

# DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## *Proclamation*

**SIX TRIPLE EIGHT DAY | 2025**

- WHEREAS,** during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created what ultimately become known as the Women's Army Corps (WAC) and at the urging of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune, Founder of the National Council of Negro Women, African American Women were later admitted to duty, and
- WHEREAS,** recruitment of African American Women into the WAC was limited to 10 percent to mirror the proportion of African Americans in the greater population of the United States, and
- WHEREAS,** a desire to serve in the European Theater of Operations just as their White counterparts led to the creation in 1944 of a Black WAC unit-the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion-popularly known as the Six Triple Eight. Notably, dozens of the women who served on the Six Triple Eight were from North Carolina, include Staff Sergeant Mildred Dunn Veasey (Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated), and
- WHEREAS,** with upwards of 7 million civilians and military personnel in the European Theater, a backlog of millions of pieces of mail formed and was stored in warehouses in Birmingham, England. The Six Triple Eight was charged with reducing the backlog and boosting troop morale ("No Mail, Low Morale"), by working to sort and route the mail; and
- WHEREAS,** the Six Triple Eight cleared the 6-month backlog in just three Months' time and was next assigned to clear a separate 3-year backlog in Routine, France, and
- WHEREAS,** the 855 African American women who served in the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion were honored in Washington, DC at the United States Capitol with a Congressional Gold Medal for their pioneering and devoted military service to our country and to servicemen and servicewomen.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 13, 2025, as

### **"SIX TRIPLE EIGHT DAY"**

in Durham County and do commend this observation to the families, friends, supporters and all Carolinians.

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025.

---

Nida Allam, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

