

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Glenn Youngkin Governor

September 24, 2022

Historic Alexandria City Hall 301 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I wish to add my appreciation to the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project (ACRP) for its efforts in the remembrance of Joseph McCoy and Benjamin Thomas, lynching victims in 1897 and 1899.

I congratulate ACRP on its work to bring attention to "the good and the bad" pieces of our history in Virginia and assist in more accurately depicting and calibrating past events in the Commonwealth.

The First Lady and I stand with the City Alexandria as it recognizes the terrible actions taken by its citizens in these lynchings approximately 125 years ago. We must never shy away from the tapestry of events throughout the history of the Commonwealth in order to strengthen the Spirit of all Virginians.

Sincerely

Glenn Youngkin