



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians
Resolution #FTL-04-083

TITLE: American Indian Veterans Federal Recognition

WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, American Indians from across the country loyally joined, served and made sacrifices in the armed forces of the United States, both prior to, and after attaining U.S. citizen status in 1924; and

WHEREAS, we have established our own Tribal Reservation and other Indian Veteran Organizations; and

WHEREAS, American Indian Veterans respectfully perform public and community services such as honor guards at the funerals of fellow Veterans and participate in other local and regional functions representing our own unique tribal Veterans organization; and

WHEREAS, we are unable to serve and operate as an independent organization due to lack of recognition as a Veteran’s organization, and must act under the auspices of a recognized service organization in order to make ceremonial rifle and equipment acquisitions and receive services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby seek federal support for our unique Indian organizations so that we are able to conduct our organizations in the spirit of American Indian Veterans in order to make rifle and equipment acquisitions and receive services for such honor guards.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Tex G. Hall
Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Joe A. Garcia
*Ohkay Owingeh
(Pueblo of San Juan)*

RECORDING SECRETARY
Juana Majel
Pauma-Yuima Band of Mission Indians

TREASURER
W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Edward K. Thomas
Tlingit and Haida Tribes

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Jefferson Keel
Chickasaw Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Harold Frazier
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

MIDWEST
Norman Adams, Jr.
Bols Forte Band of Chippewa Indians

NORTHEAST
Kevin Seneca
Seneca Nation

NORTHWEST
Ernie Stensgar
Coeur d'Alene Tribe

PACIFIC
Leslie Lohse
Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Geri Small
Northern Cheyenne Tribe

SOUTHEAST
Eddie Tullis
Poarch Band of Creek Indians

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Zach Pahmahmie
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

SOUTHWEST
Manuel Heart
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

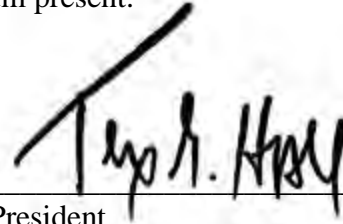
WESTERN
Arlan Melendez
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jacqueline Johnson
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS
1301 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
www.ncai.org

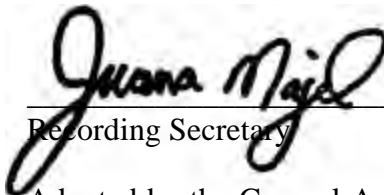
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 61st Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida on October 10-15, 2004 with a quorum present.



President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2004 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held from October 10th to the 15th at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.