



# Proclamation

## Confederate History Month 2018

- WHEREAS,** April is the month in which the Confederate States of America began and ended a four-year struggle for states' rights, individual freedom, and local government control, which they believed to be right and just; and
- WHEREAS,** Confederate Memorial Day, on April 26, is a time when Georgians commemorate the more than 90,000 brave men and women who served and sacrificed for the Confederate States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** Georgia joined the Confederacy after the convention ratified the Ordinance of Secession in January 1861, and Georgia has long cherished her Confederate history and the people who made sacrifices on her behalf; and
- WHEREAS,** Among those who served the Confederacy were many Black Americans who saw action in the Confederate armed forces, as well as in governmental service, and one such individual who made a significant contribution to the state's history was Moses Dallas of Savannah; and
- WHEREAS,** Moses Dallas joined the Confederate States Navy on September 9, 1861 as a pilot making \$60 a month. In May 1863, his pay was increased to \$100 and, with this pay increase, he was able to buy a home in Savannah and purchase his family's freedom. On June 3, 1864, Moses Dallas and other members of the Confederate Navy Savannah Squadron participated in a midnight raid to capture the USS Water Witch in Ossabaw Sound. It was in that raid that Moses Dallas, along with four other sailors, gave the ultimate sacrifice in the successful capture of the USS Water Witch. In the official report, Moses Dallas was especially mentioned for his "distinguished and useful service," and a hearse was hired to carry his remains from Naval Headquarters to Laurel Grove Cemetery for burial on June 4, 1864; and
- WHEREAS,** Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §1-4-20 (2015), "the month of April of each year is hereby designated as Confederate History and Heritage Month and shall be set aside to honor, observe, and celebrate the Confederate States of America, its history, those who served in its armed forces and government, and all those millions of its citizens of various races and ethnic groups and religions who contributed in sundry and myriad ways to the cause which they held so dear from its founding on February 4, 1861, in Montgomery, Alabama, until the Confederate ship CSS *Shenandoah* sailed into Liverpool Harbor and surrendered to British authorities on November 6, 1865." It is important that Georgians reflect upon our state's past with honor and respect for the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, sailors, marines and citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,**

that the Board of Commissioners of the City of Griffin, along with the Governor of the State of Georgia, Nathan Deal, does hereby proclaim April 2018 to be "**Confederate History Month**" and April 26, 2018 as "**Confederate Memorial Day**" in the City of Griffin, and the State of Georgia, and urges all its citizens to reflect on this historical period, to learn more about Georgia's heritage and history, and to observe this occasion with appropriate ceremonies. We do hereby declare that a copy of this Proclamation be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Board, reflecting that I have hereunto caused the Seal of the City of Griffin to be affixed on this, the twenty-seventh day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen.

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Douglas S. Hollberg, Chairman

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Kenny L. Smith, City Manager