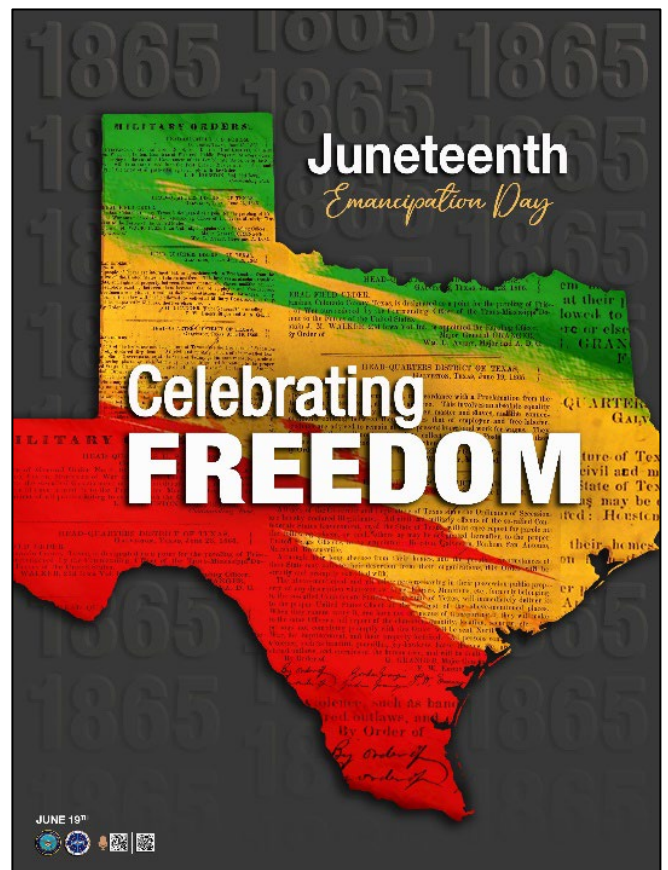
June 1, 2023

**PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla.**— In observance of Juneteenth National Independence Day, the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download from DEOMI’s public website, [www.defenseculture.mil](http://www.defenseculture.mil).

The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act designated June 19 as a federal holiday on June 17, 2021, although it has long been celebrated as the end of enslavement in the United States.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, announcing, “that all persons held as slaves” within the rebellious areas “are, and henceforward shall be free.” However, these words were not received nor acted upon within Texas, which was still under Confederate control. That changed on June 19, 1865, when Union forces, led by Army Gen. Gordon Granger, traveled to Galveston, Texas, and announced General Orders No. 3, which stated: “The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free...”

The 2023 Juneteenth Observance Poster celebrates freedom with an outline of Texas overlaid with text from General Orders No. 3. The colors overlaying Texas are historical colors representing the many African peoples.



Beginning in Texas, the holiday has expanded from a local event to one recognized across the nation. Juneteenth celebrates the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. Most importantly, it represents victory over the institution of slavery and the beginning of the fulfillment of America’s promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for African Americans.

All DEOMI poster files are in the public domain. All DEOMI special observance poster images are high resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 x 40 inches. DEOMI does not print posters or mail them out to requestors. Users, however, must credit the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute when using them.<sup>1</sup> In addition, please check out our website for a wide variety of new products we have prepared to help our Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity and Command Climate Professionals in the Field, Fleet, Wing and Agency. DEOMI develops and delivers innovative education, training, research, and collaborative solutions to optimize total force readiness. For more details, contact DEOMI Public Affairs Office: 366 Tuskegee Airmen Dr., Patrick SFB, FL 32925, Email: [deomipa@us.af.mil](mailto:deomipa@us.af.mil).

<sup>1</sup>Note: The posters may not be used in any manner that would reflect negatively on the DoD; degrade the name, reputation, or public goodwill of the DoD Components; or be contrary to DoD community relations objectives. Furthermore, use by non-federal entities may not create the appearance of DoD endorsement, affiliation, or sponsorship.