John Newton
(1725-1807)
Captain of Slave Ships who converted in 1748 and became an Anglican Minister

Author of
Amazing Grace
And
Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Newton’s self penned epitaph on his grave stone:

"John Newton, Clerk, once an infidel and libertine, a servant of slaves in Africa, was, by the rich mercy of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, preserved, restored, pardoned, and appointed to preach the faith he had long labored to destroy."
William Wilberforce (1759-1833)
English Member of Parliament
March 3, 1807

President Thomas Jefferson signs into law the Act Prohibiting Importation of Slaves, passed by Congress the day before.

January 1, 1808

The ban on the international slave trade goes into effect. Ship manifests were required at ports as proof the slaves had not been imported after 1808. These ship manifests contained detailed information about the ship owner and the slaves.
By the President of the United States of America:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:
That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will then take such action and give such instructions and directions, and will avail itself of all means which they may think necessary, to liberate such slaves, and hold and cause to be held in captivity any person or persons whomsoever as aforesaid.
The 15th Amendment

to the Constitution
of the United States

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

submitted in 1869 - approved in 1870
Civil Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1963 that outlaws discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.