

**3,100 GRAND MARSHALLS
NEEDED TO REPRESENT 3,100 ENSLAVED PEOPLE**

150th Anniversary District of Columbia Emancipation Day Parade

I am asking for your support and participation during the April 11th to April 16th celebration week of the 150th Anniversary of DC Emancipation Day. The celebration includes a series of 2012 activities that commence on Wednesday, April 11th with an opening ceremony and a march to the monuments on the national mall. The activities conclude on Monday, April 16, 2012 with the Pennsylvania Avenue parade, concert on Freedom Plaza, and evening fireworks.

I am inviting you and members of your organization to become a grand marshall to represent the 3,100 enslaved persons freed 150 years ago in the District of Columbia on April 16, 1862. The 3100 grand marshalls are needed to march together in the 150th Anniversary DC Emancipation Day Parade on Monday, April 16, 2012. The parade route is on Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, from 4th Street to Freedom Plaza at 14th Street. Parade participants line up at 9:30 am. The parade starts at 11:00 am.

The District of Columbia Emancipation Day is an historic occasion in the nation's capital. On April 16, 1862 President Lincoln signed the Compensated Emancipation Act. The Act released the 3,100 enslaved persons in the District of Columbia, making them the "first freed" by the federal government at a cost of one million dollars paid to the people who enslaved them. Nine months later, on January 1, 1863, President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 to end institutionalized slavery in America.

To commemorate the signing of the 1862 Act, the formerly enslaved people and others, in festive attire with music and marching bands, paraded down Pennsylvania Avenue proclaiming their freedom. The DC Emancipation Day Parade was held from 1866 until 1901. In 2002, the parade resumed, and in 2005, DC Emancipation Day was made an official District of Columbia holiday recognized annually on April 16th.

YES I want to be a grand marshall and represent the 3,100 enslaved people in the 150th Anniversary District of Columbia Emancipation Day Parade.

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Address: _____

_____ **Zip Code:** _____

Organization: _____ **Business:** _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ **Email:** _____

Return this form to the Office of Councilmember Vincent Orange.

Thank you for supporting the 150th Anniversary of DC Emancipation Day.