

## PROBATION DEPARTMENT



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In February, the Los Angeles County Probation Department joins the nation in celebrating Black History Month. Historian Carter G. Woodson and Minister Jesse E. Moorland created the observance in 1926. It originated as a weeklong celebration, and in the 1960s, it evolved to a month. However, in 1976, President Gerald Ford officially recognized the month of February as Black History Month. "Seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history," President Ford said. The month of February was chosen because it coincides with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass.

Black History Month recognizes, acknowledges, and honors the legacy and achievements of African Americans and their central role in United States history. It is a designated time to reverence and honor Black people from all periods of U.S. history, from the enslaved people first brought over from Africa in the early 17th century to African Americans living in the United States today. Today, Black History Month is also observed in Canada and the United Kingdom.

Please join the Los Angeles County Probation Department this February as we recognize some iconic figures in Black history. We also invite you to view the department's social media platforms @LACProbation as some of our African American Probation family are acknowledged and spotlighted for their fantastic work, genuine efforts, and positive contributions to the organization.