



Proclamation

CONFEDERATE HISTORY MONTH

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.

WHEREAS: Confederate Memorial Day is April 26 and is a time when Georgians honor the more than 90,000 brave men and women who served the Confederate States of America; and

WHEREAS: Georgia joined the Confederacy after the convention ratified the ordinance of succession in January 1861, and Georgia has long cherished her Confederate history and the great leaders 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, 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 with the comment, "He is a colored pilot, and is considered the best inland pilot on the coast." With his increase in pay, he was able to buy a home in Savannah and to 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 the Ossabaw Sound. It was in that raid Moses Dallas and four other sailors gave the ultimate sacrifice in the successful capture of the USS Water Witch. In the official report, Moses Dallas was specially mentioned for his "distinguished and useful service," and an imitation mahogany coffin, at a cost of \$100, was specially ordered, and his body was sent to naval headquarters, where a hearse was hired to carry his remains to Laurel Grove Cemetery for burial on June 4, 1864; and

WHEREAS: It is important that Georgians reflect upon our State's past and honor and respect the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, sailors, marines and citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED We, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as **Confederate History Month** and April 26th, 2018, as **Confederate Memorial Day** in Spalding County, Georgia and encourage our citizens to learn about Georgia's heritage and history and to observe this occasion with appropriate ceremonies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Raymond Ray, Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County to be affixed this, the second day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand eighteen.

Raymond Ray, Chairman

William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk