

TAB 2
YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION
JUDICIAL CODE (TITLE 3)

**RESOLUTION NO. 39-04
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION**

Approving the Enactment of the Yavapai-Apache Judicial Code

WHEREAS: The Yavapai-Apache Tribal Council ("Council") is empowered to represent the Yavapai-Apache Nation ("Nation") and act on all matters that concern the health and welfare of the Nation, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to the Constitution of the Yavapai-Apache Nation; and

WHEREAS: The Council is the legislative body of the Nation empowered to enact laws, ordinances and resolutions incidental to the exercise of legislative powers as provided by Article V(v) of the Nation's Constitution; and

WHEREAS: The Yavapai-Apache Tribal Council ("Council") is the Legislative body of the Yavapai-Apache Nation ("Nation") and is empowered pursuant to Article V, (i), (k), (o), (q), (u), and (v) of the Constitution of the Nation to enact laws for the administration and structuring of the Nation's Judicial branch of government within the Constitutional Provisions of Article VI entitled "The Judiciary";

WHEREAS: At Council Meetings and Work Sessions, the Council has addressed the need for a structure for the judicial branch and has reviewed and revised the Judicial Code, which is attached hereto, and after careful and thoughtful deliberation has determined that this Judicial Code should be enacted;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Yavapai-Apache Nation Tribal Council hereby adopts the Judicial Code as Title 3 of the Yavapai-Apache Nation's Code, to be entitled "Judicial Code", effective today, May 6, 2004;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the original of this Code shall be filed with the Secretary of the Tribe, the Clerk of the Court, and the Attorney General.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that this Code controls the operation of the Nation's Courts from its effective date. The effective date is May 6, 2004. The date of enactment is the date of this Resolution.

RECEIVED

MAY 14 2004


BIA Truxton Canon
Valentine, AZ

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by an affirmative vote of the Tribal Council, presented for approval on May 6, 2004, by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining, pursuant to the authority contained under the Constitution of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.


Jamie Fullmer, Chairman

ATTEST:


Karla Reimer, Council Secretary

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MAY 14 2004

BIA Truxton Canon
Valentine, AZ



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
P.O. BOX 10
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85001



IN REPLY
REFER TO:

Tribal Government Services
(602) 379-6786

JUL 29 2004

Through: Superintendent, Truxton Canon Agency

Honorable Jamie Fullmer

Chairman, Yavapai-Apache Tribal Council

Dear Chairman Fullmer :

On May 6, 2004, the Yavapai-Apache Nation enacted Tribal Resolution No. 39-04, which adopted the Title 3 Judicial Code.

A technical and legal review has been completed and we find the subject ordinance to be legally sufficient within the context of applicable Federal law and Article V and VI of the Tribe's Constitution and Bylaws.

Our review of the subject ordinance also revealed some technical concerns that the Tribe may choose to address.

First, the statement in Section 106, Probate Jurisdiction, which purports to extend tribal court jurisdiction over "all of the real and personal property located within the jurisdiction of the court at the time of death." This statement appears confusing, in that it used the term "located within" but referring to jurisdiction. Normally, that phrase would refer to the exterior boundaries of the reservation property located within them, not to jurisdiction of the court. Second, we find that no mention is made of a tribal prosecutor, who plays a key role in tribal judiciaries.

The Tribe may choose to make the above recommended changes and resubmit at a later date. However, we see nothing that would preclude a recommendation of approval. Therefore, by the authority delegated to the Regional Director, I hereby approve the Yavapai-Apache Nation's Tribal Resolution No. 39-04, which adopts Title 3 Judicial Code, which is in full force and effect as of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

TITLE 3 JUDICIAL CODE

CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL PROVISIONS		3-7
SECTION 101.	ENABLING PROVISIONS	3
SECTION 102.	DEFINITIONS	4,5
SECTION 103.	TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.....	5
SECTION 104.	CIVIL JURISDICTION.....	5
SECTION 105.	CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.....	6
SECTION 106.	PROBATE JURISDICTION.....	6
SECTION 107.	JUVENILE JURISDICTION.....	6
SECTION 108.	LAW TO BE APPLIED.....	6,7
SECTION 109.	AMENDMENTS.....	7
SECTION 110.	JUDGES OF THE TRIBAL TRIAL COURT.....	7
SECTION 111.	MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGE OF TRIBAL COURT	8,9
SECTION 112.	MANNER OF SELECTION OF JUSTICES AND JUDGES.....	9,10
SECTION 113.	TERM OF OFFICE.....	10
SECTION 114.	OATH OF OFFICE.....	10,11
 CHAPTER TWO: TRIBAL TRIAL COURT PROVISIONS		 11
SECTION 201	DUTIES AND POWERS OF TRIAL COURT JUDGES.....	11,12
SECTION 202	EVALUATION OF TRIBAL COURT SYSTEM	12
SECTION 203.	SPECIAL APPOINTMENT	12
SECTION 204.	COMPENSATION OF JUDGES	13
SECTION 205.	REMOVAL OF JUDGES	13
SECTION 206.	DISQUALIFICATIONS, RECUSAL, CONFLICT OF INTEREST	13,14
SECTION 207.	DECISIONS	14
SECTION 208.	RECORDS	14,15
SECTION 209.	FILES	15
SECTION 210.	COURT FUND	15,16
SECTION 211.	PAYMENTS INTO COURT FOR MINOR AND INCOMPETENTS	16
SECTION 212.	CONSERVING MONEYS OBTAINED FOR MINORS OR INCOMPETENT PERSONS	16,17
SECTION 213.	PRACTICE BEFORE THE TRIBAL COURT.....	17
 CHAPTER THREE: COURT OF APPEALS.....		 17
SECTION 301.	GENERAL PROVISIONS	17
SECTION 302.	COMPOSITION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS	17,18
SECTION 303.	DUTIES AND POWERS OF JUSTICES.....	18
SECTION 304.	SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS	18,19
SECTION 305.	RULES OF THE COURT.....	19
SECTION 306.	COURT OF APPEALS'S ACTION OF APPEALS.....	19

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

CHAPTER FOUR: COURT CLERK.....	20
SECTION 401. ESTABLISHMENT.....	20
SECTION 402. CLERK TO SERVE APPELATE AND TRIAL COURTS	20
SECTION 403. CLERK REPORTS TO CHIEF JUDGE OF TRIBAL COURT	20,21
SECTION 404. POWERS AND DUTIES.....	21,22
SECTION 405. SEAL.....	22
SECTION 406. CERTIFICATION OF TRUE COPIES	22,23
SECTION 407. CLERK'S OFFICE AND ORDERS BY THE CLERK.....	23
SECTION 408. NOTICE OF ORDERS OR JUDGMENTS	23
SECTION 409. BOOKS AND RECORDS KEPT BY THE CLERK AND ENTRIES THEREIN	24
SECTION 410. JUDGMENT DOCKET.....	24
SECTION 411. EXECUTION DOCKET	25
SECTION 412. CLERK MAY COLLECT JUDGMENT AND COSTS.....	25
SECTION 413. CLERKS TO ISSUE WRITS AND ORDERS.....	25
SECTION 414. CLERK TO FILE AND PRESERVE PAPERS	25
SECTION 415. EACH CASE TO BE KEPT SEPARATE	26
SECTION 416. ENDORSEMENTS	26
SECTION 417. ENTRY ON RETURN OF SUMMONS.....	26
SECTION 418. MATERIAL FOR RECORD.....	26
SECTION 419. MEMORIALIZING RECORD.....	26,27
SECTION 420. CLERK TO KEEP COURT RECORDS, BOOKS, AND PAPERS -- STATISTICAL AND OTHER	27
SECTION 421. INFORMATION.....	27
SECTION 421. APPLICABLE TO TRIAL AND COURT OF APPEALS	27
SECTION 422. BONDS	27

TITLE 3
JUDICIAL CODE

CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL PROVISIONS: YAN 3-1-101 *et seq.*

Section 101. ENABLING PROVISIONS

(a) Pursuant to Article V, of the Yavapai-Apache Nation's Constitution the Yavapai-Apache Tribal Council acting in its legislative capacity and for the purpose of enabling the Nation to insure the administrative procedures for the Nation's Courts, and to enhance the performance of the Nation's judicial system and to insure a stable administrative structure for the Nation's Judiciary, hereby enacts this Code and repeals any and all other Codes, Ordinances, Resolutions, and other matters legislated at a prior time, concerning the Judicial branch of the Nation.

(b) This Code is to provide the legislative ordinance to fully implement the Judiciary required by Article VI of the Nation's Constitution, and specifically to avoid the duplication of administrative staff and functions within the Judiciary. All terms of this Code are to be administrative in nature, and to be interpreted as such, with the administration of the Courts being handled the same as all of the other governmental employees of the Nation, and specifically providing that all of the Judiciary personnel shall comply to the administrative procedures, policies, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations, including but not limited to the Nation's Employees' Policies, Budgeting Procedures, Benefits Packages, and other administrative matters, notwithstanding the statements made herein the Judges shall be a Constitutional appointment positions, not an at will employees, possessing full judicial immunities.

(c) Nothing herein shall be interpreted or construed to deprive or conflict with the impartial and independent separation of the Court from the legislative and executive branches of the Nation on cases being heard by the Judiciary.

(d) There is hereby established, ordained and legislated, pursuant to the Constitution of the Nation, the Judicial Code for the Nation's Courts in full compliance with the mandates of the Nation's Constitution.

(e) All provisions of this Code shall be liberally construed to carry out the intent of the Code as stated in this Section 3-101, and in the event that any section or provision of this Code is

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

unenforceable for any reason, then the remainder of the Code shall remain in full force and effect absent the unenforceable provision.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-101, May 6, 2004]

Section 102. Definitions.

The following words have the meanings given below when used in this title, unless a different meaning is obvious from the context:

- (a) "Chief Judge" shall mean the Chief Judge of the Tribal Trial Court, which position may be referred to as Chief Tribal Court Judge. Chief Judge may also refer to the Court of Appeals Chief Judge depending on context.
- (b) "Clerk" shall mean the Clerk of the Court, which can be the Trial or Appellate Court depending on context.
- (c) "Code" shall mean this Code or when used with another specific term, the Code specified. The term "Code" has the same meaning as Ordinance as stated in the Constitution. Code, Ordinance and Statute are interchangeable terms.
- (d) "Constitution" shall mean the Constitution of the Yavapai-Apache Nation as amended.
- (e) "Court of Appeals" shall mean the Court of last resort to which appeals may be taken from the Tribal Trial Court, and the judicial decisions of the Court of Appeals are final and are not subject to further appeal. Court of Appeals may also be referred to as the Appellate Court.
- (f) "He," "him," and "his," shall mean the masculine, feminine and neuter forms as appropriate, unless a particular masculine, feminine or neuter form is a necessary for the phrase to have meaning.
- (g) "Jurisdiction" shall mean the power to hear the case.
- (h) "Judge" shall mean the Chief Judge or associate judge of the Tribal Court or Appellate Court depending on context.
- (i) "Personal Jurisdiction" shall mean the power to hear the matter and impose Court orders on a litigant.
- (j) "Subject Matter Jurisdiction" shall mean the power to hear the controversy before the

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

Court.

(k) "Territorial Jurisdiction" shall mean the Indian Country within the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe.

(l) "Trial Court" shall mean the Tribal Trial Court.

(m) "Tribal Trial Court" shall mean the Trial Court of the Nation, and is the lower or general jurisdiction Court of the Nation

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-102, May 6, 2004]

Section 103. Territorial Jurisdiction

The Territorial Jurisdiction of the Courts shall extend to all territory as defined in the Nation's Constitution, including the inherent sovereignty of the Nation, and to all territory described as Indian Country within the meaning of 18 USC 1152, as amended, over which the Tribe has authority, including tribal or individual, trust, non-trust and restricted land, and including all land owned by tribal agencies in their own name, all waters, mineral and wildlife, and any other such land, or interest in land, which may be subsequently acquired by virtue of Executive Order, a declaration or regulation of the United States Department of Interior, a declaration or order of a Court of competent jurisdiction, by purchase, gift, relinquishment, or by any other lawful means. All land within the parameters of the Nation's designated Reservations is inherently within its sovereign jurisdiction.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-103, May 6, 2004]

Section 104. Civil Jurisdiction

The Courts shall have general civil jurisdiction, including the inherent sovereignty of the Nation, over all civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the Tribe including the tribal common law, over all general civil claims which arise within the Tribal jurisdiction, and over all transitory claims in which the litigants may be served within the tribal jurisdiction or under the Nation's long arm statute. Personal jurisdiction shall exist over all litigants served within the territorial jurisdiction of the Court or served anywhere in cases arising within the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe, and over all persons consenting to such jurisdiction. The act of entry within the territorial jurisdiction of the court shall be considered consent to the jurisdiction of the court with respect to any civil action arising out of such entry.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

The act of entry upon the territorial jurisdiction by an extraterritorial seller, merchant or their agent(s) shall be considered consent by the seller or merchant to the jurisdiction of this Court for any dispute arising out of any sale or commercial transaction regardless of where the sale or transaction was entered into or took place.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-104, May 6, 2004]

Section 105. Criminal Jurisdiction

The Courts shall have original jurisdiction, including the inherent sovereignty of the Nation, over all criminal offenses enumerated and defined in any ordinance adopted by the Nation insofar as not prohibited by tribal or federal law. The Courts have full authority to take all reasonable and necessary action to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the Nation, its people, residents, visitors, and assets.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-105, May 6, 2004]

Section 106. Probate Jurisdiction

To the extent permitted by federal law, the Courts shall have probate jurisdiction over all of the real and personal property located within the jurisdiction of the Court at the time of death, and the personal property, wherever located, of any person who is domiciled within the boundaries of the jurisdiction of the Court at the time of death.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-106, May 6, 2004]

Section 107. Juvenile Jurisdiction

The Juvenile Division of the Tribal Court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction in all proceedings and matters affecting dependent or neglected children, children in need of supervision, children under the age of eighteen (18) accused of crime, and status offenders when such children are found within the territorial and/or subject matter jurisdiction of the court, or when jurisdiction is transferred to the court pursuant to law. The Court of Appeals shall hear appeals in juvenile cases as in other civil actions.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-107, May 6, 2004]

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

Section 108. Law to be Applied

(a) The Courts shall apply the Constitution and the provisions of all Tribal statutory law heretofore or hereafter adopted by the Nation. In matters not covered by Tribal Statute, the court shall apply traditional tribal customs and usages, which shall be called Common Law.

(b) When in doubt as to the Tribal Common Law, the court shall hold an evidentiary hearing to ascertain the same. The Court in its discretion can subpoena experts, including elders, to assist the Court in this determination. The Court can conduct this hearing as an informal hearing.

(c) In any dispute not covered by the Constitution, Tribal Statute, or Tribal Common Law, the Court may apply any laws of other Tribes or United States, in that order, which would be cognizable thereto.

(d) Upon this Code becoming effective, Part 11 of Title 25 of the code of Federal Regulations, except those sections thereof which are effective when the Tribe receives certain funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall no longer be binding or enforceable as Tribal law. State law shall not be binding upon the Court unless specifically incorporated into tribal law by Tribal Statute or by a decision of the Tribal Courts adopting some federal or state law as Tribal Common Law.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #KT 3-1-108, May 6, 2004]

Section 109. Amendments

The Tribal Council, as the Nation's Legislative Body, shall have the authority to alter, amend or repeal any provision of this title or to add new sections to this Title in its discretion.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-109, May 6, 2004]

Section 110. Judges of the Tribal Trial Court

(a) The Tribal Trial Court shall consist of the Chief Judge and such Associate Judges as the Tribal Council determines appropriate. The Tribal Court Chief Judge is the Primary Administrator for this Court. All other judges of this court shall be under the Chief Judge's supervision.

(b) The Chief Judge shall have the authority to assign a pro-tem Judge to hear a matter when he is unable to hear the case or when he will be absent from the Jurisdiction, who shall be serving his place as the Chief Judge. If an Associate Judge is available a pro-tem shall not be

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

assigned.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-110 May 6, 2004]

Section 111. Minimum Qualifications and limitations of Judges of Tribal Courts

A Judge shall:

(a) Be either in order of preference:

(1) An attorney, or

(2) An Indian graduate of an approved law School, or

(3) A lay advocate who has regularly practiced before the Court as a member of the Bar of the Court for a period of five (5) years, or

(4) An Indian graduate of a Paralegal program approved by the American Bar Association; and

(b) Have demonstrated moral integrity and fairness in his business, public and private life; and

(c) Have never been convicted of a felony or an offense punishable by banishment, whether or not actually imprisoned or banished, and have not been convicted of any misdemeanor offense, except traffic offenses, for a period of five (5) years next preceding his appointment. The five year period shall begin to run from the date the person was unconditionally released from supervision of any sort as a result of a conviction; and

(d) Have regularly abstained from the excessive use of alcohol and any use whatsoever of illegal drugs or psycho toxic chemical solvents; and

(e) For a Trial Court Judge be not less than twenty-five (25) years of age, and for an appellate court judge not less than thirty (30) years of age.

(f) No Judge may be a member of the Tribal Legislature or the holder of any other elective Tribal office of this Nation, or serve on any Board of the Tribe, provided, that a candidate who is a member of the Tribal Legislative Body, or the holder of some other elective or appointed Tribal Office, may be confirmed as a Judge subject to his resignation. Upon resignation from his office, he may be sworn in as and assume the duties of judicial office.

(g) If the Judge is not an attorney or law graduate as defined in (a) (1) and (2), then that

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

person must also have completed at least thirty (30) semester credit hours at an accredited college or university, or at least two (2) years of previous experiences as a Judicial officer for some recognized Tribal Court.

(h) Judges shall be selected in the order of preference defined in (a) with the preference being first to an attorney, then the law graduate, then the lay advocate, and finally a paralegal graduate, provided the criteria of (b) through (g) is satisfied. Regardless of professional ranking the criteria of (b) through (g) shall apply.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-111, May 6, 2004]

Section 112. Manner of Selection of Judges

Judges of the Tribe shall be nominated by the Chairperson of the Nation with the recommendations of his executive committee and appointed and confirmed by the Nation's Legislature upon a vacancy occurring in a judicial office in the following manner:

(a) Within thirty (30) days after a vacancy occurs, the Chairperson shall cause a notice of the vacancy stating the minimum qualifications, and any other pertinent information to be published and distributed in a reasonably commercial manner to allow eligible persons to know of the vacancy and make application for the same. A reasonably commercial manner shall mean publication on the appropriate web pages including bar association web pages and Native American web pages, or any Tribal Bar Association publications or Native American Publications provided that the notice is also posted in the Administrative Offices of the Nation, and distributed to all persons requesting the same. Copies of the notice shall be posted at the Tribal Office, the nearest Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Tribal Housing authority office, and such other places as the Chairperson shall direct. The notice must be published for at least three weeks before closing the applications. The notice shall state the closing of application date on it. The notice shall direct that inquiries, nominations and applications be directed to the Tribal Human Resources Director who shall keep a permanent record of responses to such notices.

(b) Within five (5) working days after the date on which last required notice was published or posted, the Human Resources Department shall deliver the names and files of all persons nominated or applying for the Judicial Office to the Chairperson and his executive committee, who shall commence the selection of three qualified candidates for each vacant Judicial office and place consideration of the candidate(s) on the agenda of the next regular or special meeting of the Tribal Legislature. If there are less than five (5) qualified applicants as specified in Section 3-1-111, then the position may be re-advertised at the discretion of the Tribal Council.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

(c) The Tribal Legislature shall review the qualifications of the nominees, and may interview nominees at their meetings at their discretion. In making a selection, the Tribal Legislative Body shall give preference to those candidates who:

- (1) Have more formal education and experience in the legal field.
- (2) Are familiar with the Constitution, Code and Common Laws of the Tribe.
- (3) Have demonstrated decision making ability.

(e) If the nominee(s) is not confirmed, the Chairperson shall either republish the notice to establish a new list of eligible candidates, or he may reconsider the candidates on the list gathered from the previous notice. The Chairperson nomination-Legislative confirmation process shall continue until a nominee is confirmed.

(f) Upon the expiration of a judicial term of office, the Judicial Officer is entitled upon request, filed with the Human Resources Director not less than sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of his term, to be considered for confirmation to a new term at the next meeting of the Tribal Legislative Body at which a quorum is present. If the Legislature, a quorum being present, does not confirm the outgoing judge, they shall so declare and direct the Chairperson to begin the selection process. The outgoing judge's term shall expire upon confirmation of the new Judge.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-112, May 6, 2004]

Section 113. Term of Office

All Judges of the Tribal Courts, with the exception of the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, shall serve two (2) year terms of office beginning from the date of their confirmation and until their successors take office, unless removed for cause as specified in Article VI, Sect. 11, or by death or resignation. The Chief Judge of the Appellate Court is a three (3) year term. All Judges are constitutionally appointed by the Nation

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-113, May 6, 2004]

Section 114. Oath of Office

Before assuming office, each Judge shall take an oath to support and protect the Constitution of the Tribe and to administer justice in all causes coming before him with integrity and fairness, without regard to the persons before him to be administered by the Chief Judge of the respective court to which that judge is being appointed or the Chairperson if the vacancy

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

being filled is a Chief Judge. Reappointment of a judge to consecutive term(s) does not require the re-administration of the oath of office.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-1-114, May 6, 2004]

CHAPTER TWO: TRIBAL TRIAL COURT PROVISIONS:

YAN 3-2-201 *et seq.*

Section 201. Duties and Powers of Trial Court Judges

All Judges of the Tribal Trial Court shall have the duty and power to conduct all court proceedings and issue all orders and papers incident thereto, in order to administer justice in all matters within the jurisdiction of the Court. In doing so, the Court shall:

- (a) Be responsible for creating and maintaining procedural rules of the Court that implement and do not conflict with the Tribal Code or Constitution regulating conduct in the Tribal Trial Court, for the orderly and efficient administration of justice. Such rules must be filed in the offices of the Tribal Secretary and the Trial Court Clerk before becoming effective.
- (b) Hold Court regularly at a designated time and place. Unless conditions make it impractical, the Tribal Trial Court shall set all motions for hearing before the Court within five (5) days of filing with the hearing be in a reasonable amount of time.,
- (c) Have the power to administer oaths, conduct hearings and otherwise undertake all duties and exercise all authority of a judicial officer under the law.
- (d) Hear and decide all cases properly brought before the Court.
- (e) Enter all appropriate orders and judgments.
- (f) Issue all appropriate warrants and subpoenas.
- (g) Keep all court and other records as may be required.
- (h) Perform the duties of the Clerk in his absence.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

- (i) Perform marital ceremonies, including issuance of a Certificate of Marriage duly filed with the Court.
- (j) All other duties inherent in the office to which the Judge is appointed.
- (k) Maintain the confidentiality of the matters not yet of public record.
- (l) Prepare a semi-annual and annual report on the administration of the Court.
- (m) Supervise all Tribal Trial Court Judges and personnel, including all duties of a director of the Administration of the Nation.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-201, May 6, 2004]

Section 202. EVALUATION OF TRIBAL COURT SYSTEM:

The Tribal Council shall evaluate the administration of the both the Trial Court and Appellate Court based on the semi-annual and annual reports of the Courts made by the Chief Judges of the Courts to the Tribal Council at the first Tribal Council meeting February and August of each year. Quarterly reports shall be required by the Tribal Trial Court.

The evaluation of the Courts shall include the number of cases heard, the number resolved, the classification of the cases, the recidivism rate of litigants, the case loads of the Judges, and other general case information to give the Tribal Council an overview of the cases being adjudicated in the Tribal Courts. The Chief Judges may add additional statistical information to assist in the evolution of their respective Courts.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-202, May 6, 2004]

Section 203. Special Appointments

Whenever, due to vacancies in office, disqualification or recusal of Judges, for the cause, a trial cannot be convened from the available Judges, the Chairperson shall recommend a special judge and convene the Legislature within forty-eight (48) hours to address the appointment of a Special Judge to serve until the matter causing the disqualification is resolved. The Special from among the members of the Bar of the Court to act as a Special Judge, until the vacancy is filled

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

or the Special Judge is no longer needed. No special procedure need be followed in making such appointments provided that the Special judges meet the qualification of Section 102.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-203, May 6, 2004]

Section 204. Compensation of Judges

(a) The compensation of all Judges of the Tribal Trial Court shall be set by appropriate legislation of the Tribal Legislative Body. No Judge shall have his compensation diminished during his term in office.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Tribal Legislature from authorizing a general fund amount for the entire budget of the Nation and delegating the specific budgets with line items to the Executive Department. Unless otherwise specified, the Executive Department shall administer the Courts' budgets

(c) All aspects of the Judicial budget are subject to the same Tribal laws, codes, policies, rules, regulation, resolutions and executive orders as other Tribal Agencies or departments.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-204, May 6, 2004]

Section 205. Removal of Judges

(a) The Judges of the Tribal Courts shall be removed only for cause by the Tribal Legislative Body as provided for in Article VI, Section 11. For purposes of comity, the term "cause" shall include any reason sufficient for disbarment of an attorney under the Model Rules of Professional Conduct of the National American Indian Court Judges Association. For cause also includes any reason that is specified as "for cause" under the Nation's Employees' Policies.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-205, May 6, 2004]

Section 206. Disqualifications, Recusal, Conflict of Interest

(a) No Judge shall hear any case when he has a direct financial, personal or other interest in the outcome of such case or is related by blood or marriage within the first degree of lineage. A Judge should attempt to prevent even the appearance of partiality or impropriety.

(b) Any or all parties of interest in a case, or the Judge, may raise the question of conflict of interest. Upon decision by the Judge concerned or the Court of Appeals that disqualification is appropriate, another Judge shall be assigned to hear the matter before the Court.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

(c) Any Judge otherwise disqualified because he is related to one or more of the parties in one of the relationships enumerated in subsection (a) of this section, may hear a case if all parties are informed of the blood or marriage relationship on the record in open Court and of their right to have a different Judge hear the case, and consent to further action by that Judge in the case in open Court upon the record, or in a writing filed in the record, in spite of the conflict of interest.

(d) Conflict of interest shall be defined by the National American Indian Court Judges Association of Judicial Ethics, unless a Judicial Code of Ethics is enacted by the Tribal Legislature.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-206, May 6, 2004]

Section 207. Decisions

(a) Each trial final decision of the Tribal Trial Court shall be recorded in writing and include written findings of fact and conclusions of law. The written decision shall provide the date of the decision, the case number, the names of all parties, the substance of the complaint, the relevant facts found by the Court to be true, the Court's decision, and the conclusions of law supporting the Court's decision. The written decision shall be signed by the Judge entering the same and filed of record with the Clerk of the Court. All decisions shall be filed within a reasonable amount of time giving due consideration to the nature of the case.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-207, May 6, 2004]

Section 208. Records

The Tribal Courts shall be Courts of Record. To preserve such records:

(a) In all court proceedings, the Court Reporter, shall be the Clerk of the Court, and the Clerk shall record the proceedings of the Court by electronic or stenographic means. The recording shall be identified by case number and kept for five (5) years for use in appeals or collateral proceedings in which the events of the hearing are in issue. At the close of each hearing, or as otherwise specified, the Reporter shall cause a transcript to be made of the recording upon the request of any party or the Court as a permanent part of the case record. If a party requests the transcript, the Court may order the advancement of the fee to pay the costs of transcribing the same.

(b) To preserve the integrity of the electronic record, the reporter shall store the recording in a safe place and release it only to the relevant Court or pursuant to an Order of a Tribal Judge.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

(c) The Clerk shall keep in a file bearing the case name and number every written document filed in the case.

(d) All court records shall be public records except as otherwise provided by law.

(e) Five (5) years from the final decisions, including appellate review, court records except judgments, appearance, and other dockets may be reproduced on computer tape or disk, microfilm or microfiche or similar space saving record keeping methods, provided, that at least one (1) hard copy, including microfilm or microfiche, of electronically stored data shall be kept at all times.

(f) The Legislature may provide for the publication in books or web sites the decisions of its Courts.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-208, May 6, 2004]

Section 209. Files

(a) Except as otherwise provided by law, such as in juvenile cases, court files on a particular case are generally open to the public. Any person may inspect the records of a case and obtain copies of documents contained therein during normal business hours.

(b) Any persons desiring to inspect the records of a case or obtain copies thereof may inspect such files only during the ordinary working hours of the Clerk, or a Judge, and in their presence to insure the integrity of Court records. Under no circumstances shall anyone, except a Judge or a licensed advocate, attorney or the Clerk taking a file to a Judge in his chambers of a courtroom, take a file from the Clerk's office.

(c) A copy of any document contained in such a file may be obtained from the Clerk by any person for a reasonable copy fee, to be set by rule of the Chief Judge. The Clerk is hereby authorized to certify under the seal of his office that such copies are accurate reproductions of those documents on file in his office.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-209, May 6, 2004]

Section 210. Court Fund

(a) There is hereby authorized to be maintained by the Clerk under the supervision of the Chief Judge and subject to annual audit by the Nation's Treasurer through the Treasurer's

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

independent auditor, a fund to be known as the "Court Fund" into which shall be deposited all fines, fees, penalties, costs and other monies authorized or required by law to be paid to the Court which are not to be distributed to any party to a case and for which no requirement is imposed by law for the deposit of such funds into a particular account. These funds shall be maintained by the Court and used exclusively to defray the non-salary expenses of the Court as shall be specifically authorized by law. The Court Fund shall not be used for the payment of salaries of regular Judges or Justices of the Trial or Court of Appeals. The balance of the fund as of December 31 of each year shall be applied to the next fiscal year's Court budget.

(b) A separate fund shall be created for deposit and payment of maintenance and child support payments. All deposits shall be accounted for under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

(c) All Court funds are subject to audits by the Treasurer at his discretion. These may be full audits, partial audits or spot audits.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-210, May 6, 2004]

Section 211. Payments into Court for Minors and Incompetents

Where any amount of money not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) shall be deposited and paid into Court by virtue of any judgment, order, settlement, distribution or decree for the use and benefit of, and to the credit of, any minor or incompetent person having no legal guardian of his estate appointed by the Court, and no person shall within ninety (90) days thereafter become the legal and qualified guardians of the estate of such minor or incompetent the support of such minor or incompetent person or that it is otherwise for the best interest of such minor or incompetent funds to be made to any proper and suitable person as trustee for such minor or incompetent person, with bond, as the Court may direct, to be expended for the support, use and benefit of such minor or incompetent person. Such order may be made by the Court in the original cause in which the funds are credited upon the application of any interested person; and the Court may direct the Clerk of the Court to make payment of the same to be made in installments or in one lump sum as may seem for the best interests of such minor or incompetent person. If a qualified guardian has been appointed by the Court with bond, the Court shall order the money paid to the guardian for the use of the minor or incompetent person subject to such restrictions and accounting as the Court may direct.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-211, May 6, 2004]

Section. 212. Conserving Moneys Obtained for Minors or Incompetent Persons

Moneys recovered in any court proceeding by a next friend or guardian ad litem for or on

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

behalf of a parch who is less than eighteen (18) years of age or incompetent in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) over sums sufficient for paying costs and expenses including medical bills and attorney's fees shall, by order of the Court, be deposited in a banking or savings and loan institution, approved by the Court. Until the person becomes eighteen (18) years of age or competent to again handle his affairs, withdrawals of moneys from such account or accounts shall be solely pursuant to order of the court made in the case in which recovery was had. When an application for the order is made by a person who is not represented by an attorney, the Judge of the Court shall prepare the order. This Section shall not apply in cases where a legal guardian has been appointed by the Court for the estate of the minor or incompetent person with adequate bond to secure any money released. In such cases, such money, or any portion thereof as the Court may direct, may be paid over to the guardian to be used exclusively for the support and education of such minor or incompetent person, subject to such restrictions and accounting as the Court shall direct.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-212, May 6, 2004]

Section 213. Practice Before the Tribal Court

(a) No person shall be denied the right to have a member of the Bar of the Court represent him and present his case before the Courts.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-2-213, May 6, 2004]

CHAPTER THREE: COURT OF APPEALS

Section 301. General Provisions

The Court of Appeals may hear appeals resulting from all final orders or judgments rendered by the Trial Court, appeals of other orders of the Tribal Trial Court subject to interlocutory appeal by law, and such original actions as may be provided by tribal law, and shall render its decisions in writing to the parties of interest, file a copy thereof in the Court of Appeals Clerk's office and the Tribal Secretary's office, and, at the time of filing, submit a copy to the official reporter of the decisions of the Court. The decision of the Court of Appeals shall be final and binding upon the parties.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-3-301, May 6, 2004]

Section 302. Composition of the Court of Appeals

The Court of Appeals shall consist of one (1) Chief Judge and two (2) Associate Judges.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-3-302, May 6, 2004]

Section 303. Duties and Powers of Justices

All Judges of the Court of Appeals, unless disqualified for conflict of interest of other cause, shall participate in the deliberations of that body and shall have the duty and power to conduct all Court proceedings, and issue all orders and papers incident thereto, in order to administer justice in all appeals brought before them from the Tribal Court. The Appeals Court has jurisdiction to hear appeals from the Tribal Court, and issue decisions. The Chief Judge of the Appellate Court shall be responsible for the administrative needs of the Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals shall have the following appellate powers:

- (a) Be responsible for creating and maintaining rules of the Court, not contrary to the Tribal Constitution or Code, regulating conduct in appellate proceedings to provide for the orderly and efficient administration of justice and the administration of the appellate Court. Such rules shall have no effect until filed with the Clerk of the court and the Tribal Secretary.
- (b) Hear appeals from the Trial Court at a designated time and place.
- (c) Enter all appropriate appellate orders and judgments
- (d) Keep all appropriate records as may be required.
- (e) Perform any and all other duties as may be required for the operation of the Court of Appeals.
- (f) All other duties inherent in the office to which the Judge is appointed

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-3-303, May 6, 2004]

Section 304. Decisions

(a) All decisions and opinions of the Court of Appeals shall be rendered in writing to the parties in interest, the Trial Court in appeal cases, filed in the Court of Appeals Clerk's office and the Tribal Secretary's office, transmitted to the official reporter of the decisions of the Court, and recorded in writing. The written record of the decision shall provide the recording the date of the decision or opinion, the case number, the names of the parties before the Court, the issues presented on appeal or the substance of the complaint in an action within the Court's original jurisdiction, the relevant facts upon which the decision on appeal was made or as found by the Court to be true in an original action, the Court's decision, and the legal principals and reasoning

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

supporting the Court's decision. A written Court opinion containing the above information shall be filed by the majority with or without a dissent attached. If there is a dissent, the fact of the dissent must be noted, but the majority may file its opinion without the dissent attached, and the dissenting opinion can be filed as such with the required information of a majority opinion.

(b) The Chief Justice shall assign the task of writing the decision.

(c) The written decision form shall be placed in the file of the case on appeal as an official document of the case.
Decisions shall be filed within a reasonable time given due consideration to the complexity of the case.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-3-304, May 6, 2004]

Section 305. Rules of the Court

(a) The Court of Appeals may establish rules concerning the administration of the Court of Appeals, but Court rules shall not conflict with the codes enacted by the Legislature or the Constitution. Such rules may govern the conduct, demeanor and decorum of those in the Court as well as the form and filing of appeals, briefs, pleadings and other matters which will make the court function more efficiently provided that the Court of Appeals rules are designed to enhance and enhance the codes or Constitution of the Nation.

(b) The rules shall be only be effective when filed in the Court Clerk's office and the office of the Tribal Secretary.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-3-305, May 6, 2004]

Section 306. Court of Appeals' Action of Appeals

In an appeal properly before it, the Court of Appeals shall have full authority to affirm, reverse, modify or vacate any action of the Trial Court or other entity from whom the appeal is taken as authorized by law, and may enter such order as is just or remand the case for the entry of a specified judgment, for a new trial, or for such further action or orders for a fair and just resolution of the case.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-3-306, May 6, 2004]

CHAPTER FOUR: COURT CLERK

Section 401. Establishment

There is hereby established a Trial Court Clerk's office to be administered by one (1) Court Clerk and such Deputy Court Clerks as may be budgeted by the Legislature. The Trial Court Clerks shall be supervised by the Chief Judge, but is an employee of the Nation, and subject to all of the Nation's administrative laws, codes, policies, rules and regulations the same as all other governmental employees of the Nation.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-401, May 6, 2004]

Section 402. Clerk to Serve Appellate and Trial Courts

The Court Clerk shall serve as the Clerk of the Court of Appeals and Clerk of the Tribal Trial Court. When service the Court of Appeals, the Clerk's title shall be "Clerk of the Court of Appeals." When serving the Tribal Trial Court, the Clerk's title shall be "Clerk of the Tribal Trial Court."

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-402, May 6, 2004]

Section 403. Clerk Reports to Chief Judge of Tribal Court

(a) The Court Clerk reports directly to the Chief Judge of the Tribal Trial Court, and the Chief Judge is the supervisory administrative position of the Judicial Branch of the government with the same ranking as Department Director. The Chief Judge shall be the direct supervisor of the Court Clerk and any other personnel of the Trial Court, and the Chief Judge shall serve as the Court Administrator and shall be charged with the preparations of Courts' budgets, the acquisition of necessary supplies, the maintenance and upkeep of the Courts' law library, the custody, upkeep and maintenance of the records, papers, effects and property of the Courts, and such other matters as shall be assigned to the Court by law.

(b) The Court Clerk shall assist the Chief Judge in his administrative duties as requested by the Chief Judge, but the administrative supervision of the Court and all administrative duties including the quarterly reports of the cases of the Court and the annual budget are the ultimate responsibility of the Chief Judge of the Tribal Trial Court.

(c) The Chief Judge shall prepare a quarterly report showing the statistical information on cases processed by the Courts, both trial and appellate, for that period. The calendar quarters

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

shall be used, and the quarterly reports shall be delivered the Chairperson thirty (30) days after the end of each quarter. At the end of each year, the statistics for the Court shall be compiled and reported to the Chairperson by March 1 of the next year.

(d) The Treasurer shall annually conduct an independent financial audit of the Courts. The results shall be presented to the Tribal Council by April 15 of each year.

(e) The Tribal Council may order an independent professional performance audit of the Courts.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-403, May 6, 2004]

Section 404. Powers and Duties

The Court Clerk shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To undertake all duties and functions otherwise authorized by law, or necessary to insure that all cases filed with the Courts are properly docketed and preserved as required by law.

(b) Subject to the approval of the Chief Trial and Appellate Judges to assist with the preparation of quarterly, annual reports and the annual budgets for the Court, and supervise any Deputy Clerks, subject to the ultimate supervision by the Chief Judges.

(c) To collect all fines, fees and costs authorized or required by law to be paid to the Courts, to receipt therefore and to deliver them to deposit in the appropriate Court fund.

(d) To accept monies for the payment of civil judgments, and upon order of the Court, to pay the same by check to the party entitled to the funds as per the Court's order. For the purpose of taking such action, the Clerk is authorized to maintain a bank checking account subject to the oversight and audit of the Tribal Treasurer and to deposit and withdraw funds therefrom. This account shall be audited at least annually and the annual audit submitted to the Tribal Council no later than April 15th of each year. The annual audit may be performed by the Tribal accounting Department or an independent Certified Public Accountant, and the Clerk shall give a fidelity or performance bond to guarantee the funds deposited therein in such amount as the Treasurer deems reasonable to protect the integrity of the Court. If the annual fund deposits are less than Five Thousand (\$5,000.00), the Treasurer may waive the bond requirement.

(e) To administer oaths, issue summons and subpoenas, certify a true copy of court records, and to accurately keep each and every record of the Appellate and Trial Courts.

(f) In the absence of a Court Reporter, the Court Clerk shall accurately and completely

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

record all proceedings and hearings of the Courts. If a Court Reporter is available, the Court Reporter shall have the authority to administer oaths and undertake such other Court functions as shall be provided by law.

(g) To provide stenographic and clerical service to the Court when requested.

(h) To act as librarian and to keep and maintain the Court's law library.

(i) To undertake all duties assigned or delegated to the Clerk's office by Tribal law or Court rule

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-404, May 6, 2004]

Section 405. Seal

The Court Clerk is authorized to have and use a seal which shall be circular in form and contain the words, "Trial Court Clerk" and the name of the Tribe around the edge thereof, and the words "Official Seal" or the official Tribal emblem in its center. When acting as the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, the Clerk's seal shall be circular in form and contain the words "Court of Appeals Clerk" and the name of the Tribe around the edge thereof, and the words "Official Seal" or the Tribal emblem in the center. The seal shall be impressed upon all warrants, subpoenas, summons, certified copies of records, judgments, orders, decrees, and similar documents, as evidence of their authenticity.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-405, May 6, 2004]

Section 406. Certification of True Copies

The Court Clerk is authorized to certify that a copy of any record in his office is a true and accurate copy of the record on file by signed stamp or writing placed on such copy, sealed with the seal of the Court Clerk's office, and in substantially the following form:

CERTIFICATE OF TRUE COPY

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing
_____ is a true, accurate
and exact copy of the original of same as it remains
of record on file in my office.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

Clerk of the Trial Court [or Court of Appeals]
Yavapai-Apache Nation

Date _____

Subject to the rules of evidence, certified copies of records shall be admissible as evidence without further authentication in all judicial and administrative proceedings of this Tribe.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-406, May 6, 2004]

Section 407. Clerk's Office and Orders by the Clerk

The Clerk's office, with the Clerk or a deputy in attendance, shall be open during business hours on all days, including evening hours when the Court is holding sessions, except Saturdays, Sundays and Tribal holidays, as specified in the Nation's Human Resource Policy Manual. All motions and applications in the Clerk's office shall be open for issuing mesne process, for issuing final process, to enforce and execute judgments, for entering defaults or judgments by default, and for other proceedings which do not require an order of the court, are grantable of course by the Court, unless the Civil Procedure Act requires previous approval by the Court, but his action may be suspended or altered or rescinded by the Court upon good cause shown.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-407, May 6, 2004]

Section 408. Notice of Orders or Judgments

Immediately upon the entry of an order or judgment, the Clerk shall serve a notice of the entry by mail upon each party or their attorney who is not in default for failure to appear, and shall make a note in the docket of the mailing. Such mailing is sufficient notice for all purposes for which notice of the entry of an order is required by law, but any party may in addition serve a notice of such entry in the manner provided in the Civil Procedure Act for the service of papers. Lack of notice of the entry by the Clerk does not affect the time to appeal or relieve or authorize the Court to relieve a party for failure to appeal within the time allowed, except as permitted in the Civil Procedure Act.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-408, May 6, 2004]

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

Section 409. Books and Records Kept by the Clerk and Entries Therein

(a) The Clerk shall keep a book known as the "Civil Docket" of such form and style as may be prescribed by the Chief Judge, and shall enter therein each civil action. Civil actions shall be assigned consecutive file numbers in the exact order of their filing by the Clerk. The file number of each action shall be noted on the folio of the docket whereupon the first entry of the action is made. All papers filed with the Clerk, all process issued and returns made thereon, all appearances, orders, verdicts, and judgments shall be entered chronologically in the civil docket on the folio assigned to the action and shall be marked with its file number. These entries shall be brief but shall show the nature of each paper filed or writ issued and the substance of each order or judgment of the Court and of the returns showing execution of process. The entry of an order or judgment shall show the date the entry is made. When in a trial by jury has been properly demanded or ordered, the Clerk shall enter the work "jury" on the folio assigned to that action. All other actions shall be tried by the Court.

(b) In like fashion, the Clerk shall keep suitable dockets, indexes, calendars and judgment records for the criminal, juvenile and small claims dockets of the Trial Court, and the appeals and original action docket of the Court of Appeals.

(c) The Clerk shall also keep such other books and records as may be required from the time to time by law.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-409, May 6, 2004]

Section 410. Judgment Docket

The judgment docket shall be kept in the form of an index in which the name of each person against whom judgment is rendered shall appear in alphabetical order, and it shall be the duty of the Clerk immediately after the rendition of a judgment to enter on said judgment docket a statement containing the names of the parties, the amount and nature of the judgment and costs, and the date of its rendition, and the date on which said judgment is entered on said judgment docket; and if the judgment be rendered against several persons, the entry shall be repeated under the name of each person against whom the judgment is rendered in alphabetical order.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-410, May 6, 2004]

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

Section 411. Execution Docket

In the execution docket, the Clerk shall enter all executions as they are issued. The entry shall contain the names of the parties, the date and amount of the judgment and costs, and the date of the execution. The Clerk shall also record in full the return of the Chief of the Tribal Police to each execution.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-411, May 6, 2004]

Section 412. Clerk may Collect Judgment and Costs

Where there is no execution outstanding, the Clerk of the Court may receive the amount of the judgment and costs, and receipt therefore, with the same effect as if the same had been paid to the Chief of the Tribal Police on an execution, and the Clerk shall be liable to be amerced in the same manner and amount as the Chief of the Tribal Police for refusing to pay the same to the party entitled thereto, when ordered by the Court, and shall also be liable on his official bond. All funds received by the Court to satisfy a judgment shall be paid to the party entitled thereto upon order of the Court. The Clerk shall require the party receiving the funds to sign a receipt for the same. All funds received by the Clerk shall be deposited on the same date as received in the appropriate court fund depository. No funds of a party shall be paid out of the depository fund without the appropriate Court order.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-412, May 6, 2004]

Section 413. Clerks to Issue Writs and Orders

All writs and orders for provisional remedies, and process of every kind, shall be prepared by the party or his attorney who is seeking the issuance of such writ, order or process and shall be ordered by the Court and processed for service by the Clerk. Except for summons and subpoena, the Clerk shall not order any such writ, order or process.

[History: PUBLIC LAW # YAN 3-4-413, May 6, 2004]

Section 414. Clerk to File and Preserve Papers

It is the duty of the Clerk to file together and carefully preserve in his office, all papers delivered to him for that purpose in every action or proceeding.

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-414, May 6, 2004]

Section 415. Each Case to be Kept Separate

The papers in each case shall be kept in a separate file marked with the title and number of the case.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-415, May 6, 2004]

Section 416. Endorsements

He shall immediately endorse upon every paper filed with him the date of filing it, and upon every order for a provisional remedy issued for service the day of its return to his office.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-416, May 6, 2004]

Section 417. Entry on Return of Summons

Upon the return of every summons, the Clerk shall immediately enter upon the appearance docket whether or not service has been made; and if the summons has been served, the name of the defendant or defendants summoned and the day and manner of the service upon each one. The entry shall be evidence in case of the loss of the summons.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-417, May 6, 2004]

Section 418. Material for Record

The record shall consist of the complaint, the process, the return, the pleadings subsequent thereto, reports, memorandums, briefs, verdicts, orders, judgments, evidence admitted, other court filings, and all material acts and proceedings of the Court. Evidence must be recorded in the file and noted on an evidence docket. When a case is appealed, the transcript of testimony shall be attached to the record when it is prepared.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-418, May 6, 2004]

Section 419. Memorializing Record

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION TRIBAL CODES
TITLE 3- COURTS

It is the duty of the Court to write out, sign, and record its orders, judgments and decrees within a reasonable time after their rendition, but no later than twenty (20) days unless the case is unusually complex, in which instance the order shall be filed in a reasonable amount of time. To aid in the performance of this duty, the Court may direct counsel to journalize the same or the Court Clerk may be directed to transcribe the order dictated by the Court. The Judge hearing the case must sign and submit the written decision for filing in the Court's record.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-419, May 6, 2004]

Section 420. Clerk to Keep Court Records, Books, and Papers -- Statistical and Other Information

The Clerk shall keep the records and books and papers pertaining to the Court and record its proceedings, and exercise the powers and perform the duties imposed upon him by Tribal statute, order of the Court, or Court rule. The Clerk shall be responsible for organizing, filing and the safekeeping of all official cases and the documents filed in each case as well as all evidence admitted into evidence at any proceeding before the Court.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3-4-420, May 6, 2004]

Section 421. Applicable to Trial and Court of Appeals

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the Clerk of the Tribal Trial Court and the Tribal Court of Appeals insofar as they may be applicable.

[History: PUBLIC LAW #YAN 3- 4-421, May 6, 2004]

SECTION IV
INQUIRY COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE AND FORMATION

TAB 1
MOTION FOR FORM SELECT COMMITTEE
OF INQUIRY



MOTION TO FORM A SELECT COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

I, Angela Pratt, a Member of the 6th Osage Nation Congress, hereby move to form a Select Committee of Inquiry in accordance with the Rules of the Osage Nation Congress, to investigate allegations against Congresswoman Shannon Edwards, an elected official of the Osage Nation Congress, for actions that may warrant removal for cause, and such allegations are set forth herein:

Congresswoman Edwards, while sitting on the Osage Nation Congress as an elected official, accepted the appointed office of Appellate Judge in the Yavapai-Apache Nation and took an oath of office, violating Article VI, Section 5 of the Osage Nation Constitution titled "Disqualifications."

The approximate date of the alleged conduct is August 6, 2019 and forward for an unknown period of time.

The foregoing allegations, if true, constitute grounds for removal from office for undermining the integrity of the office and disregard of constitutional duties and oath of office.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this Motion to Form a Select Committee of Inquiry is in order in accordance with the Rules of the Osage Nation Congress, and was transmitted to the Speaker of the Osage Nation Congress on the _____ day of _____, 2020 for placement on the legislative agenda.

Shana Robedeaux
Clerk of the Osage Nation Congress

TAB 2
2020-03-30 LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL
6TH LEG HUN KAH SESSION

First Day – March 30, 2020

Legislative Journal

**Sixth Legislature
Hun Kah Session**

Osage Nation Capitol Building, Pawhuska, Oklahoma
Monday, March 30, 2020

Welcome and Call to Order

The Session was called to order by Speaker Tillman at 10:03 a.m.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Congressman Mason.

Roll Call

The roll was called and the following members were present:

Congressman BigHorse
Congresswoman Edwards
Congresswoman Goodfox
Congresswoman Lemon
Congressman Maker
Congressman Mason
Congressman Potts
Congresswoman Pratt
Congresswoman Stabler
Congressman Walker
Congresswoman Whitehorn
Speaker Tillman
Assistant Chief Red Corn

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 9 of the Constitution of the Osage Nation, presence of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the whole number of the members of the Congress shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the congressional house for the exercise of its powers. Speaker Tillman established a quorum was present.

Executive Message

Principal Chief Standing Bear addressed the Speaker of the 6th Osage Nation Congress, Assistant Principal Chief, Members of the 6th Osage Nation Congress, guests and constituents.

Legislative Message

Speaker Tillman addressed the Principal Chief, Assistant Principal Chief, Members of the 6th Osage Nation Congress, guests and constituents.

Reports of Select Committees

Without objection, Speaker Tillman postponed this item until later on the agenda.

Bills and Resolutions on First Reading

ONCA 20-02, An Act to amend the Treasury law, 15 ONC § 2-311 and to insert § 2-323 to require continuous access to financial records to the Osage Nation Congress and add a penalty for preventing access; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-02 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Appropriations.

ONCA 20-08, An Act to authorize and appropriate one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to Osage Nation Energy Services, LLC; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Stabler, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-08 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Commerce, Gaming and Land.

ONCA 20-09, An Act to create a budget impoundment process; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-09 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Appropriations.

ONCA 20-10, An Act to amend the Osage Fair Minimum Wage Act at 19 ONC §§ 2-104 to raise the minimum wage; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-10 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCA 20-11, An Act to require all political contributions made on behalf of the Osage Nation to be funded, administered and awarded by the Political Contributions Committee. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-11 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCA 20-12, An Act to authorize the Membership Office to issue membership cards; to make photographs on membership cards optional; to require members be at least eighteen years of age to obtain a photo membership card; to make the photograph membership card replacement fee thirty five dollars (\$35); to repeal 26 ONC § 12-101 through § 12-104; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-12 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Membership.

ONCA 20-13, An Act to amend ONCA 14-39 to revise the compensation of the Chief Trial Judge and Associate Judges of the Osage Nation Trial Court in accordance with Article VIII of the Osage Nation Constitution, and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Speaker Tillman, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-13 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCA 20-14, An Act to require the Osage Nation to provide notice of its internet and electronic mail privacy policies for the benefit of the public and the Nation's employees. The sponsor, Congresswoman Whitehorn, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-14 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCA 20-15, An Act to establish a government tort claims process for the Osage Nation for the benefit of the public; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-15 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCA 20-16, An Act to authorize and appropriate four million five hundred thousand dollars (\$4,500,000) to the Osage Nation Member Health Benefit Fund from fiscal year 2021 tribal revenue for Direct Assistance to the Osage members sixty five (65) years of age and over; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-16 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Health and Social Services.

ONCA 20-17, An Act to authorize and appropriate five million dollars (\$5,000,000)

to the Osage Nation Member Health Benefit Fund from the Permanent Fund to allow members aged sixty five (65) and over to access additional Direct Assistance in the amount of four hundred dollars (\$400) per member and for all other members to access additional Direct Assistance in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200) all in accordance with the Osage Nation Health Benefit Act; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-17 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Health and Social Services.

ONCA 20-18, An Act to authorize and appropriate six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) to the Burial Assistance Fund; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-18 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Culture.

ONCA 20-19, An Act to amend ONCA 19-90 to make the appropriation to the Pawhuska Indian Village instead of the Capital Asset Fund and to expand the purpose of the appropriation; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Stabler, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-19 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Culture.

ONCA 20-20, An Act to amend the Osage Nation Health Benefit Act, 16 ONC §§ 3-102, 3-104, and 3-105; 3-106 and 3-107; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-20 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Health and Social Services.

ONCA 20-21, An Act to authorize and appropriate one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the Permanent Fund to save additional money; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congressman Maker, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-21 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Appropriations.

ONCA 20-22, An Act to authorize and appropriate two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to the Financial Assistance Services Direct Assistance Fund as Emergency Economic Disruption Assistance caused by the pandemic or coronavirus COVID-19; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congresswoman Edwards, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-22 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCA 20-23, An Act to authorize and appropriate five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the Executive Branch for legal fees related to the gaming compact litigation; and to establish an alternate effective date. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCA 20-23 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Commerce, Gaming and Land.

ONCR 20-01, A Resolution to recognize the employees of Osage Casinos for their perseverance in the face of Governor Stitt's claims about the compact. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the resolution into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-01 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCR 20-02, A Resolution to request that a hunting and fishing compact be negotiated with the State of Oklahoma and presented to the Osage Nation Congress for approval. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the resolution into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-02 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCR 20-03, A Resolution to request the implementation of a recycling program for all Osage Nation facilities, or to have a recycling program explored and findings reported. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the resolution into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-03 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCR 20-04, A Resolution to support legislation in the Oklahoma House of Representatives to specifically add wearing tribal regalia by tribal students at graduation as an activity covered under the Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act. The sponsor, Congresswoman Goodfox, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-03 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Culture.

ONCR 20-05, A Resolution to authorize the Principal chief of the Osage Nation to enter into and execute a Tribal Council Member Agreement with the U.S. Social Security Administration to allow the Osage Nation to extend Social Security coverage to the Members of the Osage Nation Congress. The sponsor, Congresswoman Whitehorn, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-05 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Government Operations.

ONCR 20-06, A Resolution to designate Osage Nation Energy Services, LLC as a subsidiary limited liability company of Osage, LLC pursuant to the Limited Liability Companies Act, as the sole member of both entities. The sponsor, Congresswoman Whitehorn, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-06 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Commerce, Gaming and Land.

ONCR 20-07, A Resolution to establish the consent of the Osage Nation Congress to the alienation of property and for the property to be conveyed to Osage Innovative Solutions, LLC in compliance with the grant award. The sponsor, Congresswoman Whitehorn, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-07 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Commerce, Gaming and Land.

ONCR 20-08, A Resolution to approve a new fiscal year 2021 Annual Revenue Projection of the Osage Nation with updated revenues; to establish budget outlays for the branches as well as for the next five (5) years. The sponsor, Congressman Potts, read the legislation into the record.

Speaker Tillman referred ONCR 20-08 to the Osage Nation Congressional Committee on Appropriations.

Reports of Select Committees

Congressional Committee on Rules, Ethics and Engrossment; Congresswoman Pratt, Chair. The committee met and reports the following recommendation from February 27, 2020:

The Rules, Ethics and Engrossment Committee recommends the Osage Nation Congress initiate the removal of Congresswoman Edwards from office for disqualification under the Constitution.

Congressional Committee on Rules, Ethics and Engrossment; Congresswoman Pratt, Chair. The committee met and reports the following recommendation from February 25, 2020:

Motion to recommend to the Osage Nation Congress that the Osage Nation Congress call a Special Session for the purpose of removing Congresswoman Edwards from office for disqualification under the Constitution, to waive the rules of procedure for removal and move straight to a vote on a motion for removal.

Motions and Notices

Congressman BigHorse announced a Government Operations Committee Meeting to be held Immediately following session.

Congressman BigHorse announced a Culture Committee Meeting to be held from 2:45 p.m. until 3:15 p.m.

Congressman Mason announced a Health Committee Meeting to be held from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Motion-To Form a Select Committee of Inquiry. Congresswoman Pratt made a motion to form a Select Committee of Inquiry in accordance with the Rules of the Osage Nation Congress, to investigate allegations against Congresswoman Shannon Edwards, an elected official of the Osage Nation Congress, for actions that may warrant removal for cause, and such allegations are set forth herein:

Congresswoman Edwards, while sitting on the Osage Nation Congress as an elected official, accepted the appointed office of Appellate Judge in the Yavapai-Apache Nation and took an oath of office, violating Article VI, Section 5 of the Osage Nation Constitution titled "Disqualifications."

The approximate date of the alleged conduct is August 6, 2019 and forward for an unknown period of time.

The forgoing allegations, if true, constitute grounds for removal from office for undermining the integrity of the office and disregard of constitutional duties and oath of office. **The motion was seconded and passed with 12 yea and 0 nays.**

Motion-To Form a Select Committee of Inquiry. Congresswoman Edwards made a motion to form a Select Committee of Inquiry under Congressional Rule 12 to review the list of allegations below against Congresswoman Angela Pratt, an elected official of the Osage Nation Congress, that, if true, would constitute grounds for removal:

1. As an officer of the Osage Nation Congress, Congresswoman Pratt has intentionally failed to carry out her duty and responsibility under Congressional Rule 7.4.1.c. to place ethics violations allegations against her by the Skiatook Johnson O'Malley Parent Committee on a Congressional Select Committee of jurisdiction agenda.
2. As an officer of the Osage Nation Congress, Congresswoman Angela Pratt has intentionally misused her office to publicly advocate for and solicit a committee recommendation that violates Article XII of the Osage Constitution.
3. Congresswoman Angela Pratt has repeatedly engaged in conduct that violates Article X, Section 3. of the Osage Constitution, Osage Nation Ethics laws, and Congressional Rule 4.5.

These allegations, if true, constitute grounds for removal from office for cause for malfeasance in office, undermining the integrity of the office, willful neglect of office, disregard of constitutional duties and oath of office, arrogation of power and abuse of the government process.

The approximate date of the alleged conduct are January 1-30, 2019, March 29-April 23, 2019, September 9-30, 2019, February 18-27.

Speaker Tillman recognized the Clerk to respond to the motion.

The Clerk of Congress responded that the motion had been received in writing by the clerk has not reviewed to determine if the motion is in order at this time. Once that has been completed, Speaker will place on the agenda the next legislative day.

Motion-To Form a Select Committee of Inquiry. Congresswoman Edwards made a motion to form a Select Committee of Inquiry under Congressional Rule 12 to review the list of allegations below against Congresswoman Brandy Lemon, an elected official of the Osage Nation Congress, that, if true, would constitute grounds for removal:

1. Congresswoman Brandy Lemon has misused Tribal Resources in violation of Article X, Section 6 of the Osage Nation Constitution.
2. As an officer of the Osage Nation Congress Congresswoman Brandy Lemon has publicly advocated for and moved a Congressional Select Committee to recommend Congressional action that violates Article XII of the Osage Constitution.
3. Congresswoman Brandy Lemon has conspired to do something harmful to members of the Osage Nation Congress in violation of Article X, Section 3. Of the Osage Constitution, Osage Nation Ethics Laws, and Congressional Rule 4.5 by making false statement in a public meeting, including but not limited to falsely stating that Congresswoman Edwards' purported violation of the Osage Constitution is criminal in nature, and suggesting that Congresswoman Edwards could be deprived of her property without due process of law.

The allegations, if true, constitute grounds for removal from office for cause for malfeasance in office, undermining the integrity of the office, willful neglect of office, disregard of constitutional duties and oath of office, arrogation of power, and abuse of the government process.

The approximate dates of the alleged conduct are November 1, 2019- January 30, 2020, and February 18-27, 2020.

Motion-To Form a Select Committee of Inquiry. Congresswoman Edwards made a motion to form a Select Committee of Inquiry under Congressional Rule 12 to review the list of allegations below against Congresswoman Paula Stabler, an elected official of the Osage Nation Congress, that, if true, would constitute grounds for removal:

1. Congresswoman Paula Stabler has misused Tribal Resources in violation of Article X, Section 6 of the Osage Nation Congress.
2. As an officer of the Osage nation Congress, Congresswoman Paula Stabler has intentionally failed to carry out her duty and responsibility under Congressional Rule 2 to place allegations of an unlawful hostile work environment on the Congressional Select Committee of jurisdiction agenda.
3. As an officer of the Osage Nation Congress, Congresswoman Stabler has intentionally misused her office to publicly advocate for a committee recommendation that violates article XII of the Osage Constitution.

These allegations, if true, constitute grounds for removal from office for cause for malfeasance in office, undermining the integrity of the office, willful neglect of office, disregard of constitutional duties and oath of office, arrogation of power and abuse of the government process.

The dates of alleged conduct are November 19, 2019, December 13, 2019, January 1, 2019 to date, March 29-April 23, 2019, September 9-30, 2019, February 18-27, 2020.

Speaker Tillman recognized the Clerk to respond to the motion.

The Clerk of Congress responded that the motion had been received in writing by the clerk has not reviewed to determine if the motion is in order at this time. Once that has been completed, Speaker will place on the agenda the next legislative day.

Adjournment

Motion-To Adjourn. Congresswoman Goodfox made a motion to adjourn until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow. Motion was seconded and passed with 12 yeas and 0 nays.

Speaker Tillman adjourned the Session at 11:10 a.m.

Shana Walker
Clerk of Congress

TAB 3

**LETTER FROM SPEAKER TILLMAN
TO CHIEF JUSTICE DRENT**

20-254

Shana Robedeaux

From: Joe Tillman
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Meredith Drent
Cc: Trey Gill; Shana Robedeaux
Subject: Select Committee of Inquiry
Attachments: Osage Congress_20200330_141544 (3).pdf 1

Chief Justice Drent,
Please review.

Be Well,

Joe Tillman,
Speaker
6th Osage Nation Congress
918-277-2538

OSAGE NATION CONGRESS

PO Box 1449
PAWHUSKA, OK 74056



March 30, 2020

Chief Justice Meredith Drent
Supreme Court of the Osage Nation
1333 Grandview
Pawhuska, OK 74056

Re: Formation of a Select Committee of Inquiry

Chief Justice Drent,

The Osage Nation Congress approved a Motion to Form a Select Committee of Inquiry today to investigate allegations against Congresswoman Edwards. I am notifying you, as the head of the Judicial Branch, pursuant to the Osage Nation Congressional Rules under Rule 12.1. Please let me know who will sit on the Select Committee of Inquiry at your convenience, but within ten (10) days in accordance with our Rules.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Tillman".

Joe Tillman, Speaker
Osage Nation Congress

OSAGE NATION CONGRESS
PO Box 1449
PAWHUSKA, OK 74056



March 30, 2020

Chief Justice Meredith Drent
Supreme Court of the Osage Nation
1333 Grandview
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Tillman".

Joe Tillman, Speaker
Osage Nation Congress

TAB 4
NOTICE OF SELECTION OF
INQUIRY COMMITTEE

20-293

Shana Robedeaux

From: Jeanna M. Red Eagle <jmredeagle@osagenation-nsn.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020, 6:03 PM
To: Joe Tillman; Joe Tillman; Paula Stabler; Scott N. BigHorse; Shannon Edwards; Alice Goodfox; Brandy Lemon; John F. Maker; Archie Mason; Clayton Eli Potts; Angela Pratt; Robert J. Walker Jr; Maria Whitehorn
Cc: Shana Robedeaux; Meredith Drent; Elizabeth Homer (ehomer@homerlaw.com); Drew Pierce (drewpierce57@yahoo.com)
Subject: Notice of Selection
Attachments: Notice of Selection-Select Committee of Inquiry 4-3-20.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good evening Congressmen and Congresswomen,

Please find communication from Associate Justice Lohah Homer attached.

Stay healthy and enjoy your weekend.

Thanks,

Jeanna Red Eagle
 Court Administrator/
 Clerk of the Supreme Court
 Osage Nation
 1333 Grandview Ave.
 Pawhuska, OK 74056
 Ph. 918.287.5401
 Fx. 918.287.5574
 Mobile 918.287.7459

Osage Nation Trial Court
Chief Judge
William Oldfield

Court Clerk - Trial Court
Alexandra Toineeta
John Parker



OSAGE NATION JUDICIAL BRANCH

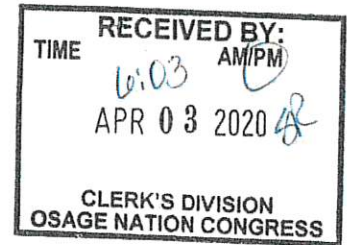
Osage Nation Supreme Court
Chief Justice
Meredith D. Drent

Court Clerk - Supreme Court
Court Administrator
Jeanna Red Eagle

April 3, 2020

Hon. Joseph Tillman
Hon. Paula Stabler
Hon. Scott BigHorse
Hon. Shannon Edwards
Hon. Alice Goodfox
Hon. Brandy Lemon
Hon. John Maker
Hon. Archie Mason
Hon. Eli Potts
Hon. Angela Pratt
Hon. Robert J. Walker, Jr.
Hon. Maria Whitehorn

Osage Nation Congress
P.O. Box 1449
Pawhuska, OK 74056



Re: **NOTICE OF SELECTION - Select Committee of Inquiry**

Dear Speaker Tillman and Members of the Congress:

The Osage Nation Supreme Court is in receipt of the March 30, 2020 correspondence from your office advising the Court that the Osage Nation Congress approved a Motion to form a Select Committee of Inquiry to investigate allegations made against Congresswoman Shannon Edwards. The communication further invokes Rule 12.1(1)(e) of the Rules of Osage Nation Congress, which provides that the Chief Justice of the Osage Nation Supreme Court must appoint a Supreme Court Justice to select five (5) members of Congress to serve on the Select Committee of Inquiry.

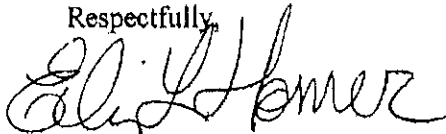
Chief Justice Drent has assigned me to make the selection of the five (5) members who shall comprise the Select Committee of Inquiry; and by this letter, I am communicating the names of the members selected to serve. Other than the Respondent, only one other member was not considered for selection because Rule 12.1(1)(f) prohibits the movant from serving on such Committee. Accordingly, Congresswoman Pratt was excluded from consideration for membership on the Select Committee of Inquiry.

Please be advised that because I am assigned the duty of selecting the members of the Select Committee of Inquiry, Rule 12.1(4)(c) prohibits me from presiding over a removal trial should one be held. With that understanding, I have selected the following members to serve on the Select Committee of Inquiry, and shall have no further participation in this matter:

1. Speaker Joe Tillman
2. Congresswoman Alice Goodfox
3. Congressman Archie Mason
4. Second Speaker Paula Stabler
5. Congressman R.J. Walker

Thank you for your service to the Osage Nation.

Respectfully,



Elizabeth Lohah Homer
Associate Justice

SECTION V
OSAGE NEW ARTICLES

TAB 1
FEBRUARY 2020 OSAGE NEWSPAPER

PR SRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 49
STIGLER, OK 74462



Osage News

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Chief Standing Bear advised not to join federal gaming lawsuit 'at this time'

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Osage News

OKLAHOMA CITY — And then there were five.

On Jan. 27, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation filed a motion to intervene in a federal lawsuit in the Western District of Oklahoma over whether the gaming compact used by more than 30 tribes renewed on Jan. 1.

The Cherokee, Chickasaw and Choctaw nations filed suit on New Year's Eve against Gov. Kevin Stitt in the Western District of Oklahoma, asking for a declaratory judgment that the state-tribal model gaming compact automatically renewed on New Year's Day.

The Okmulgee-based tribe's legislature voted unanimously on Jan. 21 to appropriate an extra \$500,000 to its Office of the Attorney General for costs associated with joining the fray.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation, headquartered in Shawnee, filed a similar motion on



CODY HAMMER/Osage News

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear speaks during the groundbreaking reception of an additional hotel tower at the Osage Casino in Tulsa on July 9, 2019.

a.m. in Judge Timothy DeGuisti's chambers.

In response to the additional tribes joining the lawsuit, Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear told Osage News on Jan.

they, the Osage Nation is not following suit at this time.

The governor's office filed a countersuit on Jan. 22, seeking a declaratory judgment that the compact expired on

Class III gaming is until a new compact is in

Gov. Stitt's rebuttal asks that revenue generated from those games after 2021 be put into a trust. (Table games, including blackjack, poker, craps and roulette are not mentioned in the injunction request.

Seeking higher exclusivity fees from the 30-plus tribes across Oklahoma, Gov. Stitt has publicly maintained that the gaming compacts on New Year's Eve and any Class III gaming conducted after that date is illegal.

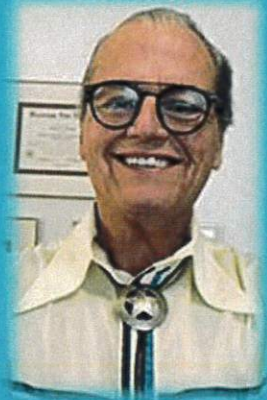
Along with the tribe, its former state Sen. Cameron, officials from more than 30 gaming tribes across Oklahoma have argued that the prerequisites for the compact's automatic renewal have not been met.

Gov. Stitt has not said publicly what, if anything, he will do with the exclusivity agreements from January

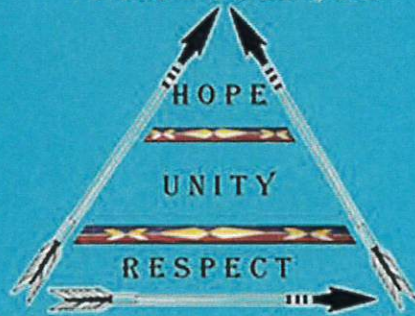
The need for Unity

For the Osage Nation to move forward into the rest of the 21st century, It is essential that **WE** have hope and unity. It is impossible to have either of those things without first having respect for each other. That is why Jim feels that everything must be built on "Respect". We must respect each other, as well as respect our culture and traditions. Only then can we have unity as a community. For the Osage People to have hope for the future, we need to have both National Unity as well as Unity of purpose.

We are all Osages however, our culture and tradition are tied to this specific piece of land, Osage County. It doesn't matter where you are if you lose **WHO YOU ARE!**



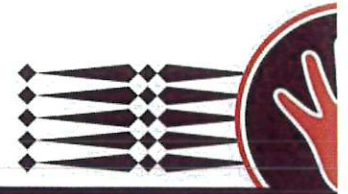
DR. JAMES (JIM) TRUMBLY
Tah Wa He



for
Osage Nation Congress

Jim Trumbly's Background Highlights

- ◆ Direct Descendent of Pawhuska (White Hair) and Julian Trumbly
- ◆ Two Sons, Austin James Trumbly and Liam Dale Trumbly
- ◆ Doctorate in Business Administration
- ◆ Vietnam Veteran & Vice Commander American Legion Post 198 Pawhuska
- ◆ Certified Project Manager
- ◆ Project Manager for Osage Nation's Bird Creek Farm
- ◆ Former University of Oklahoma Business Professor & Currently Faculty at Pawnee Nation College



OSAGE STRATEG

The Next 5 Ye

THAN

We want to than
across the Nation
and letting you
Let's keep this posit



OSAGE STRATEG SURVEY con

IMPORTANT NOTES:

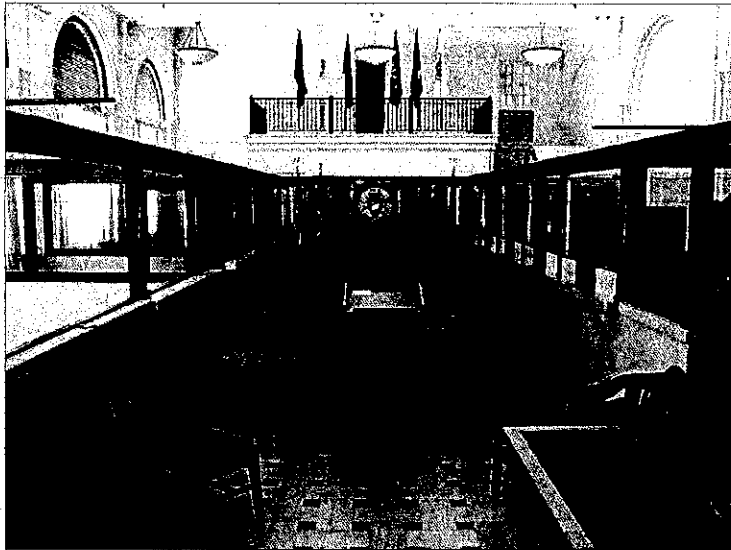
Both an online and hard copy are available. In order to receive the survey, the Osage Nation must have your current address. To update your address, visit <https://forms.osagenation.com>

You will need your Osage Nation membership number to take the survey. For more information, call 1-800-818-6517.

Let your vo

For up-to-date meeti

1-888-749-9599 or visit O



CODY HAMMER/Osage News

The Osage Nation Capitol Building will be used for filming scenes in the upcoming "Killers of the Flower Moon" production.

Filmmakers to use ON Capitol Building for 'Killers of the Flower Moon' scenes

Benny Polacca
Osage News

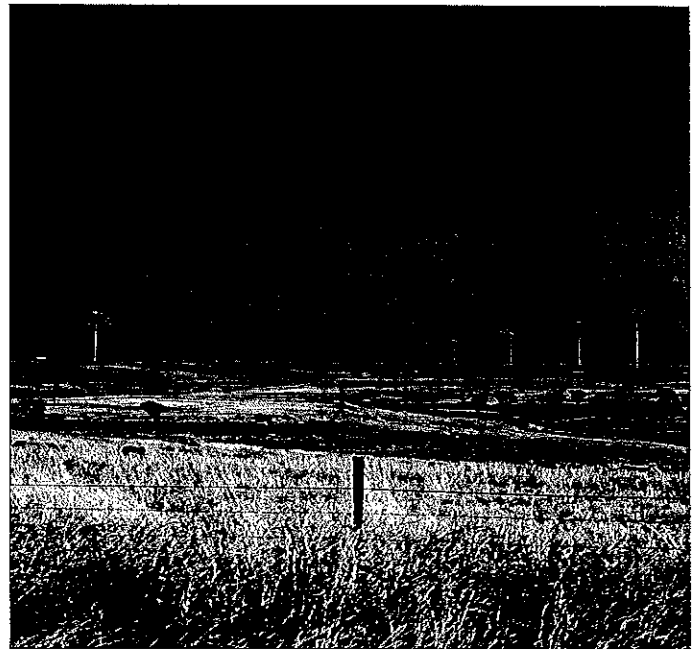
Discussions on finding the Osage Nation Congress a new home are center stage again after film crews with the "Killers of the Flower Moon" project expressed interest in using the Nation's Capitol Building for shooting a scene in May.

The ON Capitol Building – formerly the First National Bank along Pawhuska's Main Street – is being sought for a scene shoot on the first floor where Congress meets for its sessions and has office space. To make way for film crews, the Legislative Branch will need to move its offices from the building.

Executive Branch officials, who are charged with overseeing the Nation's buildings occupancy and maintenance, met with the Congressional Affairs Committee on Jan. 7 to start discussing logistics to accommodate the filming plans.

Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn said he believes an "agreement or concurrence" between his branch and the committee is appropriate moving forward since the Congress is a separate branch and has its own equipment and property at issue for moving.

"There's a lot of records in here that belong to the Congress, there's a lot of equipment in here that belongs to the Congress, there's a lot of personal effects in here that belong to the Congress, there's computers in here that belong to the Congress," Red Corn said. "It would seem logical to keep Congress in charge of everything that belongs to Congress



Wind turbines dot the landscape of the Osage hills along Highway 169.

Osage Wind files objection by federal government

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Osage News

Osage Wind and its parent companies are pushing back against a request from the United States to amend its lawsuit over a controversial wind farm.

Citing delays on the federal government's part, attorneys for Osage Wind, Enel Kansas and Enel Green Power North America filed an objection on Jan. 6 to a request from the United States to amend its complaint regarding a wind farm in western Osage County.

Among the specific changes federal attorneys are wanting to make include a request for a complete accounting of Osage Wind's revenue and requiring the three companies to relinquish any revenue generated by the wind farm.

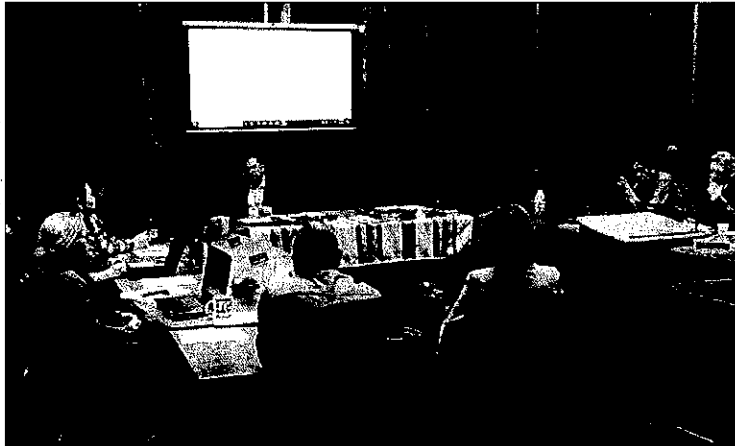
In a unanimous decision issued in mid-September 2017 and upheld the following

ed a 2015 summary judgment from the Northern District Court of Oklahoma. The court allowed Osage Wind to excavate work in a 100-acre area set up 84 wind turbine foundations on 8,400 acres without a permit from the Bureau of Indian Affairs or approval from the Osage Minerals Council.

In an effort to insure turbine foundations, Osage Wind dug pits measuring 10 feet wide and 30 feet deep. In the process, it excavated more than 60,000 cubic yards of limestone, dolomite and other minerals, ran the chunks through a rock crusher, then returned the earth, thus prompting the objection on the definition of "minor mining."

Under federal state mining activity conducted in Osage County requires a permit from the BIA.

In January 2019, the Supreme Court declined to grant the case certiorari. The objection, the wind farm's attorneys claim



CODY HAMMER/Osage News

The Fourth Osage Minerals Council meets in chambers on Jan. 15 on the Osage Nation Campus.

OST to Minerals Council: March checks will be on time

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Osage News

Come March, the checks will be in the mail – and on time.

At the Osage Minerals Council’s Jan. 15 meeting, a representative for the Office of the Special Trustee said her office has everything squared away to prevent another round of late headright checks.

With the office implementing new accounting software in late 2019, third and fourth quarter payments were late for many shareholders, prompting a flurry of frustrated phone calls to both the Minerals Council and the OST call center in Albuquerque.

“We have everything we needed,” Fiduciary Trust Officer Janel Perry said. “I do not foresee any issues.

“I am watching diligently to make sure the checks are going out like they should.”

In the interim, shareholders who incurred late

clear that they want to work together moving forward.

“We want to work with you and get this straightened out,” Councilor Margo

“We want to work with you and get this straightened out...we need to find a way to streamline this if at all possible.”

–Councilor Margo Gray

Gray said. “We need to find a way to streamline this if at all possible.”

In other business, OMC

Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center resigns, interim manager

Benny Polacca
Osage News

The clinic manager position at the Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center in Pawhuska is open after Daniel Sherron resigned in early January.

In a Facebook posting, Sherron said Jan. 7 was his last day at the WHC and he accepted a similar health service position for the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma, where he is a tribal member. Sherron, who has prior human resources management experience with other nearby tribes, worked at the WHC since December 2018.

“I’m so thankful for the last year I’ve spent with the Osage people,” Sherron wrote. “I developed many relationships during my time there and feel like we were able to accomplish some great things. I worked with some great people and will truly miss each one.”

Sherron added: “After much prayer and discussion with my

family, today was also day as the Health Director for my tribe, the Tribe. I’m looking for helping my people and ing our health services Pray for me as I ma transition. God bless!”

Dr. Ron Shaw, CEO WHC/Osage Nation Services, said Sherron the work transition a quest of Ponca elected in addition to his d serve his people. “De established himself as a and knowledgeable i trator particularly in Resources matters a ness and financial j and he holds degrees man Resources and a Shaw said.

In the meantime, W pliance and performa cer Laura Sawney will interim clinic manage said. The interim clir ager appointment of (Cherokee Nation) to



CODY HAMMER/Osage News

The Health Authority Board met on Jan. 9 and discussed She parture.

OMC to begin consult

Congress requests more information on Pawhuska C

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

The Osage Nation Congressional Affairs committee asked the Executive Branch for an appraisal and a structural analysis of the Pawhuska City Hall building before they consider whether it's in their best interest to purchase the building.

The committee met on Jan. 22 to discuss the purchase, as well as the moving plan for the legislature and its staff to make way for upcoming filming of "Killers of the Flower Moon," which is estimated to begin in May after a 10-week push was announced.

Attending the meeting for the Executive Branch was Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, Assistant Principal Chief Raymond Red Corn, who is leading the negotiations with the City, Director of Operations Casey Johnson, Deputy Director of Operations Jodie Revard and Attorney General Clint Patterson.

Congresswoman Maria



CODY HAMMER/Osage News

The Osage Nation is in early discussions on the possibility of purchasing the Pawhuska City Hall building, which was historically the Osage Tribal Council house, pre-1906.

Whitehorn said she supports the idea of purchasing the building but asked if there is an alternate plan for the building in case the Congress objects to moving in.

"I think it would be, depending on the price of course, it would be a really good acquisition and I think we could find

a good use for it but there's no plans right now. Right the plan is exactly as Asst. Chief Red Corn described. We would just hope that the Congress would like to go back into it," Standing Bear said. "Speaking just right now, off the cuff, I think we should try to find a way to acquire it."

He reiterated that "be a historic acquisition the Osage to recover council house." He noted both the Muscogee Nation and Cherokee Nation their historic council. The Muscogee Creek theirs into a museum, historical site and the use theirs as their tribe.

"I agree with the. There is historical significance in purchasing the building opportunity for finding for the Congress," said Congressman Eli Potts. "this is a workable plan."

Congressman Joe said in 120 days six members of Congress could be at the table to hear a decision and caution committee to move slowly the matter. He said Councilor Jourdan Foran met at the City Council meeting Jan. 14 that the City have a commercial appraisal conducted building.

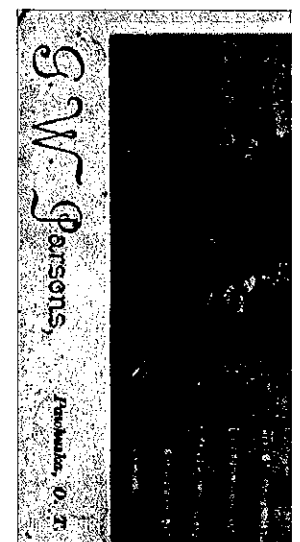
"We want this process as transparent as possible my very first meeting t

CITY HALL

—from Page 1

"We are doing this for a reason, and that reason isn't even solidified yet, but we want to be transparent about this entire process."

Red Corn handed out a three-page outline that included four steps of the process. Step one, Congress agrees to explore the process. Step two, the City determines the combined costs of constructing new office space and relocating. Step three, the Nation determines costs and payments to the City if improvement of the property is necessary to ac-



Gathering at Osage Cour and community citizens sons, Photographer, Ca. 1

TPS

—from Page 1

According to one of the resource advisers, the reorganization plan calls for the seven advisers to be reassigned to other openings within the district. They could apply for the three remaining Indian Education positions, which would be on 12-month contracts and deal only with secondary students. However, Indian preference would not be applied to those positions.

One of the district's Indian Education resource advisers, Erin Parker is Kiowa, Cherokee, Kickapoo and Absentee Shawnee. Like her colleagues, she works with about 500 students spread across multiple schools and grade levels on everything from scholarship applications to cultural programming to securing after school tutors. In addition to her obligations as a resource adviser, she was assigned to teach a Native American literature class at one of the district's middle schools this fall.

Parker and her colleagues were advised of the potential reorganization in a meeting Jan. 15 with district officials.

"Our Native American children are going to be the ones who suffer from this decision," she said. "It's not about us and what we feel. It's about providing the best for these students and they're the ones who're going to suffer if this decision happens."

Restricted speech

Along with Indian Education employees, community members and Native TPS families, representatives from both the National Indian Education Association and the Oklahoma Council on Indian Education attended the Jan. 21 school board meeting. Despite signing up to do so, they were not recognized to speak during the meeting.

the youth programs have to just take a hiatus and wait for this reorganization to happen? How are we going to work without these advisers that come to all the meetings to help make things happen?

"Title VI is designed to have community input in programs. Having community meetings after the creation of a plan makes it sound like an afterthought. Shouldn't community input be present throughout the creation?"

State cuts and decreasing enrollment

The district is facing the eight-figure gap thanks in part to more than a decade's worth of cuts in state aid. Despite public school enrollment increasing by more than 50,000 students across Oklahoma since 2009 and legislators approving a teacher pay raise in 2018 after a statewide walk-out, common education funding is still 20 percent less than it was a decade ago. State law requires school districts to operate with a balanced budget.

TPS officials have drawn funds from the district's reserves in previous years in an effort to minimize the impact, but have exhausted that option. Further compounding the problem is that the district's enrollment has been steadily declining, thus reducing its share of state aid. As of Oct. 1, the district has 36,520 students enrolled, a decrease of about 5,000 students since the 2004-2005 school year.

According to district data, 5.13 percent of TPS students are Native American with higher concentrations in the Daniel Webster and Edison high school feeder patterns in west and midtown Tulsa respectively. Other schools with sizeable Native populations include Bell Elementary on the northeast side and Mark Twain Elementary on the dis-

the budget comes from federal grants that are allocated on a per-pupil basis, including Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Speaking before the Greater Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission on Jan. 21, TPS Language and Cultural Services Executive Director Laura Grisso said the proposed reorganization and layoffs were in part because the federal grant that funds the program did not increase to accommodate the pay raises for certified staff mandated by the Oklahoma legislature. All seven of the program's resource advisers are certified teachers.

"The whole funding stream for the advisers and the office manager has to come from Title VI funding," she said. "We can't piecemeal it."

Should the proposal be approved, the funding that was considered insufficient to pay for four of the certified resource advisers would instead be used to pay for additional teacher assistants, who are not certified teachers and therefore not subject to the state-mandated pay raises. Currently, the department has four non-certified employees paid for with Title VI funding who are tutors for Native students at specific sites within the district.

Title VI funding is also used to pay for an administrator to oversee the program. In 2018, the position was changed from a coordinator to a manager. With the title change, under the pay scale used by the district's talent management department, the position in-

TPS schedule meeting to discuss Indian Education

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Osage News

TULSA — In light of its Indian Education Public Schools are significant community.

A community meeting at the Wilson Teaching St. The only item on the agenda is the elimination of the district's Indian Education Program.

As part of its effort to address a \$12 million shortfall for the 2020-21 school year, district officials confirmed on Jan. 15 that layoffs will be across the district. Among the employees affected are the elimination of the seven resource advisers.

The proposed reorganization Program calls for resource advisers to work with 12-month contracts. The 12-month contract for certified teachers is eligible to apply for another position within the district. In addition, eight positions will be spread out across the district to provide support in math, reading, and writing. The department has four non-certified employees paid for with Title VI funding who are tutors for Native students at specific sites within the district.

Indian hiring preference for non-certified positions.

The proposed job was given to the Indian Affairs Commission. It states that the district's financial situation is a concern. In an interview with Osage News, Grist said the proposal is a result of the budget crisis.

"It is not driven by a desire to improve access to education."

Instead, she attributed the layoffs to a fall 2019 survey that showed a need for more Native student enrollment. The survey was conducted by parents that are per-pupil funding.

District enrollment



2020 ELECTION YEAR IMPORTANT DATES

ELECTION DATES

- FEBRUARY 4 Candidate Filing Begins
- MARCH 2 Candidate Filing Ends
- APRIL 17 Deadline to submit Absentee Ballot Request form. – Request must be received by the close of business at 4:30 p.m.
- APRIL 27 Absentee Ballot Mailing Begins
- MAY 29 Early Voting Day 1
- MAY 30 Early Voting Day 2
- JUNE 1 Election Day

ABSENTEE INFORMATION

- Check your calendars to see if you will be able to vote in person or need to submit an Absentee Ballot Request form.
- Permanent Absentee Voters do NOT have to submit a new request form.
- Please call the Election Office to verify if you are a Permanent Absentee Voter.
- Make sure your Mailing Address and Absentee Ballot Mailing Address

Oklahoma legisl commercial gam bills aimed at In

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

OKLAHOMA CITY — Several measures aimed directly at Indian Country are among the bills awaiting the Oklahoma legislature when it gavels in on Feb. 3.

Altogether, more than 4,300 pieces of legislation were filed for the 2020 legislative session by the Jan. 16 deadline, including about 2,300 carryover bills from 2019.

With Gov. Kevin Stitt and Oklahoma's gaming tribes at continued impasse over the status of the state-tribal gaming compact, one of the measures filed for the upcoming session would lay the framework for non-tribal casinos to enter the market.

Authored by state Sen. Mark Allen, Senate Bill 1902 would authorize the state's ABLE Commission to develop policies for commercial gaming. Under Allen's bill, commercial operators would be required to pay exclusivity fees of at least 15 percent of adjusted gross revenue.

Gov. Stitt said in December that his office had talked with commercial operators about the possibility of setting up shop in Oklahoma in exchange for higher exclusivity fees than what tribes currently pay for Class III gaming.

In addition to Allen's measure, two shell bills with gaming-related titles have also been filed in the House of Representatives for the upcoming session: the Gaming Reform Act of 2020 and the Gaming Modernization Act of 2020. The former is sponsored by Rep. Todd Russ (R-Cordell) while the latter is sponsored by Rep. Avery Frix (R-Muskogee).

Two representatives, Rep. Trey Caldwell (R-Lawton) and Collin Walke (D-Oklahoma City) have filed similar bills that would bar school districts from prohibiting Indigenous students from wearing tribal regalia at high

Apply for 2020 NAJA-NBC News summer fellowship by Feb. 28

Native American Journalists Association

The Native American Journalists Association is pleased to announce our continued partnership with Comcast NBCUniversal for the 2020 NBC News Summer Fellows Program!

The NAJA-NBC News Summer Fellowship gives students real world experience and exposure to one of the world's leading News divisions, which includes NBC News, MSNBC and CNBC. NBCUniversal will offer fellows the opportunity to join one of the following NBC programs for summer 2020 as interns:

- America's #1 morning news program, *The Today Show*
- The top ranked evening program, *Nightly News with Lester Holt*
- Our primetime long form news program, *Dateline*
- Our 24 cable news channel, *MSNBC*
- Our top rated business news cable channel, *CNBC*
- Our digital organization including our array of digital properties

The fellows selected will receive \$16.50 an hour, plus overtime (more than 40 hours per week) for 10 weeks during the summer. NBCUniversal will offer a \$2,000 housing stipend available for candidates who reside outside a 50 mile radius from our Tri-State Area offices. Production

experience is preferred, but not required.

All the internships are located in 30 Rockefeller Center, with the exception of the placements at CNBC, which are located in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. Transportation is provided to Englewood Cliffs, NJ from various location in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

The official start date of the program is Monday, June 8, 2020. If students' academic schedule impede their ability to start on this date, alternatives can be discussed.

- Must be a current NAJA member with proof of tribal affiliation
- Must be willing to live in New York City or its environs for the duration of the internship
- Must be 18 years old or older
- Must be enrolled full-time at a U.S. college or university
- Must be a sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student
- Must major in journalism or a communications discipline
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above
- Must have unrestricted authorization to work in the US without holding a VISA or sponsorship
- Recent graduates will not be considered

Please complete the online application to apply by Feb. 28, 2020.

ON Family Violence Program answers questions about Operation Lady Justice

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

A federal task force is asking for an Osage perspective on how to better protect Indigenous women.

Olivia Gray, the director of Osage Nation's Family Violence Prevention Program, is among the Oklahoma Natives asked to meet with representatives from Operation Lady Justice. In addition to her professional obligations over Osage County's only domestic violence shelter, Gray is involved with grassroots organizations that help provide services to Indigenous families with a missing or murdered relative.

"We have been asked to provide a small amount of information for an enormous problem," she said. "It all seems to be unfolding."

A survivor of domestic violence and sexual assault, Gray also testified before an Oklahoma House of Representatives committee in November as part

of an interim study released by state Rep. Mickey (D-Oklahoma City)

rate of missing and murdered Indigenous Oklahoma

President Donald Trump signed an executive order in November launching an inter-agency task force to develop a response to the high rate of missing and murdered Indigenous

Overseen by Attorney General William B. Bernhardt, the eight-member panel includes representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the FBI and the Department of Health and Human Services and is charged with delivering its findings within two

Along with established protocols and a multidisciplinary team to investigate cases, the task force is responsible for conducting consultations and facilitating resource sharing, and database access.

Despite the task force's creation and state le

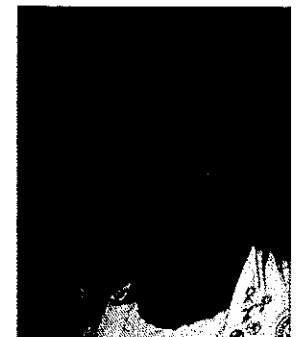
Seasoned pharmacy specialist joins to Osage Health Authority

Benny Polacca

Osage News

A retired pharmacy specialist is now serving on the Osage Nation's Health Authority Board after her appointment by Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear.

Cindra Shangreau (Osage) is serving on the five-member





BENNY POLACCA/ Osage News

Construction work continues on the second hotel tower addition at the Tulsa Osage Casino on Jan. 15. The 145-room tower is slated for completion in August.

Osage Nation receives letter from state intending to audit its Class III gaming

Benny Polacca
Osage News

Along with the other Oklahoma gaming tribes, the Osage Nation Gaming Commission is under notice the state's Office of Management and Enterprise Services intends to audit the Nation's exclusivity fees paid to the state from Class III gaming.

The OMES sent a letter dated Dec. 20 to the ONGC in Pawhuska stating its intent to start the audit process on Feb. 24 when an OMES audit team is scheduled to visit the ONGC. At issue and the scope of the audit is the 2018 calendar year, according to the letter, which was stamped as received on Dec. 27.

The letter says the "State Compliance Agency (SCA), also known as the Gaming Compliance Unit with (OMES) conducts annual audits of Enterprise's conduct of covered games. The SCA has conducted said audits of other Enterprises and is preparing to conduct an investigation of revenue of the Osage Nation's Class III gaming activity. The objective of the

including those on: daily slot wins, manual vouchers, daily electronic drop by asset, daily electronic drop summary, vouchers expired at slot machine/ cashier, void vouchers, unclaimed manual jackpots and slot analysis.

"At the completion of the investigation, the SCA will forward a written report, including any suspected viola-

Gov. Kevin Stitt's office called for the [gaming] audits in wake of his disagreement with the state's gaming tribes on whether the 15-year gaming



Participants of the 10th Annual Cultural Encampment gather for a group photo in 2018.

2020 WahZhaZhe Cultural Encampment schedule

Osage News

The 2020 WahZhaZhe Cultural Encampment is scheduled April 25-26 at the Osage Nation Ranch west of Pawhuska.

Now in its 11th run, the Cultural Encampment is an overnight camping experience held outside. Participation is open to enrolled Osages only and registration will begin on March 2, according to a news release.

"In the past, the encampment has been offered in the Fall season. This year, we are innovating the encampment season to the Spring of 2020," according to the announcement on the encampment date.

"We plan to provide treasured experiences year, but in a season that allows more daylight for the planned activities. We will re-locate our campsite at the Osage Nation Ranch, formerly known as the Bluestem Ranch."

Hosted by the WahZhaZhe Cultural Center, the 11th annual encampment experience will feature involvement from the traditional Walk formerly held in Oklahoma/ Kansas state on the Mullendore Ranch. The Cultural Encampment ON Ranch debuted in 2018 with more than 100 participants attending.

Attendees will be encouraged to bring their own supplies for bringing th





Osage News 2017 File Photo

A bill filed in the Oklahoma legislature would explicitly add wearing tribal regalia at a high school graduation to the activities covered under the Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act.

Proposed bill would add protections for Native American high school students

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

OKLAHOMA CITY — A bill has been filed for the Oklahoma legislature’s upcoming session that would protect the rights of Native public high school students who want to wear traditional regalia to graduation.

House Bill 2783 would explicitly add wearing tribal regalia at a high school graduation to the activities covered under the Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act. As drafted, the amendments would not allow individual schools or entire districts to enact policies that bar students from wearing regalia on the grounds of promoting aesthetic uniformity.

The measure is sponsored by Rep. Collin Walke (D-Oklahoma City), the vice chairman

or other forms of traditional Indigenous attire at graduation in recent years, including Caney Valley, Sapulpa and Vian.

With other districts allowing the practice, Oklahoma Attorney General Mike Hunter sent a letter in May to State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister, requesting her department advise school leaders about Native students’ rights under ORFA.

“Unfortunately, it appears school districts across the state are continuing to tell Native American students that they cannot wear ... eagle feathers on their graduation cap,” Hunter wrote. “Accordingly, I seek to inform all school districts in the state on my views of what Oklahoma law requires, as I did with the Vian school district. As chief law enforcement officer of this state, it is my

Osage speaks at Filmmakers Lounge Sundance Film

Erin Tapahe

Special to Osage News

PARK CITY, Utah — Thomas Ryan RedCorn, Osage, is a founding member of the comedy group “1491s” and co-founder of a branding and design company called Buffalo Nickel Creative in Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

RedCorn comes from a long line of artists and says he was always surrounded by art. He received his degree in visual communications with an emphasis in graphic design from the University of Kansas.

Redcorn believes art is important because it counters the exposure to trauma and lowers stress. “Art makes you feel better,” said RedCorn.

“Western medicine tells us when you’re sick, go to the doctor,” RedCorn said. “But the Indian way, you’re always maintaining that balance.”

RedCorn spoke at “The Power of the Story: Land, Environment, and Culture” panel at the Inaugural Indigenous Filmmakers Lounge at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah on Jan. 24.

The Indigenous Filmmakers Lounge was a two-day event that included five pan-



Ryan RedCorn (Buffalo Nickel Creative) at the Inaugural Indigenous Filmmakers Lounge at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah on Jan. 24.

els on various topics to the film industry, over 15 panelists in Martin Sensmeier, Jones, and Zahn McC

RedCorn’s videos show assets of the Native can community by highlighting the strengths of people, comedy, dis a variety of emotions people smiling and being serious.

“You need to show dimensions of a human said RedCorn.



Osage Nation signs MOU with Oklahoma Hi

Benny Polacca

Osage News

The Osage Nation and the Oklahoma Historical Society are joining as partners to share archival information and resources thanks to a memorandum of understanding executed by both entities.

The OHS board of directors and staff visited the Nation on Dec. 18 and held its regularly scheduled meeting that day in a classroom at the ON Language Department. At the meeting, OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn and Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear signed the MOU, which was applauded by the board and ON cultural staff in attendance.

According to the MOU, the agreement is intended “to recognize shared missions in collecting, preserving and sharing the history of the Osage Nation and its people and to create a formal framework to enable and encourage mutually beneficial collaboration between the two governments.”

At the meeting, Standing Bear and other cultural department employees delivered brief presentations on their



All photos by CODY HAMMER/Osage News

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear signed a Memorandum Of Understanding with the Oklahoma Historical Society on Dec. 18, 2019, in Pawhuska to share resources such as newspaper archives (early 1900s to present day) so Osage families can research their histories.

services in addition to the MOU signing.

Standing Bear welcomed the OHS officials to the Nation and asked them to see the various signs around the government campus and building, which include the Osage orthography and noted the language classroom is the “heart of the revitalization” of the language working in conjunction with the Immersion School and others in the Nation.

“You’ll see what we’re trying to do is make the Osage language the everyday language

again,” Standing Bear said, adding the language orthography also has its presence online thanks to the two language smartphone apps.

Standing Bear also noted: “Several families told me how emotional it was when they said ‘let’s have a (Thanksgiving meal) prayer and they turned it over to a three or



Osage Nation Museum D 18, 2019, meeting between ety at the Osage Language

four-year-old who s prayer for the family i and how it brought the eyes of the family we haven’t heard the language as a daily l since the 1970s.”

ON Language Direct Bighorse told the OHS the Nation’s 2006 Cons also calls for the pres





Cedar smoke fills Wakon Iron Hall after a cedar blessing was given to all the attendees of the New Year's Eve Handgame, given annually by the descendants of Lillie Bighorse Cunningham.

New Year's Eve Handgame

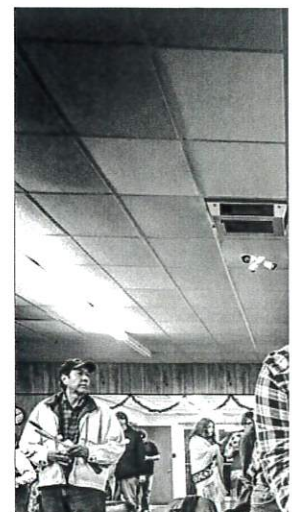
All photos by SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News



Eddy Red Eagle Jr. gives a Year's Eve Handgame at V game is hosted by the Lill



Eddy Red Eagle Jr., Mogri Lookout and John Red Eagle gave a cedar blessing for attendees of the annual New Year's Eve Handgame at Wakon Iron Hall in Pawhuska. The annual handgame is hosted by the descendants of Lillie Bighorse Cunningham.



New draft EIS could prohibit drilling on a third of Osage County

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

The Osage Minerals Council is preparing to take its concerns over an environmental impact study to federal court should the Bureau of Indian Affairs expand the list of areas considered off limits to oil and gas production.

At the council's Jan. 3 meeting, several council members reiterated their distaste for two of the four potential courses of action for the BIA in a draft county-wide environmental impact statement regarding drilling operations in the Osage.

"If it's option 3 or 4, I have to publicly say that you'll see us in court," Chairman Everett Waller said.

Referred to in the study as a hybrid, option No. 3 would take into account the density of wells in an area before allowing new drilling permits, with fewer issued for sections with 17 wells or more. Sections with a lower well density would be subject to spacing regulations, including buffer zones for culturally significant sites.

Additionally, it would incorporate a blanket ban on drilling permits for areas within municipalities, near sensitive water supplies or near "highly vulnerable" groundwater supplies as designated by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

Option No. 4 would add to the list of site-specific protective measures that would have to be taken in order to get a drilling permit. For example, an emergency plan to provide drinking water would now have to be in place ahead of time in the event that a lessee's activities contaminate an area's existing supply.

It would also expand the list of areas now off-limits for new permits

to include the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, all state parks, state wildlife management areas, municipalities, pasture areas used by the Bureau of Land Management for wild horses and any lakes administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Altogether, the no drilling zone under Option No. 4 would cover about one-third of Osage County.

The final version of the statement, whenever it is approved and enacted, is slated to replace a blanket declaration issued in 1979 that oil and gas operations in Osage County have no significant environmental impact.

The final version of the statement, whenever it is approved and enacted, is slated to replace a blanket declaration issued in 1979 that oil and gas operations in Osage County have no significant environmental impact.

Councilors have also balked at the timeline given for public comments on the draft study. The study was published in the Nov. 22 edition of the Federal Register. Thanks to the multiple holidays during the original 45-day window, the comment period was initially extended to Jan. 22. In the Jan. 10 edition of the Federal Register, an additional extension was announced through Feb. 21.

The council's attorney, Wilson Pipestem, has been authorized to formally request additional time. In the interim, the council voted 5-0 at its Jan. 3 meeting to retain Osage Nation Environmental Services to help draft feedback to the proposal after being reassured by Eddy Red Eagle and David Conrad that the firm could get the job done with or without a deadline extension.

Councilors Andrew Yates, Myron Red Eagle and Margo Gray abstained from the vote to hire ONES.

Osage Nation sel expansion for int with national cri

Osage News

The U.S. Department of Justice has selected 30 Native American tribes to participate in the expansion of the Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP), a program that provides federally recognized tribes the ability to access and exchange data with national crime information databases for both criminal and non-criminal justice purposes.

The Osage Nation is among those tribes selected for the next phase of TAP in the Northern District of Oklahoma. Other selected tribes are the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"The Tribal Access Program is strengthening tribal governance and public safety in tribal communities across the United States," Attorney General William P. Barr said in a statement. "TAP provides law enforcement and tribal governments real-time access to data that can help locate a missing person, identify a dangerous fugitive or prevent a domestic abuser from obtaining a gun, among many other important functions. The Trump administration is committed to fixing these public safety gaps and serving victims in Indian Country. I believe the expansion of this law enforcement tool will prove to be critical in achieving those goals."

TAP is currently deployed to more than 75 tribes across the country with over 300 participating tribal justice agencies, including Cherokee Nation, Wyandotte Nation, and Miami Agency (Bureau of Indian Affairs) in the Northern District of Oklahoma, according to the DOJ. The TAP program provides software to enable tribes to access national crime information databases and/or a kiosk-workstation that provides the ability to submit and query fingerprint-based transactions via FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Next Generation Identification

Being Good Citizens

Ruby Hansen Murray

Osage News Culture Columnist

January 1st was a mild day along the Columbia River where I live, with temperature in the 50s and sun breaks interspersed with gentle rain and wind of 15 knots. It felt like a reprieve in the midst of the political storms swirling.

On the first Monday of the New Year, I participated in an Osage Nation webinar that gathered input for the coming strategic plan from those of us on the West Coast. I had hoped to go to the Northern California Osage meeting, because having a joint conversation about goals felt important. I appreciated the webinars that were held in each time zone across the country, but I missed the chance to hear from a larger group. College students had a separate meeting later in January. Our group was small, but committed to language revitalization, indigenous food ways and the power of cultural preservation. We talked about funding challenges, but since we didn't have specific budget history or projections to consider it wasn't concrete. It seemed unlikely to inform the hard conversations our Congress and Executive Branch are approaching about priorities.

It was uncanny to be updating our plan and considering priorities at the same time Oklahoma's Governor Stitt claimed the tribal gaming compact signed in 2004 did not automatically renew on 12/31/19. The Osage Nation has blossomed with programming funded by gaming, which coincided generally with our new Osage government. The gains we've celebrated with Daposka Ahnkodapi, the Osage language immersion school, and the acquisition of 43,000 acres of our ancestral land are threatened.

As an Osage living in the Northwest, I had to spend time learning



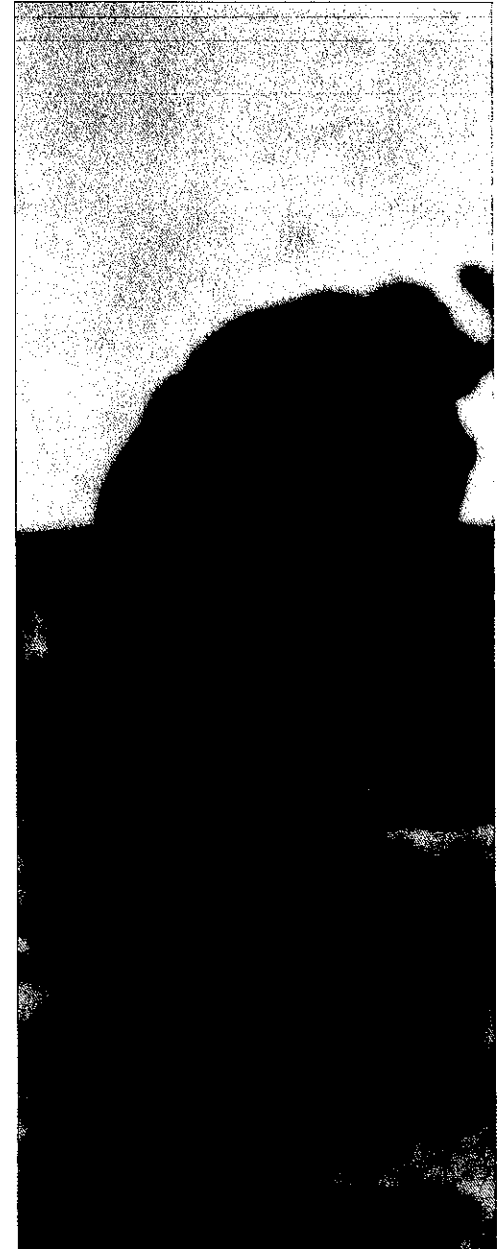
Ruby Hansen Murray

degree. I respect her, though I don't agree with her conclusions. Recently as we texted, joking, I said something about the impeachment I knew she'd agree with. She came right back, "Is this Ruby? Who took over your phone?"

But more of the time we stay in our own communities, seeing, and maybe seeking, commentary that supports our views. This brings me to Osage folks having conversations across social media about tribal politics, about the direction the Osage Nation should go, about how we should manage ourselves. It's not surprising that most people are adamant, committed to their own views. There are thought leaders, would be influencers, lobbyists, Guardians of Truth and Right and folks saying, "Right on." There are also people having real, two-way conversations, expressing appreciation for having seen a new point of view.

I don't have wise conclusions about how diverse groups hear each other and find common ground. An elder – I'm thinking about my predecessor Osage News columnist Charles Red Corn – would say something sage and generous, that generates a good

Through the WahZhaZhe



MOU

—from Page 11

protect and promote the language, culture and traditional ways of the Osage people.”

As for language outreach, Bighorse said the Nation is aware computer technology is part of the future and so there are online classes in addition to the local in-person classes. He told the OHS officials that more than 1,000 people have taken language classes (community and online) through the years, noting the teachers are former language students as well.

“These (orthography) characters are the sounds of our language and we realize ABCDEFG (spells) a word and so our master speaker (language master teacher Herman “Mog-ri” Lookout) and some of our folks came up with a sound system for the Osage language, so we have community classes here,” Bighorse said in describing efforts to teach and preserve the Osage language because “it’s who we are, it’s what makes us unique.”

Addie Hudgins, director of the Wahzhazhe Cultural Center and ON Visitors Center, said the WCC offers classes teaching Osages how to make dance clothing as part of culture preservation and there is a library with resources and efforts are underway to digitize many of those items which include old photos, recorded audio and videos that touch on the Osage language/ oral history/ culture.

Marla Redcorn-Miller, director of the ON Museum, said the entity has been telling its own story since 1938, making it the oldest tribally-owned museum in the country. She noted the museum started as a repository for information and artifacts collected over time



Dr. Bob Blackburn of the Oklahoma Historical Society speaks with Osage Language Department Director Vann Bighorse at a Dec. 18, 2019, meeting in Pawhuska.

and those items are now used by the WCC and the Osage history is shared today thanks to those preserved historic items and “museum best practices.”

Redcorn-Miller said the museum establishes stories, which are made into exhibits displayed in the museum, which includes the revolving exhibit currently on display honoring Osage military veterans, which opened in November 2019.

John HorseChief, a WCC instructor, applauded the MOU as an effort “to reach out to all our members across the United States ... I can’t wait to see how this enriches our state and our tribal members.”

Standing Bear said the Nation is pleased to have the seasoned Osage employee presenters who share their expertise at work each day. He also acknowledged the ON Congress, which appropriates the Nation’s funds each fiscal year when they approve government operations budgets.

The Nation receives limited

funding from the ON Gaming Enterprise and “as you can see, this is where our gaming money goes ... we’re going to concentrate on the culture and language and focus on the children because they’re the future – 50 years in the future is standing right there in front of us, so that way we can take care of the present and the future,” Standing Bear said.

As part of the MOU, both the Nation and OHS agree to sharing information and resources, which include:

- The OHS will, at its own expense, digitize the full run of three newspapers in the towns of Pawhuska, Hominy and Fairfax, from the earliest surviving issues in the 1890s or 1900s to 1964. Once digitized, with all metadata finding aids, the newspapers will be searchable in the online Oklahoma Gateway database.

- The OHS shall, subject to staff/ budget availability and mutual agreement, loan or duplicate for the Nation’s use selected artifacts and archival materials from the OHS collections as may be agreed upon

The 2020 AARP Oklahoma City.

AARP accepted for 2020 Elder F

Osage News

AARP Oklahoma is an annual AARP Oklahoma Native American elders impacts on their com

The 2020 AARP Oklahoma ruled Oct. 6 in Oklahoma Native American elder attended by their family dignitaries.

“The AARP Oklahoma the extraordinary community of whom are the AARP Oklahoma volunteer lion said in a news r

AARP state director brates a lifetime of service exhibit a love of family all people.”

Since its inception Elder Honors has recognized Oklahoma’s 39 tribal honorees include teachers and culture preservation

Osage elders from

CLASSIFIEDS

CORR A.C.N 8A.

OSAGE NATION JOBS: To apply for a position with the Osage Nation go to <https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/opportunities/job-listings/application-form>. Applicants are welcome to attach a resume and/or cover letter in addition. Please note that all applicants tentatively selected for employment with the Osage Nation will be required to submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use. Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. OSAGE\VETERAN\INDIAN PREFERENCE IS CONSIDERED. Verification of preference must be included with application. For questions please contact Taryn Crawford, Osage Nation Employee Recruitment Specialist at (918) 287-5445 or email tcrawford@osagenation-nsn.gov.

Child Protection Specialist - Pawhuska, regular full time. This Social Worker is responsible for investigating child welfare intakes for the Osage Nation Social Services office; they shall handle information requests, reports of child maltreatment, referral to appropriate services, etc. This individual may need to initiate procedures to remove the child(ren) from the home if in immediate danger; coordinates actions with law enforcement entities and the Osage Nation Attorney General; and initiates the placement process. The employee will communicate with clients in a respectful and professional manner while providing excellent customer service. This Social Worker may be required to provide back-up to the Intake Child Protection Specialist and may complete child welfare reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect. Employee will be required to prepare and coordinate legal documents for presentation to the court; attend court hearings and provide testimony; inform court of department policies and

the Headmaster and Osage Nation Curriculum Committee and teaches those plans to the entire class, individually to students or in small groups, tracks student progress and presents the information to parents.

Child Development Associate - WELA Skiatook, regular full time. Performs para-professional educational work in planning, preparing, and implementing a WELA Program for young children and their families. Assists the lead teacher in a cooperative and professional manner. Drives school bus or assists as bus monitor daily.

Adult Protective Service Social Worker - Pawhuska, regular full time. The Adult Social Services Specialist is responsible for performing protective services for elderly and vulnerable Osage adults. Incumbents are responsible for investigating and evaluating allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation; performing protective interventions; recommending protective program placements; and providing casework services to elderly and vulnerable Osage adults.

Chief Pharmacist - Pawhuska, regular full time. The Chief Pharmacist is responsible for the total operations of the pharmacy department. The Chief Pharmacist manages a group of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who, under the direction of a physician, dispense prescribed drugs and provide clinical services in the Wahzhazhi Health Center.

Nursing Assistant - Pawhuska, regular full time. The Nursing Assistant provides nursing support assistance to physicians, other providers, and nurses in the care and treatment of patients throughout the life span.

Certified Third Grade Teacher - Pawhuska, regular full time. The primary responsibility of the Daposka Ahnkodapi Certified Teacher is to teach core curriculum and develop a com-

partment and manage the office phone.

Certified Pre-K Teacher - Pawhuska, regular full time. The Pre-K Teacher will be responsible for fostering the intellectual and social development of children 3 to 5 years of age. The Pre-K Teacher will be required to collaborate with Language Teachers that are working with children to develop fluency in communication using the Osage language. The Pre-K Teacher will help cultivate students understanding and appreciation of Osage culture, inspiring self-esteem and strengthening attitudes among students, families, and the community. The Pre-K Teacher will teach core skills and objectives to mastery as prescribed by national standards. The Pre-K Teacher operates within the framework of lesson plans developed and administered by the Headmaster and teaches those plans to the entire class, individually to students, and in small groups. The Pre-K Teacher tracks student progress and presents that information to the Headmaster and parents.

Certified Coder - Pawhuska, regular full time. The Certified Coder promotes continued medical care and ensures third party reimbursement policies, regulations and accreditation guidelines. This position serves as a certified coding and data analyst while interpreting and analyzing clinical data, assign and audit diagnostic and procedural codes, abstract clinical information into the computer database, and make determinations regarding appropriate utilization of services/medical necessity for all types of ambulatory care clinic records.

Child Development Associate - WELA Fairfax, regular full time. Performs para-professional educational work in planning, preparing, and implementing a WELA Program for young children and their families. Assists the lead teacher in a cooperative and professional manner. Drives

department and manage the office phone. Applications from students enrolled in their final 9 vocational technology program. Applicants are required a 2.5 or higher-grade point average in the semester prior to application. Please review ONE Higher Scholarship application book for limitations and alternatives.

OSAGE CASINO JC apply for a position at Osage Casino go to [osagecasinos.com/careers](https://www.osagecasinos.com/careers)

BARTLESVILLE

Cage Supervisor - Bartlesville, regular full time. Responsible for the overall effective and efficient coordination and supervision of the Cage Department shift and/or as assigned reporting senior.

Main Bank Cashier - Bartlesville, regular full time. Responsible for distributing 100 bills to internal guests of other departments as well as 100 bills to these banks with accuracy. Protects company assets in Bartlesville while dealing with customers in an efficient and courteous manner.

Dishwasher - Bartlesville, regular full time. Under supervision of the Food Service Manager, washes and sanitizes all equipment and used in food preparation.

EVS Attendant - Bartlesville, regular full time. Under supervision of the Housekeeping Supervisor, transfer and dirty linens and 100 bills from Laundry and Room Attendants. Assists with other items as needed. EVS Attendants. Ensures cleanliness of entire property public both inside and outside casino. Responsible for events set up, tear down, clean up. Responsible for moving furniture, boxes, and re-stocking shelves. Removal, and completion of duties as assigned.

Table Games Supervisor - Bartlesville, regular full time.

COMMUNITY

11th Annual Native American New Play Festival scheduled June 18-20 and June 25-27

The Oklahoma Indigenous Theatre Company announces

Osage News

The Oklahoma Indigenous Theatre Company has announced a Call for Scripts for its 11th Annual Native American New Play Festival.

The festival takes place June 18-20 and June 25-27 in community partnership with the University of Central Oklahoma Theatre Arts Department in the Mitchell Hall Theatre on the Edmond campus. Scripts may be submitted by Native American, Alaska Native, Hawaiian, First Nations, and Indigenous Mexico playwrights.

This year's featured festival production is "Bound," by Tara Moses, Seminole/Creek, a play in partnership with TeleTulsa Theatre.

The deadline for submissions is March 31. Email submission materials to: OKITheatre@gmail.com

Submission Requirements

- Completed Full length scripts,



60 pages minimum, 120 pages maximum in length

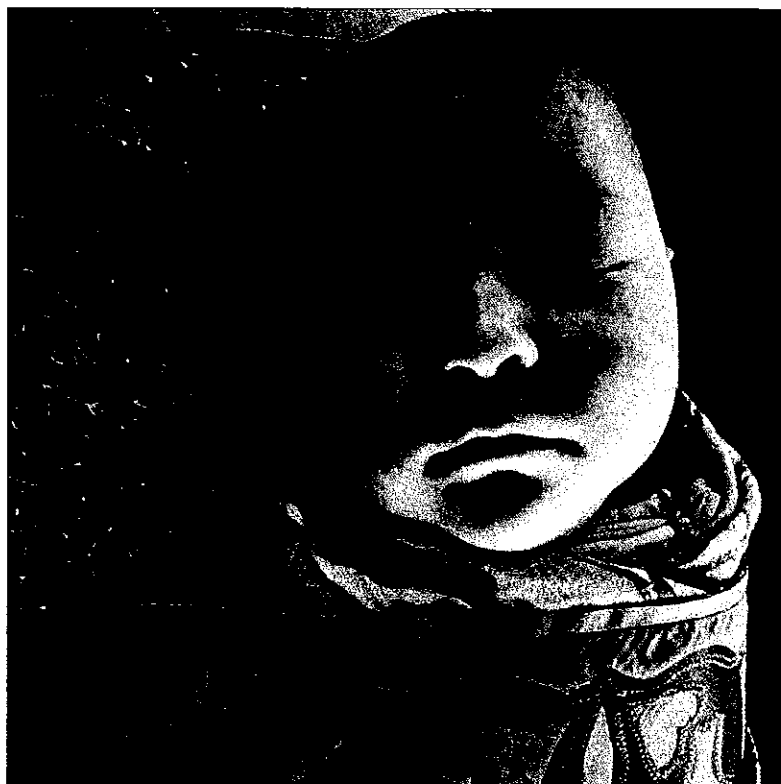
- Written from Indigenous perspective on historical or present-day issues
- Screenplays, musicals or rough drafts will not be accepted
- Must be in standard play-script format (one-inch margins, #12 Times or Courier font, numbered pages)

- Must include title page with full contact information, tribal identity/affiliation, 100-word biography and headshot of 300dpi
- Provide draft or revision date and a character breakdown at the beginning of the script
- Provide production history (if applicable)
- Label all attachments as follows: Title of the play Author's Last Name, First Initial and make the subject heading of your email "Staged Reading Submission."
- Plays with previous workshops and productions within the last five years welcome
- Selection Process
- Plays received by March 31 will be read and evaluated by panel of professional Native American

Congratulations!

RAPID CITY, S.D. – On a chilly fall morning at 3:30 a.m., Thursday, October 17th, 2019, Rochelle Christensen MD, FACOG delivered Elizabeth Grace RedCorn to parents Jon and Princella RedCorn at Monument Health Hospital (formerly Rapid City Regional). She weighed in at a healthy 6 lbs, 13 ounces and 20 inches tall.

On her father's side, "Gracie" is the great-granddaughter of the late Waltina and Raymond Red Corn Jr. of the Pawhuska Indian Village, OK, and the late Helen and Robert Corcoran of Tulsa, OK. She is the granddaughter of the late Elizabeth Marie Red Corn of Tulsa, Assistant Prin-



Raychel Bennett

Congratulatio

OBITUARIES

ORA A.C. B.

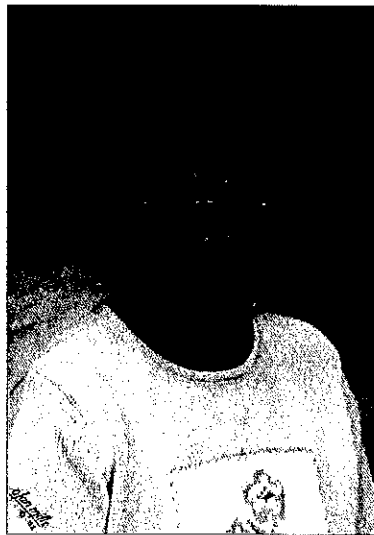
Evelyn Mattie Neely

Submitted by Family

Evelyn Mattie Neely went to be with The Lord on January 7, 2020, surrounded by family. Evelyn was born September 19, 1934 in Hominy, OK. Her parents were Reuben and Louise Mashunkashey. Evie was 10 years old when her father was killed in Normandy in the US military. Her father received The Purple Heart.

Evelyn graduated from Hominy in 1954. Among her many other accomplishments, she participated in Student Council, Yearbook Staff, Mixed Chorus, Office Girls, Song Leader, Pep Club & Drum Corp, Twirler, FHA VP, and Secretary of 4H Club, Film Club, and Rainbow Worthy Advisor.

She met Jim Neely from Cleveland, OK. She flew to the Territory of Alaska in 1955. They were married on the military base on Mother's Day, May 8, 1955. They were there until he was discharged, and they returned to Oklahoma. They raised three children,



Evelyn Mattie Neely

Scott, Dawn, and Lisa. While raising three children, Evelyn was active in many events including PTA, Home Room Mother, Director of Cheerleading, and active member at Eastwood Baptist Church. This included singing in the choir, teaching young girls in Sunday School, working with her husband in Training Union on Sunday nights, helping with VBS, and Women's Missions.

While being a full-time mother, and full-time wife of

64 years, she was busy taking all her children to their different events. Included in some of these events were scorekeeping for her children's activities and cheering them on at their games and such.

It was thirty-two years ago Evelyn had an operation which included six successful bypasses. During the past 14 months, Evelyn has had a great number of other health problems which ultimately cost her, her life. It was a very difficult 14 months, and she fought a good fight. She will truly be missed by her family and friends.

Preceded in death by her father when he was 27, her mother when she was 44, her sister, Rosemary Jones, and son-in-law, Steven Mantich.

Evelyn is survived by her husband Jim, son Scott Neely and wife Lisa, daughters Dawn Pracht and husband Thad, and Lisa Mantich, 8 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, along with numerous nieces, and nephews. Services were held on January 9, 2020 at Eastwood Baptist Church. www.floralhaven.com.

Rachel Ann Phillips

Submitted by Family

Rachel Phillips passed this life to be with the Saturday, January 11th at the age of thirty-five.

Born in Tulsa, OK during the summer of 1984, Rachel was a "spitfire" child (as her mother said) who found another natural enthusiasm for her natural work ethic through music. She quickly went from clarinet to alto saxophone in the high school band program and continued onto the high school marching band and Oklahoma State's band and music program. It is there in Stillwater where she would earn her degree in music education.

Rachel would go on to play music at a number of venues across Green Country.

Her love for music carried over into her personal life. She both supported local bands – from community or school to local rock bands – and played for concerts and festivals. Her travels for education, work, and recreation took her across the world.

To her family, friends, and schoolmates, it is her infectious sense of humor and her sense of adventure that will be missed. Her sense of humor was a mix of ridiculous jokes, slapstick humor, and sarcasm for life – to know Rachel was to know these things. Yet, she was never far from a book by a favorite author, as Augusten Burrowes and David Sedaris.

And, oh! The love

Thomas Gilbert

"Gil" Daniels II

Submitted by Family

Thomas Gilbert "Gil" Daniels II of Fairfax, Oklahoma made his final journey home to his Creator on Tuesday evening, January 14, 2020. He was 65 years old. He passed away at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Okla. with his loving family by his side.

Gil was born on Saturday, March 27, 1954, to Thomas "Tommy" Gilbert Daniels, Sr. and Carol Sue (Smedley) Wayman in the Fairfax Hospital. He was the eldest of their three children, having two younger sisters.

His Native American heri-



Thomas Gilbert 'Gil' Daniels II

He loved to read and study the word of God and to share his faith with others.

In 1957 at the young age of three, Gil was brought into

and husband George all of Fairfax; grandchildren: Miranda Ott, Alexis Mashburn, McKenzie Mashburn, Cooper Mashburn, Jake Mashburn, Amos Mashburn, Ace Mashburn, and James Michael Mashburn; siblings: Denise Skocik and husband Steve of Tulsa, and Danette Daniels and partner Ustee Grass of Fairfax.

In addition to his grandparents, he was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Montana Rose; a nephew, Dustin Lance; a brother-in-law, Roger Lance; as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral Services were held on January 17, 2020 at the Grayhorse Chapel with the

COMPACT

-fro

should a federal judge grant the motion to create a

"I am not going to quietly what I am not

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Without Reserva

One shareholder, one vote

For at least ten years, I have been trying to accomplish obtaining equal voting standards / rights for the members of the Osage Tribe.

When I served as a member of the Osage Minerals Council, I wrote memorandums to both the Principal Chief and the Assistant Principal Chief in an attempt to return back to the amendment of the 1906 Act of Congress. Unfortunately, I never received a reply from either.

Recently, I appealed to the present member of the Osage Minerals Council to return to the 1906 Act of Congress. This act states each person of legal age AND has a headright OR part of a headright is entitled to have ONE VOTE. Every citizen of the United States of America, of legal voting age, is entitled to the right to ONE VOTE. Sadly, the same truth does not apply to the members of the Osage Tribe. I find it very disconcerting that no one I have contacted appears to regard this issue as important.

In our existing elections, the voting procedure used for election of the Osage Minerals Council is the same procedure used to elect the Osage Tribal Council. There is no longer an existing Tribal Council; therefore, we should return to the amendment in the 1906 Act of Congress where ALL ELIGIBLE OSAGE TRIBAL MEMBERS have one vote for the election of the Osage Minerals Council. After all, the Osage Tribe member have a headright or part of a headright. The Osage mineral rights belong to the Osage Tribe. This should continue as long as there is an Osage Tribe.

—Melvin F. Core
Pawhuska, OK

The BIA is working in the best interest of the surface landowners

The BIA in Osage County has a clear mandate by Federal Law to work for the benefit of the shareholders of the Osage Mineral Estate. Since 2014 this has not been the case. Daily oil production there has dropped to just over 10,000 BOPD, a 28% drop in overall production.

A major cause of this decline in oil production is the failure of the BIA to issue new drilling permits in a timely fashion. Before 2014, the average of new permits per year was 200. Since then, there have been fewer than 100 issued. This inaction will continue to hurt oil production in the future for decades to come.

The data shows that the BIA is working in the best interest of surface landowners. All of the above actions that have caused the decline in daily oil production have come since a meritless lawsuit was filed against the BIA and oil producers on behalf of surface landowners in 2014. Even though this suit was dismissed in 2018, the BIA has continued to delay issuing new permits and created new roadblocks, such as locking up well records that were previously available to producers. Producers cannot and will not drill new wells without this information. This shows a continuing pattern by the BIA of placing the interest of the surface landowners above the interest of the shareholders of the



ELECTION

—from Page 1

election law and rules/ regulations, which include requiring candidates to submit two campaign finance reporting statements before and after the election.

Also in addition to the June 1 election, there will be two days of early voting on May 29-30 at the ON Election Office, 608 Kihekah. in Pawhuska.

campus service road f park where Osage can traditionally set up c visit with voters who Pawhuska on Election

Assistant Election visor Courtney Piean the office is running ac hard copies of the Osa with at least three ads so far which, include coming important ele lated dates.

Election Board

UPCOMING

EVENING

MAKE A NIGHT

SKYLINE

EVENT CENTER



FEB 15

MATT FRAZER
RENOWNED PSYCHIC



FEB 29

**MARLON
WAYANS**

TAB 2

**FEBRUARY 18, 2020 ARTICLE
“CONGRESSWOMAN SELECTED AS ASSOCIATE
APPELLATE JUSTICE OF YAVAPAI-APACHE
NATION”**



Must have Osage Nation membership enrollment number to take survey. All participants will be entered in a drawing.

(<https://osagesurvey.org/>)



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COMMUNITY	BLOGS (/EN/BLOGS/)	EDITORIALS	EVENTS (/EN/EVENTS/)	PHOTOS (/EN/PHOTOS/)	

GOVERNMENT , LEGAL



Congresswoman selected as Associate Appellate Justice for Yavapai-Apache Nation
(</en/article/2020/02/18/congresswoman-selected-associate-appellate-justice-yavapai-apache-nation/>)

By Yavapai-Apache Nation News

Date: Feb. 18, 2020

Share:

([http://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?s=100&p\[title\]=Congresswoman selected as Associate Appellate Justice for Yavapai-Apache Nation&p\[summary\]=Photo](http://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?s=100&p[title]=Congresswoman%20selected%20as%20Associate%20Appellate%20Justice%20for%20Yavapai-Apache%20Nation&p[summary]=Photo))

Minerals Council files five-count complaint against Enel Green Power North America
(</en/article/2020/04/21/minerals-council-files-five-count-complaint-against-enel-green-power-north-america/>)

Date: April 21, 2020

TULSA, Okla. — More than four years after its initial request, the Osage Minerals Council has been allowed to intervene in the Northern District of Oklahoma ...

Mary Jo Pratt announces her candidacy for Osage Nation Congress
(</en/article/2020/04/21/mary-jo-pratt-announces-her-candidacy-osage-nation-congress/>)

Date: April 21, 2020

I appreciate each one of you that supported me two years ago. I am going to ask for your continued support now. I believe leaders ...

caption: Yavapai-Apache Nation council members swore in Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon L. Edwards in the council chambers to the position of Associate Appellate Justice. Chairperson Jane Russell-Winiecki (center) administered the Oath of Office to Justice Edwards. Courtesy Photo/Yavapai-Apache Nation News

The Yavapai-Apache Nation has selected Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon L. Edwards as its new Associate Appellate Justice for Yavapai-Apache Nation : <http://www.osagenews.org/en/article/2020/02/selected-associate-appellate-justice-yavapai-apache-nation/>

Photo caption: Yavapai-Apache Nation council members swore in Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon L. Edwards in the council chambers to the position of Associate Appellate Justice. Chairperson Jane Russell-Winiecki (center) administered the Oath of Office to Justice Edwards. Courtesy Photo/Yavapai-Apache Nation News

The Yavapai-Apache Nation has selected Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon L. Edwards as its new Associate Appellate Justice. She was sworn in by Chairperson Jane-Russell- Winiecki in the Yavapai- Apache Council Chambers in Middle Verde, Arizona. The court system was authorized in 1947 and became staffed with full time employees with the opening of the judicial complex in 1997.

The Tribe's Constitution establishes judicial independence. The Appellate Court is comprised of three justices who decide appeals based on written record from the Yavapai-Apache Trial Court. The Tribe averages 2-3 appeals annually. Justice Edwards was recently assigned her first appeal, a domestic law case.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation is a federally recognized tribe whose land base consists of five tribal communities: Middle Verde, Tunlii, Rimrock, Camp Verde and Clarkdale in north-central Arizona. The Secretary of the Interior ratified the Yavapai-Apache Constitution in 1937. There are about 3000 enrolled members, and almost 1000 non-members living in the communities.

Economic ventures for the Tribe include the Cliff Castle Casino Resort and Lodge, a number of restaurants including a Sonic Drive-in, a gas station and convenience store, the Distant Drums RV Park, Yavapai-Apache Sand and Rock, and a construction company.


"I am honored to be selected to assist the Yavapai Apache People in ensuring justice for their members and on their sovereign lands," Edwards said.

State budget to feel impact of Coronavirus for years (/en/article/2020/04/20/state-budget-feel-impact-coronavirus-years/)

Date: April 20, 2020

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — With plummeting oil prices, record unemployment claims and a global pandemic, Oklahoma's budget forecast through fiscal year 2022 is not exactly ...

2015 Soverei...



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- April 2020 (/en/article/2020/04/)
- March 2020 (/en/article/2020/03/)
- February 2020 (/en/article/2020/02/)
- January 2020 (/en/article/2020/01/)
- December 2019 (/en/article/2019/12/)
- November 2019 (/en/article/2019/11/)
- October 2019 (/en/article/2019/10/)
- September 2019 (/en/article/2019/09/)
- August 2019 (/en/article/2019/08/)
- July 2019 (/en/article/2019/07/)
- June 2019 (/en/article/2019/06/)
- May 2019 (/en/article/2019/05/)
- April 2019 (/en/article/2019/04/)
- March 2019 (/en/article/2019/03/)
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TAB 3

**FEBRUARY 21, 2020, ARTICLE, “ALLEGATIONS
ARISE AFTER REPORT OF
CONGRESSWOMAN’S TRIBAL JUDGESHIP ARE
PUBLISHED”**



Must have Osage Nation membership enrollment number to take survey. All participants will be entered in a drawing.

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COMMUNITY	BLOGS (/EN/BLOGS/)	EDITORIALS	EVENTS (/EN/EVENTS/)	PHOTOS (/EN/PHOTOS/)	

GOVERNMENT , LEGAL



Allegations arise after report of Congresswoman's tribal judgeship are published

[\(/en/article/2020/02/21/allegations-arise-after-reports-congresswomans-tribal-judgeship-published/\)](/en/article/2020/02/21/allegations-arise-after-reports-congresswomans-tribal-judgeship-published/)

By Shannon Shaw Duty

Date: Feb. 21, 2020

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([http://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?s=100&p\[title\]=Allegations](http://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?s=100&p[title]=Allegations))

Mary Jo Pratt announces her candidacy for Osage Nation Congress

[\(/en/article/2020/04/21/mary-jo-pratt-announces-her-candidacy-osage-nation-congress/\)](/en/article/2020/04/21/mary-jo-pratt-announces-her-candidacy-osage-nation-congress/)

Date: April 21, 2020

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State budget to feel impact of Coronavirus for years

[\(/en/article/2020/04/20/state-budget-feel-impact-coronavirus-years/\)](/en/article/2020/04/20/state-budget-feel-impact-coronavirus-years/)

Date: April 20, 2020

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — With plummeting oil prices, record unemployment claims and a global pandemic, Oklahoma's budget forecast through fiscal year 2022 is not exactly ...

arise after report of Congresswoman's tribal judgeship are published &p[summary]=Photo caption: Yavapai-Apache Nation council members swore in Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon L. Edwards in their council chambers on Aug. 6, 2019, to the position of Associate Appellate Justice. Chairperson Jane Russell-Winiecki (center) administered the Oath of Office to Justice Edwards. Courtesy Photo/Yavapai-Apache Nation News The Congressional Rules and Ethics

Committee....&p[url]=http%3A/osagenews.org/en/article/2020/02/21/allegations-arise-after-reports-congresswomans-tribal-judgeship-published/&p[images]

[0]=http://s3.amazonaws.com/static.osagenews.org/uploads/zinnia/NN-Shannon_Edwards_Appellate_Justice_Feb2019WEB.jpg

 (http://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=Allegations arise after report of

Congresswoman's tribal judgeship are published : http%3A/osagenews.org/en/article/2020/02/21/allegations-arise-after-reports-congresswomans-tribal-judgeship-published/)

Photo caption: Yavapai-Apache Nation council members swore in Osage Nation Congresswoman Shannon L. Edwards in their council chambers on Aug. 6, 2019, to the position of Associate Appellate Justice. Chairperson Jane Russell-Winiecki (center) administered the Oath of Office to Justice Edwards. Courtesy Photo/Yavapai-Apache Nation News

The Congressional Rules and Ethics Committee will meet on Feb. 25 and Feb. 27 to discuss Congresswoman Shannon Edwards' appointment as an appellate justice for the Arizona-based Yavapai-Apache Nation.

After the *Osage News* published an article (/en/article/2020/02/18/congresswoman-selected-associate-appellate-justice-yavapai-apache-nation/) in its February 2020 edition, written by the *Yavapai-Apache Nation News* about the swearing-in of Edwards as their new appellate justice, allegations began to arise on social media that she disqualified herself to serve as a member of the Osage Nation Congress by taking the judgeship. The *News* obtained the article about her swearing-in after Edwards sent a copy of it to the *Osage News*' Editorial Board on Jan. 24.

According to the Clerk of Court for the Yavapai-Apache, Edwards took her oath of office on Aug. 6 of last year and had a signed contract with the tribal nation for her work. The clerk also verified that Edwards has not performed prior legal work for Yavapai-Apache and is still working as the appellate justice as of Feb. 21. The Yavapai-Apache Tribal Secretary denied an *Osage News* request for a copy of the signed contract and denied a copy of the oath Edwards took at her swearing-in.

Osage Nation to receive \$5.1M in Coronavirus relief money (/en/article/2020/04/20/osage-nation-receive-51m-coronavirus-relief-money/)

Date: April 20, 2020

The Osage Nation has been approved for \$5.1 million in Coronavirus relief money. The relief money is to come from the Paycheck Protection Program ...



Archives

- April 2020 (/en/article/2020/04/)
- March 2020 (/en/article/2020/03/)
- February 2020 (/en/article/2020/02/)
- January 2020 (/en/article/2020/01/)
- December 2019 (/en/article/2019/12/)
- November 2019 (/en/article/2019/11/)
- October 2019 (/en/article/2019/10/)
- September 2019 (/en/article/2019/09/)
- August 2019 (/en/article/2019/08/)
- July 2019 (/en/article/2019/07/)
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- September 2018 (/en/article/2018/09/)
- August 2018 (/en/article/2018/08/)
- July 2018 (/en/article/2018/07/)
- June 2018 (/en/article/2018/06/)
- May 2018 (/en/article/2018/05/)

Under Article VI of the Osage constitution, under Section 5 under Disqualifications, it states "... No member of the Osage Nation Congress shall hold any other tribal office under another Indian nation during his/her term of office ..."

Under Article VI of the Yavapai-Apache Nation constitution (<http://thorpe.ou.edu/constitution/Yavapai/YAconst.html#judiciary>), Section 6 under Term of Office, it states "... The Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals shall hold office for three (3) years. The remaining two (2) Appellate Judges shall hold office for two (2) years ..."

ON Attorney General Clint Patterson responded to a request for comment about the allegations.

"It's not for me to say whether she conclusively violated her Constitutional oath of office. I know she took an oath, I know the oath says to uphold and defend the Constitution, I know the Constitution says no member of the Osage Nation Congress shall hold any other tribal office under another Indian nation during his or her term of office, and I know she accepted an office with another Indian tribe," he wrote in a Feb. 21 email. "But I also know the Constitution says the removal of Osage Nation Officers shall originate in the Osage Nation Congress – not with the Attorney General. I'm sure other members of Congress are aware of this situation and, by the same oath in question, they are charged with making that determination as to any violation."

The *News* also asked Patterson if Edwards had made mention of her Yavapai-Apache judgeship with his office prior to taking it? He said no, he learned about it when he read the article in the *Osage News*.

Edwards responded to a request for comment via email on Feb. 21 and said she sent a letter to the ON Speaker of the Congress that shows she has asked to be removed from the Yavapai-Apache Appeals panel and is no longer acting in that capacity.

"I did no substantive work and received no compensation. I was chosen based on my qualifications and unique ability to strengthen Indian Country judicial systems. If that service was in conflict with the Osage Nation's constitution, was is not clear, it was unintentional. That information should be part of any article that has a deadline today," she wrote in the email. "My commitment to public serve [sic] remains, even as social media misinformation and bias makes people reluctant to lend their talents in that arena. I have legislation slated for the Hun-kah Session which demonstrates my dedication to the Osage People. I hope that effort receives the reporting it deserves."

Edwards has been a member of Congress since its formation in 2006.

Executive memorandum

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear submitted four questions to the AG on Feb. 21 requesting an opinion on a "Congress Member Disqualification for Holding Other Tribal Office Under Another Indian Nation During his/her Term of Office and Related Issues."

The four questions are:

- If a Member of the Osage Congress takes an oath of office to hold another tribal office which is described under another Indian Nation constitution during his/her term of Osage Congress office, is that Osage Congress Member disqualified from being a Member of the Osage Congress by the terms of the Osage Constitution, Article VI, Section 5?
- If it is determined that the Member of the Osage Congress did in fact, at any time, hold another tribal office under another Indian nation during his/her term of office, does the Osage Constitution, Article VI, Section 5 make that violator automatically disqualified or is there a necessity of a Removal proceeding?
- If it is discovered that a Member of the Osage Congress did in fact hold another tribal office under another Indian nation at any time, does resignation from that other tribal office exonerate the violation by the offending Member of the Osage Congress? If so, would that not allow any violator of the Osage Constitution to cure their violation by after the fact actions?

April 2018 (/en/article/2018/04/)
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February 2018
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March 2015 (/en/article/2015/03/)
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January 2015
(/en/article/2015/01/)
December 2014
(/en/article/2014/12/)

- If it is determined that a Member of the Osage Congress is disqualified under Article VI, Section 5 of the Osage Constitution, should the Treasurer withhold salary and other financial compensation and benefits from the offending Member of Congress?

Live broadcasts will be streamed on the Osage Nation's website of the Congressional Rules and Ethics Committee meeting on Feb. 25 at 8:30 a.m. CST and Feb. 27 at 10 a.m., visit <https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/multimedia/live-media> (<https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/multimedia/live-media>).

November 2014
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July 2014 (/en/article/2014/07/)
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TAB 4

**FEBRUARY 25, 2020, ARTICLE,
“CONGRESSIONAL RULES AND ETHICS
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SPECIAL SESSION
FOR EDWARDS’ REMOVAL”**



Must have Osage Nation membership enrollment number to take survey. All participants will be entered in a drawing.

(<https://osagesurvey.org/>)



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COMMUNITY	BLOGS (/EN/BLOGS/)	EDITORIALS	EVENTS (/EN/EVENTS/)	PHOTOS (/EN/PHOTOS/)	

GOVERNMENT , LEGAL



Comanche Nation and Otoe-Missouria Tribe break ranks and sign new state gaming compact (/en/article/2020/04/21/comanche-nation-and-otoe-missouria-tribe-break-ranks-and-sign-new-state-gaming-compacts/)

Date: April 21, 2020

Photo caption: The Comanche Nation and Otoe-Missouria Tribe signed new gaming compacts with Gov. Kevin Stitt. KTUL Channel 8

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — Two Oklahoma tribes ...

Minerals Council files five-count complaint against Enel Green Power North America (/en/article/2020/04/21/minerals-council-files-five-count-complaint-against-enel-green-power-north-america/)

Date: April 21, 2020

TULSA, Okla. — More than four years after its initial request, the Osage Minerals Council has been allowed to intervene in the Northern District of Oklahoma ...

Congressional Rules and Ethics committee recommends special session for Edwards' removal (/en/article/2020/02/25/congressional-rules-and-ethics-committee-recommends-special-session-edwards-removal/)

By Shannon Shaw Duty

Date: Feb. 25, 2020

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(<http://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?>

s=100&p[title]=Congressional Rules and Ethics committee recommends special session for Edwards' removal&p[summary]=Photo caption: The Congressional Rules and Ethics committee met on Feb. 25 to discuss possible ethics violations. CODY HAMMER/Osage News The Congressional Rules and Ethics Committee voted unanimously to recommend a special session for the purpose of removing Congresswoman Shannon Edwards from office for disqualification under the constitution for her...&p[url]=http%3A//osagenews.org/en/article/2020/02/25/congressional-rules-and-ethics-committee-recommends-special-session-edwards-removal/&p[images]

[0]=http://s3.amazonaws.com/static.osagenews.org/uploads/zinnia/FP-Motion_to_Remove_Edwards_Mar20WEB.jpg



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text=Congressional Rules and Ethics committee recommends special session for Edwards' removal ; http%3A//osagenews.org/en/article/2020/02/25/congressional-rules-and-ethics-committee-recommends-special-session-edwards-removal/)

Photo caption: The Congressional Rules and Ethics committee met on Feb. 25 to discuss possible ethics violations. CODY

HAMMER/Osage News

The Congressional Rules and Ethics Committee voted unanimously to recommend a special session for the purpose of removing Congresswoman Shannon Edwards from office for disqualification under the constitution for her appointment as an appellate justice (/en/article/2020/02/21/allegations-arise-after-reports-congresswomans-tribal-judgeship-published/) to the Arizona-based Yavapai-Apache Nation Supreme Court.

The committee also voted to waive the rules of procedure for removal and move straight to a vote on a motion for removal. This means if the Congress convenes for a special session to consider the removal of Edwards, there will be no Select Committee of Inquiry to gather evidence for her removal, as was the case with the 2014 removal trial of former-Principal Chief John Red Eagle. It takes eight signatures for the Congress to call itself into a special session.

Congresswoman Angela Pratt, chair of the committee, read off the proposed motion at the end of an hourlong meeting on Feb. 25. The three-member committee discussed the recent events surrounding Edwards Yavapai-Apache appointment. The other two members of the committee are Congresswomen Brandy Lemon and Second Speaker Paula Stabler.

Mary Jo Pratt announces her candidacy for Osage Nation Congress (/en/article/2020/04/21/mary-jo-pratt-announces-her-candidacy-osage-nation-congress/)

Date: April 21, 2020

I appreciate each one of you that supported me two years ago. I am going to ask for your continued support now. I believe leaders ...



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Archives

- April 2020 (/en/article/2020/04/)
- March 2020 (/en/article/2020/03/)
- February 2020 (/en/article/2020/02/)
- January 2020 (/en/article/2020/01/)
- December 2019 (/en/article/2019/12/)
- November 2019 (/en/article/2019/11/)
- October 2019 (/en/article/2019/10/)
- September 2019 (/en/article/2019/09/)
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Under Article VI of the Osage constitution (<https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/who-we-are/legislative-branch/legislation>), under Section 5, under Disqualifications, it states "... No member of the Osage Nation Congress shall hold any other tribal office under another Indian nation during his/her term of office ..."

Under Article VI of the Yavapai-Apache Nation constitution (<http://thorpe.ou.edu/constitution/Yavapai/YAconst.html#judiciary>), Section 6 under Term of Office, it states "... The Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals shall hold office for three (3) years. The remaining two (2) Appellate Judges shall hold office for two (2) years ..."

Congressional Attorney Loyed "Trey" Gill told the committee they could gather their findings and make a recommendation to the Congress at any time, whether it's for removal or for censure, a lesser charge.

"I will tell you that I've had a conversation with Congresswoman Edwards, and she will definitely question whether 'holding office' has been defined within the Osage Nation, whether there is any law or decision," Gill said. "My response to her – has she put that question to the attorney general? So, we may have that answer. You may want to hold off on that recommendation until we hear from the AG, but that's up to you."

Pratt asked Attorney General Clint Patterson, who was in attendance, how long it would take him to answer the four questions (</en/article/2020/02/21/allegations-arise-after-reports-congresswomans-tribal-judgeship-published/>) submitted by Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear in regard to Edwards. Patterson said he was going to wait to see what action the Congress takes before answering those questions.

"As far as a question from Congresswoman Edwards about who or what's an officer ... that's going to be pretty easy. Because their [Yavapai-Apache] constitution says it is an officer. And clearly, she's an officer of the Osage Nation by constitution definitions. So, I don't know what that question would look like, I would have to wait and see it," Patterson said. "To me, it's pretty clear cut on both sides."

Pratt said she had verified with the Clerk of Court for the Yavapai-Apache that Edwards was an appointee, that there is a contract but they could not give it to her.

"As of yesterday afternoon, about 2:30 p.m., the court clerk had not received any notification of resignation from that position," Pratt said. "I am awaiting confirmation because she said her office isn't necessarily the office that would receive that resignation."

She said she has left two messages with the Yavapai-Apache attorney general.

Lemon said she had some questions surrounding the repercussions if Edwards were to be removed.

"I'm concerned because ... if she took her oath of office in August of 2019, we went directly into the Tzi-Zho session in 2019. What does that do to the legislation she sponsored?" Lemon asked.

She also asked about the compensation she's received since August, whether she should have to pay it back, and would the votes she made during the Tzi-Zho Session also come into question.

"I would really like to see a copy of her contract and I hope she will be forthright in giving us a copy of that," Lemon said.

Congressional rules for removal

According to the Congressional Rules (<https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/who-we-are/legislative-branch/legislation>) portion on Motion for Removal of Elected and Appointed Officers, "any motion for removal ... may only be made during a regular session of Congress or during any special session called for that purpose."

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The rules also state: "The motion (for removal) shall be based on removal for cause, which shall include one or more of the following charges: willful neglect of duty, malfeasance in office, habitual use of alcohol or drugs, inability to meet the qualifications to serve, conviction of a felony or conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude while in office, undermining the integrity of the office, disregard of constitutional duties and oath of office, arrogation of power, or abuse of the government process."

In the constitution, under Article XII, under Removal, it states: "... The motion for removal shall list fully the basis for the proceeding and must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members. Trial on removal shall then be conducted by the Osage Nation Congress with the accused afforded due process and an opportunity to be heard. An Osage Nation Supreme Court Justice, designated by the Supreme Court, shall preside at the trial. Concurrence of five-sixths (5/6) of the members of the Osage Nation Congress is required for a judgment of removal. The judgment shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit in the Osage Nation, but shall not prevent proceedings in the courts on the same or related charges."

Pratt said the Rules & Ethics committee will meet again on Feb. 27 at 10 a.m. where they may recommend to the Congressional Affairs committee that they hire an attorney to represent the Congress in the trial.

To listen to the live broadcast of the Rules and Ethics committee meeting visit <https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/multimedia/live-media> (<https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/multimedia/live-media>).

Senior Reporter Benny Polacca contributed to this report.

January 2014 (/en/article/2014/01/)
December 2013 (/en/article/2013/12/)
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SECTION VI
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TAB 1
JANUARY 24, 2020, EMAIL,
“PRESS RLEASE TO OSAGE NEWS”

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[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Tara McLain Manthey [taramanthey@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 2:49 PM

To: Shannon Shaw

Subject: Fwd: Press Release for Osage News

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Shannon Edwards <sedwards@airosurf.com>

Date: Fri, Jan 24, 2020 at 12:44 PM

Subject: Press Release for Osage News

To: Tara McLain Manthey <taramanthey@gmail.com>

TAB 2
EMAILS

William Grimm

From: Tara McLain Manthey <taramanthey@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 5:10 PM
To: William Grimm
Subject: Fwd: Yavapai-Apache Appellate Panel

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Shannon Edwards <sedwards@airosurf.com>
Date: Fri, Feb 21, 2020 at 2:41 PM
Subject: Re: Yavapai-Apache Appellate Panel
To: Shannon Shaw <sshaw@osagenation-nsn.gov>
Cc: Tara McLain Manthey <taramanthey@gmail.com>, Theresa Lamsam <trumblylamsam@gmail.com>, Jerri Jean Branstetter <jerrijeanbranstetter@gmail.com>

Shannon - If you are planning to put an article in the printed paper, I object to not having an opportunity to have my response and the facts contained in the article. I was specifically told by the Osage News Office the deadline for printed submission is February 24th. I desire to submit my letter to the Speaker as a "Letter to the Editor" and have it printed in total.

The letter states I asked to be removed from the Yavapai-Apache Appeals panel and am no longer acting in that capacity. I did no substantive work and received no compensation. I was chosen based on my qualifications and unique ability to strengthen Indian Country judicial systems. If that service was in conflict with the Osage Nation's constitution, was is not clear, it was unintentional. That information should be part of any article that has a deadline today.

My commitment to public serve remains, even as social media misinformation and bias makes people reluctant to lend their talents in that arena. I have legislation slated for the Hun-kah Session which demonstrates my dedication to the Osage People. I hope that effort receives the reporting it deserves.

Regards,
Shannon Edwards
(405) 850-6377
sedwards@airosurf.com

On Feb 21, 2020, at 12:26 PM, Shannon Shaw <sshaw@osagenation-nsn.gov> wrote:

Congresswoman Edwards,

This is not the last article we will be writing on this subject because there is a Rules and Ethics meeting on Tuesday that will cover this subject and we will report on it. I sent this email at 10:20 a.m. and frankly, other news organizations don't offer lengthy timeframes for people to answer - most cold-call their sources and some news organizations consider sending emails for comment a courtesy to the sources. Chris White is not mentioned in the article. As for the letter, I am putting in an open records request as per the suggestion by Dana Murrell.

Shannon Shaw Duty, MLS
Osage News, Editor
w: (918) 287-5669
f: (918) 699-5282
www.osagenews.org

"[The press is] the only business in America specifically protected by the Constitution – not primarily to amuse and entertain, not to emphasize the trivial and the sentimental, not to simply 'give the public what it wants' – but to inform, to arouse, to reflect, to state our dangers and our opportunities, to indicate our crises and our choices, to lead, mold, educate and sometimes even anger public opinion."

- John F. Kennedy, 35th U.S. president, 1961

From: Shannon Edwards [sedwards@airosurf.com]
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Shannon Shaw
Cc: Tara McLain Manthey; Jerri Jean Branstetter; Theresa Lamsam
Subject: Re: Yavapai-Apache Nation

Shannon- I just received this email and I am driving to the airport and then out with guests until early evening. I cannot respond to you in the next few hours. I have a letter dated February 19, 2020 to the Speaker which is a public record. Shana is off today, but can get you a copy on Monday.

If you are writing an article based on Facebook posts from the person you mentioned, who frankly is considered by some to be my stalker, I do want an opportunity to respond before you print. Since he is a former client, I need to review his allegations, whatever they may be, and honor attorney-client privilege.

Regards,
Shannon Edwards
(405) 850-6377
sedwards@airosurf.com

On Feb 21, 2020, at 8:36 AM, Shannon Shaw <sshaw@osagenation-nsn.gov> wrote:

Good morning Congresswoman Edwards,

We are writing an article over allegations that you have violated your oath of office by serving as an appellate justice for the Yavapai-Apache Nation. There are some significant community allegations being made, namely by Chris White, a

non-Osage community member on the Facebook page Osage Community for Responsible Citizenry.

I spoke with the YAN court clerk yesterday and have requested to see your signed contract with the YAN and the oath you took when you were sworn in. Can you provide those to me in case she doesn't respond? I have also requested as to when you were sworn in. The court clerk said you took your oath in July, I just want to verify that with you. The article you forwarded to our board member Tara Manthey does not have a date. When did you take your oath of office for the YAN? And, do you think you have violated your oath of office? What is your response to the community allegations?

What are your future plans in terms of the YAN? Are you going to stay at your position as an appellate justice? I copied Second Speaker Stabler and the Clerk of Congress to make sure you see this email in time. My deadline is 4:30 p.m. today. Thank You!

Shannon Shaw Duty, MLS
Osage News, Editor
w: (918) 287-5669
f: (918) 699-5282
www.osagenews.org

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- John F. Kennedy, 35th U.S. president, 1961

William Grimm

From: Tara Manthey <taramanthey@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 10:01 AM
To: William Grimm
Subject: Fwd: Press Release for Osage News
Attachments: Edwards Named Appellate Justice.docx; ATT00001.htm

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, here is the message from Shannon Edwards that included the YAN press release.

Tara

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Shannon Edwards <sedwards@airosurf.com>
Date: January 24, 2020 at 12:44:37 PM MST
To: Tara McLain Manthey <taramanthey@gmail.com>
Subject: Press Release for Osage News

TAB 3

**EMAILS BETWEEN EDWARDS AND OSAGE
NATION ATTORNEY GENERAL CLINTON N.
PATTERSON**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Mar 31, 2020, at 8:37 AM, Clinton N. Patterson wrote:

Congresswoman Edwards:
As of this date, I am unable to respond to your requests. On or about March 10, the Office of the Attorney General received the attached letter of representation from Phillips Murrah acknowledging the firm is representing you in possible litigation against the Osage News. The Osage News is published by the Osage Nation. As such, any suit against the Osage News may be considered a suit against the Osage Nation. As Acting Attorney General, I am tasked with the responsibility of defending all suits against the Osage Nation. See 15 ONCA § 3-107. Per Rule 4.2 of the ABA Rules of Professional Conduct, I am prohibited from direct communication with a person whom I know is represented by counsel in the matter; and in addition, per 15 ONCA § 3-110, the answers to some of the questions you ask may be protected by attorney/client privilege. See also Rule 1.6 of the ABA Rules of Professional Conduct. The ABA Rules of Professional Conduct were made applicable to the Osage Nation pursuant to Osage Nation

Supreme Court Order In re: Osage Nation Bar Association (dated September 25, 2019).

Please let me know if you and your attorney will waive Rule 4.2 and allow me to talk to you directly about this matter, whether I should consult with your attorney, or proceed otherwise. I do not want to violate anyone's privacy, either yours or the Nation's. Additionally, as a licensed attorney yourself, you can understand the ethical dilemmas raised by being compelled to produce answers in order for you to positively consider me for Attorney General as a voting Congress person to questions you initially posed as an individual represented by counsel.

Respectfully,
Clint

Clinton N. Patterson
Acting Attorney General
1071 Grandview Lane
Pawhuska, OK 74056
Ofc: 918.287.5514, Fax: 918.287.5468
Cell: 918.277.9708 (Text Preferred)
[Email](#) | [Website](#)

NOTICE: The Office of the Attorney General of the Osage Nation is presently working remotely pursuant to the State of Emergency declared by the Principal Chief of the Osage Nation due to ongoing the COVID-19 outbreak. Our team members will be working remotely until the State of Emergency is lifted. This may result in longer response times than normal but all inquiries will be timely responded to. If you have any immediate questions, please contact me at (918) 440-8117 until further notice. Thank you for your patience during this time.

IMPORTANT: This email message may contain confidential or legally privileged information and is intended only for the use of the intended recipient(s). Any unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, distribution, copying or the taking of any action in reliance on the information herein is prohibited. Emails are not secure and cannot be guaranteed to be error-free. They can be intercepted, amended, or contain viruses. Anyone who communicates with us by email is deemed to have accepted these risks. Osage Nation is not responsible for errors or omissions in this message and denies any responsibility for any damage arising from the use of email. Any opinion and other statement contained in this message and any attachment are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Osage Nation.

From: Shannon Edwards
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2020 11:34 AM
To: Clinton N. Patterson
Cc: Joe Tillman ; Alice Goodfox ; Archie Mason ; John Maker ; Eli Potts ; RJ Walker ; Brandy Lemon ; Maria Whitehorn ; Scott BigHorse ; Paula Stabler ; Angela Pratt ; Shana Robedeaux ; Dana Murrell
Subject: Fwd: Communication submitted for review in Rules and Ethics Committee meeting 2.25.2020- Confidential

Mr. Patterson- Under these unusual circumstances, and in furtherance of my consideration of confirmation I am going to submit my questions to you in writing for you to answer in like fashion. My first request is that you respond to the questions below and supply the information I made via telephone conversation on or about March 10 and by email as reflected below. I need responses to my requests to be able to positively consider your confirmation. Time is of the essence.

Thank you,
Shannon Edwards

Begin forwarded message:

From: Shannon Edwards <sedwards@airosurf.com>

Subject: Fwd: Communication submitted for review in Rules and Ethics Committee meeting 2.25.2020- Confidential

Date: March 12, 2020 at 3:40:39 PM PDT

To: "Clinton N. Patterson" <cpatterson@osagenation-nsn.gov>

Mr. Patterson- I received the document below from the Congressional Office on February 25 after the Rules and Ethics meeting had begun. I understand you were in attendance. Please advise:

- 1) Who requested you attend the meeting and by what means did they make such a request.
- 2) Who you discussed the meeting or its subject matter with prior to the meeting.
- 3) The reason you sent the February 20 email to Congresswoman Pratt and at whose request.
- 4) Any communications you had about the subject matter of the email, with whom and on what dates.
- 5) Any other emails, texts or other documents which memorialize communications about the meeting and the contents of your February email.

In addition, you advised me that Cecelia Tallchief for one communicated with you about me and my service on the YAN appellate panel. Please advise who else you talked to about that subject matter. If you had any communications with the Chief or the Chief's Office or anyone else regarding a request to you as Attorney General for an opinion on matters relating to me, please advise. Also you failed to send me his letter request. Congress does not have a copy. I am confirming the Osage News did not get its copy from you, correct?

Thank you. I am preparing an ethics filing and want to provide as much information as possible.

Regards,
Shannon Edwards

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dana Murrell <dmurrell@osagecongress-nsn.gov>

Subject: Communication submitted for review in Rules and Ethics Committee meeting 2.25.2020

Date: February 25, 2020 at 7:07:30 AM PST

To: Alice Goodfox <agoodfox@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Angela Pratt <apratt@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, "Archie Mason (bearsky@swbell.net)" <bearsky@swbell.net>, Brandy Lemon <blemon@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Eli Potts <epotts@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Joe Tillman <JTillman@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, "Joe Tillman (osujofus@yahoo.com)" <osujofus@yahoo.com>, John Maker <jmaker@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, "John Maker (makerjohn@rocketmail.com)" <makerjohn@rocketmail.com>, Maria Whitehorn <mwhitehorn@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Paula Stabler <pstabler@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, "rjwalkerjr@gmail.com" <rjwalkerjr@gmail.com>, Scott BigHorse <sbighorse@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Shannon Edwards <shannon-edwards@cox.net>

Cc: Sam Guild <sguild@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Dana Murrell <dmurrell@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Trey Gill <lgill@osagecongress-nsn.gov>, Shana Robedeaux <srobedeaux@osagecongress-nsn.gov>
Members of Congress,

Please find the following documents submitted for the Rules and Ethics Committee meeting today for your review. Communication #20-171.

Respectfully,

Dana Murrell

Assistant Clerk of Congress

918-287-5543

SECTION VII
COMMUNICATIONS WITH
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

TAB 1

**EMAIL, MARCH 30, 2020, EDWARDS TO
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Shannon Edwards
Date: March 30, 2020 at 9:43:43 AM CDT
To: Alice Goodfox , Brandy Lemon - personal , Angela Pratt , Archie Mason , Brandy Lemon , Eli Potts , Joe Tillman , John Maker , "R.J. Walker" , Maria Whitehorn , Maria Whitehorn , Paula Stabler , Paula Stabler - personal , Shannon Edwards , Scott BigHorse , RJ Walker , "Scott N. BigHorse-personal"
Cc: Dana Murrell , Shana Robedeaux , Trey Gill
Subject: Re: Motions for Select Committee of Inquiry

All- At the request of a member, I am attaching the JOM Committee complaint. It was emailed to all members on January 9, 2019.

> On Mar 30, 2020, at 1:07 AM, Shannon Edwards wrote:

>

> Congress Members: I am in receipt of the attached Motion to Form a Select Committee of Inquiry filed by Congresswoman Angela Pratt. If she decides to make this motion, I will vote for it, and I think all Congressional candidates for Congress should too. As you might know, some Congressional hopefuls and others have made formation of this committee an election issue on social media. It is a nonissue, but it is a distraction.

>

> This is the culmination of a series of events that have yet to be discovered. You may know about the unconstitutional and unethical actions of Congresswomen Pratt, Lemon and Stabler prior to and during the February 25, 2020 Rules and Ethics Committee meeting. When Congresswoman Stabler distributes the transcript of that meeting, their words and actions will be an official public record, as is the fact that ethics complaints have been filed against them. Congresswoman Pratt has admitted to discussions prior to the meeting out of the public eye, and the Osage News Editor was given information withheld from most members of Congress. The reasons for this are as yet unknown, and Congresswoman Pratt and Clint Patterson at the AG's office have not answered questions posed to them in that regard. I look forward to learning more about events from Congresswoman Pratt and other witnesses who can be subpoenaed to testify under oath.

>

> Unfortunately, this undertaking will likely cost tens of thousands of dollars, require the Congress to meet during the summer if it can, and cause five of you to spend many hours with me and my legal counsel. I have submitted additional motions to allow the Select Committee of Inquiry to investigate allegations made by others against Congresswomen Pratt, and to look into misuse of the Congressional credit card by Congresswomen Lemon and Stabler. These three have already disqualified themselves from service on the anticipated Committee of Inquiry, as perhaps have other members.

>

> We are all bound by the Osage Constitution. You should not single out one member for investigation when there are serious allegations against other members that suggest malfeasance, arrogation of power and abuse of government process. If true, these allegations are grounds for removal. Each of us has a duty to ensure they are properly investigated.

>

> I did not come to these decisions lightly. I have dedicated years of effort to establish a foundation for the Osage Nation Legislative Branch. Unfortunately, the actions of a few threaten what many of us have worked so hard to build. To protect the Osage Congress as an institution, I am willing to support forcing the toxic rhetoric off the Congressional airwaves and into an executive session. I have faith that process, decorum and truth matters there, and the values stressed in the Osage Constitution will carry the day.

>

> My sincere hope is that Congress can address these motions quickly so that it can focus on the unprecedented emergency put upon the Nation. I look forward to presenting my legislation to you, and encourage you to submit me questions in writing so that I can research them and be prepared to address in videoconference meetings.

>

> Regards,

>

> Shannon Edwards

>

>

January 9, 2019

Members of Osage Nation,

On the evening of January 8, 2019, the Skiatook JOM Parent Committee held their quarterly meeting at the city library where one of the Osage Nation congressmen, Angela Pratt, attended the meeting. The meeting started at 7:01 but Mrs. Pratt did not arrive until approximately 7:10. In the middle of the Skiatook Public Schools Director of Indian Education, Carolyn Mahan, report informing the committee of upcoming events, Mrs. Pratt started attacking the Director of Indian Education for no reason. When I and other committee members informed Mrs. Pratt that, this is not what the meeting is about Mrs. Pratt continued on and raised her tone and became more verbally aggressive, belittling and demeaning at this point towards the Director of Indian Education, Mrs. Mahan. I told Mrs. Pratt we have an agenda that we must stay on since we only have the meeting room for 45 minutes and since she is a guest, she is allowed 3 minutes to speak at the end, but once again did not follow the instructions on being signed up on the agenda before the meeting started. Mrs. Pratts initial question was answered, but she continued to be argumentative with Mrs. Mahan, as well as the parent committee. So, Mrs. Pratt's whole agenda was to come attack a person that doesn't even have to come to the meetings nor is on the committee. Since Mrs. Pratt was so rude and took up majority of time arguing over something that we the JOM Parent Committee has no control over, we then could not get through the important items on our agenda. By doing this Mrs. Pratt was very inconsiderate of this volunteer parent committee's time. This all took place in front of the JOM coordinator, Avis Ballard, that did not once step in to stop Mrs. Pratt's out of control behavior. Additionally, Ms. Ballard didn't make Mrs. Pratt follow the same three-minute rule for the guest speaking at the meetings. We as a committee believe both of these ladies were completely out of line and do not have the students' best interest at heart. It is also embarrassing that someone that has been elected to your congress would come to a meeting where all the parents are volunteers and disrupt it so horrible. If Mrs. Pratt doesn't like the way the parent committee conducts its meetings then she should go through the proper channels. We would like to point out that Mrs. Pratt has never contacted the committee to volunteer her time to help us at any events or make suggestions for anything we do throughout the year. The Skiatook School system removed the JOM from being in the school systems years ago. It has been great that the school will allow the Director of Indian Education, Mrs. Mahan, come to the meetings and help us contact students, without this relationship we would have no contact with students! With the way Mrs. Pratt acted, all contact and help through the school system could be lost! The Skiatook JOM Parent Committee believes Mrs. Pratt and Ms. Ballard owe the Director of Indian Education, Mrs. Mahan an apology.

In closing, this is the resignation of the following Skiatook JOM Parent Committee Officers and Members

Tracy Miller, President

Billy Barnes, Vice President

Karen Mahan, Treasurer/Secretary

Cory Miller, member

Jessica Hudson, member

Josh Jones, member

TAB 2

**EMAIL, FEBRUARY 25, 2020, EDWARDS TO
SPEAKER JOSEPH TILLMAN**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Date: March 30, 2020 at 9:43:43 AM CDT
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> Regards,

>

> Shannon Edwards

>

>

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Billy Barnes, Vice President

Karen Mahan, Treasurer/Secretary

Cory Miller, member

Jessica Hudson, member

Josh Jones, member

SECTION VIII
2014 MASON MOORE SABBATICAL
COMMUNICATIONS

TAB 1

**EMAIL RE: SHAKOPEE MDEWKANTON
W/REQUEST FOR SABBATICAL**

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: John Jacobson [mailto:jjacobson@thejacobsonlawgroup.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2014 3:27 PM

To: Terry Mason Moore

Cc: Lynn McDonald

Subject: RE: letter

Congratulations, Terry, on that appointment. The Osage Nation will be well served, as our Court is and has been.

There will be no difficulty whatever in granting your request for a sabbatical (and by copy of this note, I'm informing the Clerk of Court); but would it be helpful to have a formal letter from me on Court letterhead to that effect?

Best regards,
John

From: Terry Mason Moore <tmmoore@valornet.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 3:21 PM

To: John Jacobson

Subject: letter

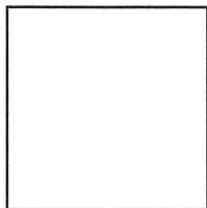
Judge Jacobson

I have been appointed to the office of Assistant Chief of the Osage Nation to fill a vacancy in the term that ends June 30.

My legislature seems to require that I send a letter to you to ensure I am not in any conflict by serving another Tribe. Thus I am requesting a 90 day sabbatical from being assigned any new cases until after July 1

Thank you

Terry Mason Moore



This email is free from viruses and malware because [avast! Antivirus](#) protection is active.



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

TAB 2

EMAIL RE: SHAKOPEE MDEWKANTON

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

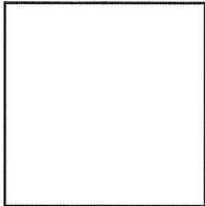
[Redacted]

From: John Jacobson [<mailto:jjacobson@thejacobsonlawgroup.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2014 3:27 PM
To: Terry Mason Moore
Cc: Lynn Mcdonald
Subject: RE: letter

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Best regards,
John



This email is free from viruses and malware because [avast! Antivirus](#) protection is active.



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

TAB 3

**EMAIL REGARDING SANTEE SIOUX
SUPREME COURT**

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: Terry Mason Moore [mailto:tmmoore@valornet.com]

Sent: Monday, April 7, 2014 7:47 AM

To: sedwards@osagenation-nsn.gov

Subject: FW: letter from Santee granting sabbatical

From: Andrew Adams III [mailto:aadams@hogenadams.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2014 9:06 AM

To: Terry Mason Moore

Cc: Jamie James; Amanda WhiteEagle; Fletcher, Matthew; LaVelle, John

Subject: Re: letter

Dear Assistant Chief Moore,

First off, congratulations on your appointment. I know that you will work hard and bring honor to the Osage Nation.

Please accept this email as confirmation that you may take a 90-day sabbatical from your duties as Santee Nation Supreme Court Justice. I recently spoke with Jamie James and he indicated that no appeals have been filed recently with the Court.

Speak with you soon and I hope to see you at the FBA Indian Law Conference next week.

MVTO

Andrew

--



Andrew Adams III

1935 W. County Rd. B2, Ste. 460

Saint Paul, MN 55113

Main Line: 651-842-9100

Direct: 651-842-9102

Fax: 651-842-9101

aadams@hogenadams.com

www.hogenadams.com

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TAB 4

RECORDING OF APRIL 3, 2014
COMMITTEE MEETING

(available at: https://osage-multimedia.s3.amazonaws.com/media/congress/audio/FY2014/2014-0403_3Con_HunKah-Day4-pt1.mp3)”

SECTION IX
INDEPENDENT COUNSEL
DOCUMENT REQUESTS

TAB 1

**LETTER TO YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION
CHAIRMAN HUEY**

BARROW & GRIMM, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
110 W. SEVENTH, SUITE 900
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74119-1044
TELEPHONE (918) 584-1600
FACSIMILE (918) 585-2444

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WILLIAM E. FARRIOR
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WM. BRAD HECKENKEMPER
THOMAS D. ROBERTSON †
DAVID A. STURDIVANT
CHRISTOPHER A. BARROW ‡
ADAM K. MARSHALL
TIMOTHY L. ROGERS
NICHOLAS M. JONES
ANNE S. MAGUIRE
CAITLIN J. JOHNSON ▲
MELISSA A. BELL
JOHN S. WOLFE
EMILY B. KOSMIDER
ERIC S. UNDERWOOD
DILLON J. HOLLINGSWORTH

OF COUNSEL

BOESCHE McDERMOTT LLP
·BRADLEY K. BEASLEY*
JAMES R. HICKS
MELISSA H. SARTIN
CORI D. POWELL
KAREN L. CARMICHAEL‡
TREVOR R. HENSON

* ALSO LICENSED IN KANSAS
† ALSO LICENSED IN GEORGIA
‡ ALSO LICENSED IN TEXAS
■ ALSO LICENSED IN MONTANA
& WYOMING
▲ ALSO LICENSED IN ARKANSAS

RETIRED MEMBER
ALLEN E. BARROW, JR.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER
ROBERT W. GADDIS

WRITER'S E-MAIL

grimm@barrowgrimm.com

April 27, 2020

VIA - U.S. Mail & Email to: mcassadore@yan-tribe.org
Chairman John Huey
Tribal Council of the Yavapai-Apache Nation
2400 West Datsi Ave.,
Camp Verde, Arizona 86322

Re: Osage Nation Congress | Select Committee of Inquiry
Request for Documents re: Congresswoman Shannon Edwards
Our File No. 12027.000

Dear Chairman Huey:

On March 30, 2020, the Congress of the Osage Nation authorized the formation of a Select Committee of Inquiry (the "Committee") to investigate certain allegations regarding Congresswoman Shannon Edwards. Those allegations concern Congresswoman Edwards's alleged acceptance of the office of Appellate Judge of the Yavapai-Apache Nation on or about August 6, 2019. This Firm has been retained as independent counsel to the Committee to assist in its investigation of those allegations.

In furtherance of the Committee's purpose, and in an effort to conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation, I am requesting that the Yavapai-Apache Nation ("YAN") deliver voluntarily the following documents, to the extent they exist and are in the custody or control of the YAN:

1. A copy of the Oath of Office sworn to by those individuals serving as judges, whether trial, appellate, or otherwise, of the YAN judiciary;
2. A copy of the Oath of Office signed by Congresswoman Edwards;

3. A copy of any contract for services between the YAN and Congresswoman Edwards, whether signed or unsigned;
4. A copy of any letters, emails, faxes, or other communications transmitted to the YAN by Congresswoman Edwards, including but not limited to any notifications of resignation from her position on the YAN Appellate Court and any requests for her removal from her position on the YAN Appellate Court;
5. A compensation schedule for Congresswoman Edwards's term of service as an Associate Appellate Judge on the YAN judiciary; and
6. Any applications, curriculum vitae, or other similar documents submitted by Congresswoman Edwards to the YAN.

Please deliver these materials to my office on or before May 7, 2020. I am most appreciative of your cooperation and assistance. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours very truly,

BARROW & GRIMM, P.C.

William R. Grimm

William R. Grimm

cc: Alice Goodfox
Chair, Select Committee of Inquiry

TAB 2
LETTER TO CALVIN SHARPE

BARROW & GRIMM, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
110 W. SEVENTH, SUITE 900
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74119-1044
TELEPHONE (918) 584-1600
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OF COUNSEL

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& WYOMING
▲ ALSO LICENSED IN ARKANSAS

RETIRED MEMBER
ALLEN E. BARROW, JR.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER
ROBERT W. GADDIS

WRITER'S E-MAIL

grimm@barrowgrimm.com

April 27, 2020

G. Calvin Sharpe
Phillips Murrah, P.C.
Corporation Tower, Thirteenth Floor
101 N. Robinson
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Via Email Only to: gcsharpe@phillipsmurrah.com

Re: Osage Nation – Select Committee of Inquiry
Request for Documents and Testimony
Our File No. 12027.000

Dear Calvin:

As you know from our prior discussions, this Firm has been retained by the Select Committee of Inquiry (“SCOI”) of the Osage Nation Congress to investigate allegations relating to Congresswoman Shannon Edwards’s service as an appellate judge of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (“YAN”). It is my intent to conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation in a most efficient and cost-effective manner. In furtherance of those goals, you have previously requested to present witnesses and documents to the SCOI for its consideration.

In that regard, I request that Congresswoman Edwards deliver to me voluntarily the following materials and documents, together with any other information she desires the SCOI to consider:

1. Any documents, including but not limited to any applications, correspondence and/or curriculum vitae, submitted by Congresswoman Edwards to YAN and/or its tribal representatives (“Representatives”) in relation to her position on the YAN Judiciary;
2. All documents received by Congresswoman Edwards from YAN or any YAN Representative prior to, during and subsequent to her position on the YAN Judiciary;

3. All documents regarding any communications between Congresswoman Edwards and any Osage Nation representative regarding YAN and/or the YAN Judiciary during her position on the YAN Judiciary;
4. All documents regarding any communications between Congresswoman Edwards and any employee or board member of the *Osage News* regarding YAN and/or the YAN judiciary;
5. All documents regarding any communications between Congresswoman Edwards and any third party regarding YAN and/or the YAN Judiciary;
6. All documents regarding any communications from Congresswoman Edwards to any YAN Representative regarding Congresswoman Edwards's acceptance and/or resignation of her position on the YAN Judiciary;
7. All documents regarding any communications from Congresswoman Edwards to any Osage Nation Representative regarding her acceptance and/or resignation of her position on the YAN Judiciary;
8. Any contracts, unsigned and/or signed, presented to Congresswoman Edwards by or in relation to the YAN Judiciary;
9. Any forms, declarations, and/or disclosures submitted by Congresswoman to the Osage Nation Election Board in regard to the upcoming election scheduled for June 1, 2020.

I ask that these documents be delivered to me not later than May 7, 2020. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours very truly,

BARROW & GRIMM, P.C.

William R. Grimm

William R. Grimm

Cc: Alice Goodfox

SECTION X
MISCELLANEOUS

TAB 1
OPEN LETTER TO OSAGE PEOPLE



To the Osage People:

On March 9, 2020 the Osage Nation Election Board certified me as a candidate for the Seventh Osage Nation Congress. This action negates any concern about whether I am qualified to serve on the next Congress. I have undertaken what will be my last campaign in hopes of securing the foundation I helped build as a member of every Congress since 2006. My efforts and successes as a Congresswoman for ALL Osages over the last four years are found inside this paper. I am proud of what we have accomplished together over the last fourteen years.

The next Congress will face obstacles unseen since the formation of our Constitutional government. As I write, the Nation's casinos are all currently closed, many of our elders have exhausted their health benefits, and the Standing Bear administration has painted a grim picture of cash flow to continue government operations. The Osage Congress is planning to conduct its first ever digital Session. Now is not the time for a change in leadership.

The immediate priority for Congress must be to protect the Osage People from the effects of the COVID-19 crisis. Reasoned decision making is paramount in the months to come. I have dedicated much of my adult professional career to improving your wellbeing. I am now crafting bills that address the needs of all our members in these unprecedented times. From exploring ways to increase the Health Benefit Fund, to helping our People remain employed, and creating new short-term benefits, I will continue to work for you.

In August 2019 I was asked to join an appellate court for another tribal nation. I was to be an independent contractor, and did not have an executed contract. I did no work, and I received no compensation. I never hid that appointment, which I publicized at the time, not realizing a problem, since I followed precedent—two other lawyers served other tribes while Osage Nation officials. When I learned this service could pose a problem, I submitted my resignation. I apologize to you for any loss of faith occasioned by my actions.

Service on the Osage Congress requires making hard and sometimes unpopular decisions. Voters should not be swayed by sensational reporting and those who hurl rumor and unfounded accusations on social media. The Osage Constitution resolves that we live in harmony and respect the fundamental values we hold sacred: Justice, Fairness, Compassion, Respect for and protection of All Fellow Beings and Self. I try to conduct myself in accordance with these values. We have a common enemy that is affecting the world. It is time to trust proven leadership. I humbly ask you to allow me to continue to serve the Nation in these difficult times. Please request an absentee ballot and vote for Shannon Edwards.

TAB 2

APRIL 2020 OSAGE NEWS NEWSPAPER

PR SRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 49
STIGLER, OK 74462



Osage News

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Osage News File Photo

Osage Casinos closed its doors to the public on March 18 in an effort to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

Osage Casinos suspends hotel and gaming operations until further notice

Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

The Gaming Enterprise Board unanimously

tel and gaming operations at all seven casinos starting at 11:59 p.m. March 18, until further notice

the impact it will have on the Osage Nation," said Byron Bighorse, CEO of Osage Casinos in a press release. "However the

our top priority. We are in a time when the entire community needs to pull together for what is best, and that is pre-

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Shannon Shaw
Osage News

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I AM TRULY GRATEFUL FOR THESE ENDORSEMENTS

The Osage Nation can use a person like Jim with his business background coupled with his Ph.D. in Business Administration to change the way that we do business. Jim knows that we need to generate more revenue and more importantly generate revenue from different sources than just gaming. -**John Henry Mashunkashey**

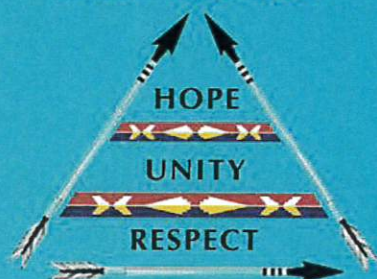
There are a lot of challenges that face the Osage people, including how our government operates, the budget and how we as a nation conduct business. Jim brings a fresh way of thinking to the table coupled with a deep respect of the Osage ways. Jim can help the Osage Nation transform into the 21st century while the same time honoring our traditions and culture -**Joe Trumbly**

Jim has his own voice but is willing to work with others to do what is best for the Osage People. His sole priority is to give to the Osage People and do what is best for all of them. -**Billie Ponca**

*It is Time for a **New Voice!!!!***

DR. JAMES (JIM) TRUMBLY

Tah Wa He



FOR OSAGE NATION CONGRESS



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OSAGE STRATEGIC U

The Osage Nation Survey has been further notice du health state of en by Chief Standing

Please follow our and Osage News new release date.

@OsageS

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OsageStrateg





Shannon Edwards for Osage Nation Congress

Hard Work, Determination Results.

In the last 4 years, Shannon Edwards has sponsored 82 bills and resolutions; 7 have become law. Edwards has bills for the next session that appropriate emergency monies for Health Benefit, and increase Burial and Direct Assistance services that help all in need. She is proposing bills that authorize an Ethics Commission, new membership for the Executive Committee, and compensation for persons injured on Osage Nation property.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BILLS SPONSORED BY SHANNON EDWARDS OVER THE LAST 2 YEARS:

HEALTH

- ✓ An Act to Appropriate \$5,600,600 to the Health Benefit Fund from Fiscal Year 2017 Revenue.
- ✓ An Act to Establish a Health Clinic Construction Fund.
- ✓ An Act to Appropriate \$1,500,000 to the Health Clinic Construction Fund.
- ✓ An Act to Appropriate \$9,200,000 to the Health Benefit

- ✓ An Act to Authorize and Appropriate \$26,300 to the Osage Nation Code Fund for costs to Publish the Code.
- ✓ An Act to establish the format for annual authorization and appropriation legislation.
- ✓ An Act to Amend the Open Records Act to include text messages and electronic mail on devices owned by the Osage Nation or accounts operated by the Osage Nation as public records.
- ✓ An Act to Amend and Restate the law on the Office of Fiscal and Performance Review.

- ✓ A Resolution to Amend the Osage Nation Code
- ✓ A Resolution to pay a dividend to the Osage Nation
- ✓ A Resolution to pay a dividend to the Osage Nation
- ✓ An Act to Amend the Osage Nation Code

KA.S.N.BA
Geoffrey M. Standing Bear
Principal Chief

Osage Nation
Office of the Principal Chief



KA.S.N.BA O.S.A.D.ZA
Raymond Red Corn
Assistant Principal Chief

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING A PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF
EMERGENCY FOR THE OSAGE NATION**

Under the authority of Article VII, Section 1 of the Osage Nation Constitution, and in the interest of the Osage People and the general public, I, Geoffrey M. Standing Bear, Principal Chief, declare that a Public Health State of Emergency for the Osage Nation exists within the territory of the Osage Nation.

WHEREAS, the jurisdiction of the Osage Nation extends over all persons, subjects, property, and over all activities occurring within the territory of the Osage Nation and over all Osage citizens, subjects, property and activities outside such territory affecting the rights and laws of the Osage Nation; and

WHEREAS, a highly infectious Coronavirus Disease known as ("COVID-19") has spread and increased globally as indicated by the Centers for Disease Controls and Prevention ("CDC"), the World Health Organization ("WHO"), and other public health organizations within the United States; and

WHEREAS, no confirmed COVID-19 cases have been verified within the territory of the Osage Nation and the WahZhaZhe Health Center is carefully monitoring the situation; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, Osage Nation employees were directed to restrict travel; on March 16, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-02 activating the Osage Nation Pandemic Prevention and Recovery Process Protocol; on March 16, 2020, procedures were implemented for employees to work from home; on March 17, 2020, Osage Nation schools were closed; on March 18, 2020, Osage Casinos were closed; throughout the government of the Osage Nation restrictions to public access were placed into protocols department by department and building by building; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, I was informed the WahZhaZhe Health Center is facing a critical shortage of COVID-19 test kits; that the confirmation of COVID-19 illness in a person or whether a person has been exposed and is contagious, cannot be determined without a COVID-19 test; and therefore, the number of persons who may become ill with the COVID-19 cannot be reasonably ascertained at this time; and

627 Grandview * P.O. Box 779 * Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056
Telephone 918-287-5555 * Fax 918-287-5562

Congress Session COVID

Benny Polacca
Osage News

With coronavirus
Osage Nation Cong
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WHEREAS. the suspension of gaming and hotel operations of the Osage Nation has an



Osage News File Photo

The Fourth Osage Minerals Council declared a State of Emergency on March 16 and a stay was enacted on all non-essential spending.

Minerals Council declares state of emergency; stay enacted on all non-essential spending

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Osage News

With oil prices bottoming out nationwide in part due to the spread of the novel coronavirus, the Osage Minerals Council has declared a state of emergency for the mineral estate.

Chairman Everett Waller issued the announcement March 16. Under the terms of the declaration, council offices will be closed to the public for 30 days and a stay has been enacted on all non-essential spending. The council's March 18 regular meeting has been canceled and all previously scheduled business postponed until April 3 at the earliest.

through the Osage Nation's website and YouTube.

"It is the intent of the Osage Minerals Council to follow the protocols established by our Osage Nation leadership in protecting the public," Waller wrote in the announcement. "In the meantime, the council will look to the federal government's emergency provisions to determine what resources are available to our annuitants in this critical time."

At the time of the announcement, the highest posted price for a barrel of oil was \$25, down more than \$3 from March 13 and \$30 from a year ago.

Domestic oil prices dropped almost 25 percent on March 9 after Saudi Arabia announced

Wah-Zha-Zhi He establishes task force to minimize risk of

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Osage News

The novel coronavirus has made its way to northeastern Oklahoma.

On March 6, officials with the Tulsa County Health Department and the Oklahoma Health Department confirmed the state's first case of COVID-19.

The man in question is a Tulsa County resident who recently traveled to Italy, which has about 9,100 confirmed cases of the virus as of March 10. He returned to Tulsa on Feb. 23 via Tulsa International Airport and did not start showing any symptoms until Feb. 29. He is under home quarantine, as are the members of his immediate family.

A second case was confirmed by the Tulsa County Health Department on March 10. A woman in her mid-20s, she also traveled to Italy but has no known connections to the other confirmed case. The University of Tulsa has since gone to online classes only through April 5, as she is an immediate family member of a current student.

Common symptoms include coughing, shortness of breath and fever. They can appear anywhere from two to 14 days after initial exposure. No vaccines are available at this time. As of March 8, 78

this, but for any new respiratory viruses.

"That means you wash your hands frequently. If you're sick, we should stay home. Don't try to tough it out and go to work and infect everyone else sick. Stay home."

As part of an \$8.3 million supplemental appropriation to address the outbreak, a million has been earmarked for tribes, urban organizations and Health Services.

Osage Task Force

Citing concerns about spreading the virus, the executive committee for the United Indian Health Service of Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas canceled the organization's spring quarterly meeting scheduled for March in Wyandotte, Oklahoma. A handful of tribes are restricting government-funded travel to those with confirmed cases, including the Osage.

"Per an Emergency Management meeting in conjunction with the County Health Department and the Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center, it has been determined to restrict travel out of state, especially to those states most affected by the Coronavirus," Director of Operations Christian Johnson in a March 16 email to ON employees.

Wahzhazhe Health Center to see surge of patients due to COVID-19

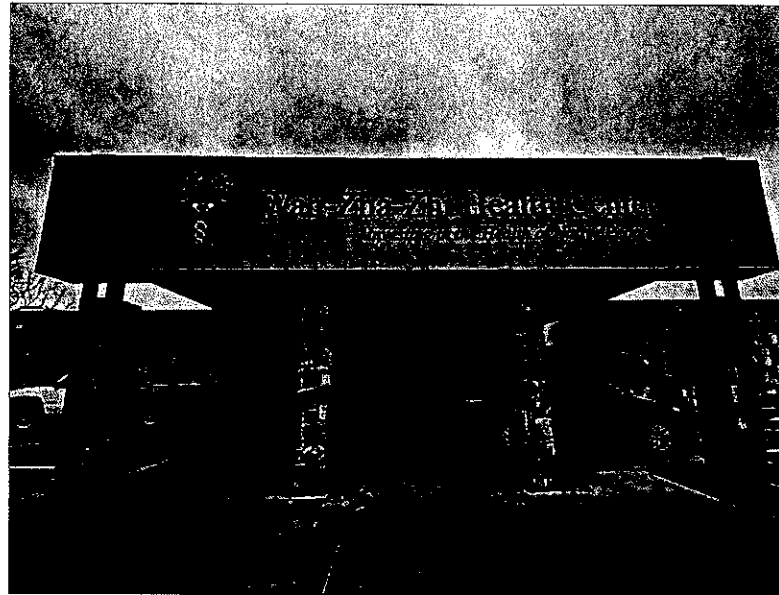
Shannon Shaw Duty
Osage News

The Oklahoma State Department of Health reported Osage County had its first positive case of COVID-19 on March 25.

The OSDH declined to say the location of the positive case. They also said they don't keep track of information by county and could not say how many kits have been distributed to Osage County.

But, according to Dr. Ron Shaw, Wahzhazhe Health Center Chief Medical Officer, it was only a matter of time until there was a positive case.

"We're just waiting for the surge," Shaw said on March 24. "Right now, we're only testing people with fever and



SHANNON SHAW DUTY/Osage News

A triage tent is set up outside the front doors of the Wahzhazhe Health Center in Pawhuska. Patients will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms before they enter the clinic.

get the tests back. I suspect they will begin to come in this week," he said. "We've had

treatment for those infected with COVID-19. Shaw said it is their job to separate the mild from moderate symptomatic patients.

In emergency cases, and if the patient can handle the trip, he will send them to Jane Phillips Medical Center in Bartlesville, which is a 30-minute car ride. "I would be afraid Pawhuska Hospital would be overwhelmed," he said. A second option would be St. John's Medical Center in Tulsa, which is an hour-long car ride.

"We haven't seen the surge yet, but I don't think Oklahoma's seen the surge yet," he said. "If you only have 200 cases in the state, it's only a matter of time when we start to see more and hope we have

Oklahoma State Update COVID-19

COVID-19

Positive (In-State)
Positive (Out-of-State)
Negative*
Hospitalizations
Deaths

*Negative testing results from Laboratory and do not include

COVID-19 C

Laboratory
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00-04
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36-49
50-64
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Canadian

New procedures:

1. A Triage tent is set up outside the entrance to assess the likelihood of disease and to minimize entrance into the clinic for unnecessary reasons - all who seek to enter the building will be asked to check-in at the tent
2. An isolation area within the waiting room designed to place the patients with respiratory illness while awaiting evaluation
3. You may be asked to wait in your car to be texted when you are ready to be seen to minimize wait and exposure within the clinic waiting room
4. Patients with administrative tasks in their clinic can pick up and drop off paperwork through the pharmacy drive-through window
5. We are requesting that our patients limit the number of people you bring with you or we ask that they wait outside or in the car if not necessary to your visit
6. We likely will begin rescheduling non-acute appointments by

Oklahoma board of education closes public schools until April 6

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — Due to concerns over COVID-19, the Oklahoma board of education has ordered the mandatory closure of all accredited public schools in the state until April 6.

In an emergency meeting on March 16, state Superintendent Joy Hofmeister said the move was out of an abundance of caution to protect families from the rapidly spreading virus.

"This is not a simple deci-

sion that we are bringing this recommendation to you today, and it will be challenging for many families," she said. "Nothing takes precedence over the health and well-being of our people. Nothing."

The decision to suspend instruction applies to all traditional public school districts, as well as brick and mortar and virtual charter schools. While classes are suspended, all school-sponsored extracurricular activities for students, grading, professional development sessions and other programs will all grind to a halt. Essential administrative du-

ties and maintenance will be allowed to continue.

The state has received a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide free meals in a non-group setting to public school students eligible for free and reduced priced meals while districts are closed. An additional waiver application is still pending to expand the meal service to cover more students under the emergency school closure provisions of both the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option and the Summer Food Service Program.

Hofmeister also states the state would seek out available cable testing waivers, particularly should the closure be extended.

"We are not going to encourage children to come in and be assessed under these circumstances," she said.

Although the state education's decision could extend to the Osage immersion school, the Ahsikodapi school and will remain closed until April 6. The language immersion schools in Pawhuska, Fairfax and Skiatook will also be closed until April 6.

School districts make meals available for students during school shutdowns

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

With classes suspended statewide through at least April 6, Oklahoma school districts are making arrangements to guarantee their students do not go hungry.

As part of a March 16 emergency school board meeting, state Superintendent Joy Hofmeister announced that the state had received waivers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide meals for students in a non-communal setting while districts are shut down due to the novel coronavirus.

Starting March 23, Pawhuska Public Schools will have free grab and go breakfasts and lunches available at the

is served from 11 a.m. through 12:30 p.m.

The district will also be delivering free meals to the following areas around Pawhuska while school is out due to the virus:

- Meadow Glenn Addition
- St. Paul and Old Highway 99
- Ninth and Prudom
- Sunset and Bayliss
- 17th and Bighill

Meal deliveries will be in a labeled district vehicle with breakfast coming around 8:30 a.m. and lunch around 11:30 a.m.

Other area districts are also making similar arrangements that will also start on March 23 and last until

Friday from 11 a.m. to noon in the First Baptist Church's West Campus parking lot at 825 W. Rogers Blvd.

Woodland Public Schools will have grab and go meals available Monday through Thursday from 10-11 a.m. at the high school cafeteria in Fairfax and the middle school cafeteria in Ralston.

Avant School will have a meal pickup line outside its cafeteria from 8-9 a.m. Participating families are required to stay in their cars and have their students with them. Individual arrangements are being made to accommodate rural bus riders.

Anderson School near Sand Springs will have meals available from 8-10 a.m. Monday through Friday in its front

through Thursday at elementary school cafeteria. Assembly of God Church's meal delivery is available out of town bus riders.

Wynona Public Schools have a drive through meal service available from 8 a.m. and noon-1 p.m. on Main Street for all area students. Students who ride the town can pick up their meals at their bus stop. Wynona families are also asked to let the district know as soon as possible about whether they have internet access at home to complete web-based instruction to finish out the school year.

Through a partnership with the local Ministry of the Word, Shidler School will have curbside meal service from 11 a.m. to noon

CASINO

—from Page 1

venting the spread of this global pandemic.”

According to the release, Osage executives will continue to monitor the situation. Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear said the Nation will work in tandem with health professionals, other tribal gaming operations and city and state officials.

Possible effects of closure

The income derived from Osage Casinos funds the operations of the Osage Nation, which include the three branches of government. Within the Executive Branch there are nearly 500 employees and many of those employees' salaries are funded by casino revenue. The casinos give the Nation a monthly distribution to pay for the Nation's employees, department and program costs, matching funds for federal grants, and the payments for the health benefit card, the Plan F Medicare supplement, the Part D Subscription supplement, the Higher Education Scholarship Fund and the Burial Assistance Fund.

Standing Bear said the casinos have already made the monthly distribution for March and have enough in reserve to make the monthly distribution for April, should the casinos be closed for more than two weeks. But, if the casinos are closed for

Congress lacks votes to call Special Session to form Select Committee of Inquiry

Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage News

A Special Session Proclamation to consider the formation of a Select Committee of Inquiry to investigate the allegations of disqualification of Congresswoman Shannon Edwards has failed.

The proclamation did not receive the required eight signatures to schedule a special session for March 23. However, the members of Congress who did not sign the proclamation say the issue will be taken up during the Hun-Kah Session, which begins on March 30, only seven days later.

“There is nothing time sensitive to the matter in my opinion and the 23rd didn't jive with everyone's schedule. I expect the same motion to establish a committee of inquiry to be made on the first or second day of the Hun-Kah Session when there is a higher likelihood of all members being

present,” said Congressman RJ Walker, who did not sign the proclamation. “Regardless of any member's personal feeling about Congresswoman Edwards, or any other elected official in the future, due process is a necessary step prior to consideration of removal.”

The failed proclamation itself is not a public document, according to Osage Congressional attorney Loyed “Trey” Gill.

“The proposed Special Session Proclamation is a draft, which is a protected record unless otherwise classified as public under Osage law at 15 ONC 8-104, and it does not become a public record of the Osage Nation Congress until it receives the required eight signatures and is certified by a Clerk of Congress,” said Gill in a March 6 email.

Due to the fact that Congress is a public body and who did or didn't sign the proclamation is of public interest,

the Osage News call member of Congress [redacted] he or she signed it. [redacted] bers of Congress said signed it, three members they did not, one member no comment and two members did not immediately respond to request for comment.

Speaker Joe Tillman “First day of session [redacted] will make the motion to form the committee of inquiry.”

Second Speaker Paul [redacted] bler: Yes

Congressman Scott [redacted] Horse: Yes

Congresswoman [redacted] Edwards: Did not immediately return a request for comment.

Congresswoman Ali [redacted] fox: Yes

Congresswoman Lemon: Yes, “I felt [redacted] get this going so it [redacted] be hanging over the [redacted] Session because that [redacted] we are doing the people [redacted] But others didn't feel [redacted] I voted my conscience.”

TPS soliciting feedback on redesign of Indian Education program

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Osage News

TULSA, Okla. — Tulsa Public Schools is soliciting feedback on three versions of a redesign for its Indian Education program.

After two nights of focus groups with community members, tribal officials, students and parents, TPS sent families an email March 19 with a survey link outlining three different redesign proposals.

Currently, the district has seven certified resource advisers

5,000 students since the 2004-2005 school year.

Further limiting the budget are the state-mandated raises for certified teachers, including all seven resource advisers. Although the state of Oklahoma required the raises, it did not include additional financial resources to cover certified teachers and administrators whose salaries are paid from federal funds.

The proposals were put together by the focus groups based on budget projections. Confirmed, final numbers will not be available until later this

schools within a special high school's feeder pattern. The program would also have a [redacted] American literature teacher who would [redacted] among the district's middle and junior high schools, seven teaching assistants and fund 15 tutoring stipends.

Option No. 2 calls for [redacted] office to have five certified resource advisers on an 11-month contract, plus a lead resource adviser on a year-round

Election Office issues candidate workshop vid

Benny Polacca

Osage News

With the 2020 election season continuing while social distancing is encouraged to prevent exposure to the coronavirus spread, the Osage Nation Election Office conducted its candidate workshop presentation by video for those seeking Congressional office.

The Election Office canceled the March 20 in-person candidate workshop for the 15 certified candidates as part of coronavirus spread preventive measures. In its place, the office produced a 12-plus-minute video shared with the candidates afterward. The video is also available on the "Osage Elections" YouTube channel.

There are 15 certified candidates seeking six seats opening on the Seventh ON Congress in the June 1 general election. As part of the video presentation, the Election Office discussed



Screenshot of YouTube Video

Due to precautions associated with the possible spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19, The Osage Nation Election Office produced a candidate workshop video for candidates that can be found on YouTube.

upcoming candidate information, including campaign reporting statements.

Per the election rules and regulations, the Election Office is authorized to set rules on candidate reporting statements, which are required to be submitted twice detailing

campaign-related donations and expenses. The first statement is due at the Election Office the week of May 11-15 and the second one is due by June 16.

The Election Office identifies donations as candidate self-donations, previously used

campaign materials prior election campaign individual monetary donations (contributions from individuals), individual in-kind donations (contributions in form of goods and services), business entity donations, anonymous/ unidentifiable monetary donations. Expenses, all goods and services purchased for a campaign must be listed on the campaign reporting statements.

Candidates who submit campaign financial statements by the deadline are fined \$500 by the Board and fines of \$1,000 will be assessed for failing to correct any deficiencies identified by the board or for not opening the candidate campaign account, according to the Election Office campaign financial rules.

"All donations from individuals, corporations, limited liability companies, any business entity, or trust reported, as well as

Election Office cancels 2020 Congressional candidate workshop

Benny Polacca

Osage News

With increasing concerns of the spreading COVID-19 coronavirus, the Osage Nation Election Office is canceling its March 20 Congressional candidate workshop and will conduct a video presentation instead.

Each election year, the Election Office invites Osages seeking public office to attend a candidate workshop to go over election-related rules and laws and to answer any questions as the election season continues. The event also includes a drawing to determine the order in which the candidates' names will appear on the ballot, as well as a separate drawing for Election Day candidate campsite locations at the ON campus park.

Election Supervisor Alexis Rencountre announced the

California Osage organization cancels spring gatherings due to COVID-19

Benny Polacca

Osage News

With the increasing news reports on U.S. outbreaks of the deadly coronavirus, both California Osage organizations announced their spring gatherings scheduled March 28-29 are canceled.

The United Osages of Southern California and Northern California organizations announced their respective event cancellations on March 4 after speaking with Osage Nation officials and some Congressional candidates who had planned air travel from Okla.

cancellation notice stating "We want to encourage you to take careful consideration in deciding whether to attend our 29th meeting in Wichita, Kansas, due to concerns regarding the potential exposure to COVID-19. Those who are traveling and have compromised immune systems. We want to protect our people safe."

As of March 4, the death toll from coronavirus infections stood at 11,000, according to USA Today. The 148 confirmed cases as of March 4 in at least 15 states as of that day, according to a

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

John F. Maker

- 1) **Name:** John F. Maker
- 2) **Osage Name:** Do Ho Ho (Blue Fish)
- 3) **Clan:** Deer Clan
- 4) **Band(s):** William Penn Band and Claremore Band
- 5) **Osage District:** Zon Zo Li, Hominy District
- 6) **Family:** Single, Sister Marguerite Ann Maker Freeman, Brother Larry Maker, numerous Nieces and Nephews.
- 7) **Osage ancestry:** Parents Lloyd and Virginia Harding Maker, Paternal Grandparents Full Bloods, Ross Maker Allottee #816 and Emma Marie Maker Allottee #471. Maternal Grandparents Arlan R. Harding and Marguerite Penn Harding. Paternal, Great-Grandparents, Full Bloods, Tah Hah Gah Heh Allottee #809 and Wah Hu Sah E Allottee #810. Maternal Great-Grandparents Full Bloods, Me Chet Tsa He Allottee #810 and wife Wah Ko Sah Moie Allottee #453.

8) **Education:** Bachelor of Arts Degree; Bacone College

9) **Work Experience:** 8 years Osage Congress, 7 years Teacher Osage Language Department, and Veteran U.S. Army

10) **Are you cultural?** I am very cultural, member of the Zon Zo Li/ Hominy District Committee. Attend Native American Church. Involved in Osage Language.

11) **Are you related to any other candidate?** Not related to any other candidates

12) **Are you related to a current Osage official?** I am second cousins to a Mineral Councilwoman and second cousin to a Gaming Commissioner.

13) **Anything else you would like to add?** I am $\frac{3}{4}$ Osage Indian and a Veteran of the U.S. Army. I have served my country and my Osage people with dignity and honor. And will always provide experienced leadership and will obey my oath of office to protect and defend the Osage Constitution and Laws of the Osage Nation.

Pam Shaw

- 1) **Name:** Pam Shaw
- 2) **Osage Name:** WAH-K'O KAH-HI-KA (Woman Chief)

Joe Tillman

- 1) **Name:** Joe Tillman
- 2) **Osage Name:** O-be-tse-kah Kah-hay (Red tail hawk or Hawk maker)
- 3) **Clan:** Sun
- 4) **Osage District:** Gray Horse
- 5) **Family:** Married to Cindy Tillman 17 years. One child Cory Tillman
- 6) **Osage ancestry:** Original Allottee's Great grand Hall Goode and Maggie (Yellow Horse) Goode. Grandmother sephine Goode Tillman
- 7) **Education:** Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Communications from Oklahoma State University.
- 8) **Work Experience:** Marketing for CPA firms, Colleging, Division Leader for Osage Nation.

9) **Are you cultural?** Dancing for over 45 years. My mother taught me how to weave, bead, sew, and cook.

10) **Are you related to any other candidates?** Probable them in one way or another.

11) **Anything else you would like to add?** As an Osage will continue to be on faith, family, women, children culture and language and opportunities to keep them was raised by my grandmother a full blood Osage woman taught me many things. She taught me love, how to be and most important how to make decisions. Many times decision making was difficult and not always popular and my brother. However, she made them with the info provided and we moved on. Similarly as a member of Council have to make decisions that are not always popular but we do them and we move on. No one is perfect and I pray to God he always guides us in the right direction. Now is not a time to criticize but a time to lift one another up and be supportive.

Today the world is changing around us as we speak the Constitution speaks to uniting as a Nation and as a people upon the fundamental values that we hold sacred and giving thanks to their wisdom and courage. You as citizens have a voice and that voice needs to be heard. Please every opportunity to reach out to any member of the Osage Congress and express your views about our Nation and the direction we are headed.

The Osage Nation remains strong and will continue as we are constantly working to improve programs and services. Our employees are the backbone of the Osage Nation and have to continue providing them with adequate resources for their success.

I humbly ask you for your support and vote this June and may God bless!

Joe Tillman

CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Billy Keene announces his candidacy for the Osage Nation Congress

By Billy Keene

My name is Billy Keene and I humbly ask for your support to be elected to Osage Congress. I am the father of Carson Anthony Keene and Robert Owen Keene (ROK). I am the son of Joe and Margaret Denise Keene. Margaret Denise Keene is the daughter of Cecilia Red Eagle and Wiley Thornton, the granddaughter of Harry Red Eagle Sr. and Mary Red Eagle. I am the great-great-great grandson of Governor Joe. I am a member of the Zon-Zo-Li District and have danced in the Osage In-Lon-Schka for over 20 years. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Haskell Indian Nations University and a Juris Doctorate from Oklahoma City University School of Law with an Indian Law Certificate. I am honored to also serve on the Haskell University Foundation.

I currently work with the Osage Nation Compliance Department and provide oversight and internal reviews for 30 tribal departments. This work experience gives me a keen insight into how our day-to-day operations operate. It is time for change. I promise to always look to see how our tribal dollars can serve our most vulnerable populations first (elders, children, sick/handicapped) before these dollars leave the Osage Nation Treasury.

Our language and culture departments are vital and make us who we are. I will be a staunch advocate for these



Billy Keene

tial. In the past Congress has appropriated millions of dollars to LLC's who have not returned a profit. Currently Pawhuska is experiencing an economic boom. It is inexcusable the Osage Nation does not have a profitable business presence in the downtown Pawhuska area. As your Congressman, I promise to use common sense when evaluating what dollars go toward economic development. Oklahoma Governor Stitt has taken action to attack our gaming operations and tribal sovereignty, my Indian Law Certificate gives me a unique skill-set to confront these legal challenges.

I will not campaign on empty promises, and won't pitch "pie in the sky" ideas to you. It is paramount we spend our Tribal dollars smarter. I pledge to have an open channel of communication with the Osage Constituents and always provide needed feedback even when Congress is not in

Mary Jo Pratt announces her candidacy for Osage Nation Congress

By Mary Jo Pratt

I appreciate each one of you that supported me two years ago. I am going to ask for your continued support now.

I believe leaders are supposed to change the world people live in. We, as leaders, have an obligation to help our people step into a better quality of life. I believe we need more leaders to drive the effectiveness of their function - leaders that will play a strategic role in our Nation's success.

We have a strong need to accelerate transformation across our three dimensions to deliver excellent outcomes for you. This is why I fully support working with our brothers and sisters on the Minerals Council. There are many tribes where energy development is the primary revenue generator. I believe we should look into this opportunity in greater detail. A Tribal Energy Resource Agreement (TERA) would grant authority to us so that we could approve leases, business agreements and rights-of-way for energy development on tribal lands.

My career began with strong dedication to my community more than 20 years ago. My leadership and business acumen stem from an accomplished history of service to guarantee positive results for not only my clientele but also the community at large. I have a strong sense of ethics and experience creating multi-million dollar balanced budgets, project management,



Mary Jo Pratt

understanding of how different levels of government work and how to work them for positive outcomes.

I am family and community oriented; I will devote my time to make you better. I truly believe community engagement, this is how ideas become law. I will advocate strong and inviting engagement to enhance the well-being of our entire Nation. I firmly believe how we treat our people, the most vulnerable, is a reflection of who we are. I ask for your support and I ask you to bring your voices forward. Let us change together. I will strive to have a richer understanding of your needs and stand strong for your future.

This land, our land, is shared by all of us and we face the challenges we face together. We pride ourselves on our courage, strength, and resiliency. Let us carry that flame, not put it out.

We come from strong, honorable people who gave up on what we had. We are also respectful of our traditions.

Jim Trumbly announces his candidacy for Osage Nation Congress

By Jim Trumbly

I, Dr. James (Jim) Trumbly, am formally announcing my candidacy for the 7th Osage Nation Congress.

I am a direct descendant of Pa Hu Ska as well as Julian Trumbly and Eliza Ann Tinker. My grandfather was Oliver Trumbly (Ponca City) and his father is William Dale Trumbly a WW II Bronze Star and 2 purple hearts recipient.

I am the Sr. Vice Commander for The American Legion Post 198 Pawhuska. I served during the Vietnam War in the Army. I repaired all the coding and decoding equipment. After leaving the Army I spent several years in the Oil Business.

I hold a doctorate in Business Administration. I attended the University of Oklahoma for my BBA in Management, and Texas A&M for a Master's in Business Computing Sciences. My Doctorate in Business Administration is from Mississippi State University.

I have served on the faculty of the University of Oklahoma, University of Texas at El Paso, and currently I am an adjunct faculty member at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Bacone College and Pawnee Nation College. I have been working in the IT / Technology field since 1980. Also, I am a certified Project Management Professional (PMP).

I worked in the private sector as a consultant and software designer. I traveled to Afghanistan in 2010 as a government defense contractor. I have written over 30 refereed journal articles and conference proceedings. I also hold a patent for the development of "Business Level Metrics for Information Technology"

I am a NRA Certified Instructor and Training Counselor



Dr. James (Jim) Trumbly

worked with Scouts for 15 years as a Volunteer.

Once I moved to Pawhuska, I quickly got involved in special projects for the Osage Nation. Chief Standing Bear asked me to assist on the Broadband project. This was a natural choice, due to my extensive background in the US Telecommunication Industry, having been the Chief Technology Officer for the US Telecom Industry group for EDS. Once that project was stalled because of the ABB (American Burying Beetle), Chief Standing Bear asked me to project manage Bird Creek Farm. I have worked and implemented several actions that has put Bird Creek Farm (now Eco Park and Farm) on the path to becoming profitable for the first time. The farm is growing produce that will be purchased by our Casinos including Hops for Nine Band Brewery. I am working on completing the USDA application that will allow the Osage Nation to enter into and regulate our own Hemp industry, both farming and perhaps processing. In fact, 120 acres of land outside of Fairfax has been set aside for growing Hemp.

I moved to Pawhuska, for two purposes 1) To assimilate and learn the Osage Culture

Michael Bristow announces his candidacy

By Michael Bristow

HaWe, I am Michael Bristow and I would appreciate your vote for Osage Congress.

My mother is Olivia "Biggie" Mashunkashey Bristow, born and raised in Hominy. My maternal great-grandfather, Ben Mashunkashey, was the first Drumkeeper for the WahHaKon-lin district. My father, Bob Bristow, was a member of the Native American Church. I am proud to have been raised with Osage traditions. I took my place at our E-Lon-Schka dances at the age of 8 and I have held a position on the Pawhuska War Dance committee since the age of 14.

As your Congressman, I will be devoted to the following:

Eldercare: As a member of Congress, I will instill a strong support for Eldercare during budgeting prioritization. I would like to see the Nation focus resources into establishing a skilled nursing facility and develop a comprehensive Eldercare program. By providing this type of service to our elders, we can allow them to age-in-place in Osage County surrounded by family, friends, and care givers who understand what it means to be Osage. A facility such as this would provide a win/win situation in establishing an avenue for Osage

Scholarship recipients in the health care an opportunity to contribute to the Nation and our elders with the benefit of their education.



Michael Bristow

Integrity: As a Speech Pathologist with geriatric patients, honesty and strong principals are essential to my practice. I am ready daily that when the care needs of our people are addressed, we create a strong community. I want to make sure our elders are treated with love, and the highest respect. Our Osage youth are given every opportunity to a higher education to that our Osage people in today's economy a bright future. As a son, and Godfather, it



Pam Shaw announces her candidacy for Osage Nation Congress

By Pam Shaw

Fellow Members of the Osage Nation, Ha.We and thank you for giving me the opportunity to address you. My name is Pam Shaw and I am running for a seat on the Osage Nation Congress. I am proud of this great Nation and understand the responsibility that comes along with being elected to serve our people. My platform is based on supporting thriving businesses and creating opportunities for our members; preserving our Culture and Language; and honoring and supporting our youth and elders.

I believe that members of the Osage Nation deserve and expect a well-rounded, honest, hard-working Congress who carry out the Oath of Office to the letter of the law, without compromise. Our Congress should be comprised of competent and experienced professionals with collective areas of expertise to find positive solutions for the critical issues that face our Nation today.

As a former gaming CEO, I have a great deal of experience in creating and managing budgets, strategic planning, writing policies, leading, project management, training, and generating revenue for Tribes.



Pam Shaw

In my nearly 15 years in Tribal Gaming, I have had the opportunity to lead Marketing and Guest Service efforts, serve as General Manager of several properties, lead as Chief of Operations, and finally, Chief Executive Officer of a gaming enterprise. I understand firsthand the challenges and intricacies of the major source of revenue for the Osage Nation.

I believe in mentoring and sharing professional experiences that help others achieve their goals. Out of this belief, I co-founded the group United Women of Tribal Gaming, that is geared toward supporting, celebrating, training, and empowering women in the industry.

Prior to serving tribes through my work in gaming, I spent 17 years in the corporate world where I learned to be a

good employee, set and achieve goals, and function in a very structured environment. I have a bachelor's degree in Business from St. Gregory's University, which I completed while raising three busy sons and while working in a very demanding profession.

I am a resident of Fairfax, Oklahoma, the Grayhorse District and am deer clan. I am of Governor Joe's band. My great-great grandpa's name was Wilson Kirk, Tah Sah Tah. He served on the very first Council. He was not elected, but instead was a lineage Assistant Chief for seven years. I am very proud of my heritage and my family. I have been married to John Shaw for almost 31 years and together we have raised three strong Osage men—Derek, Burgess, and Kirk. I have two beautiful grandchildren: Lilly, who is two, and Garrett, who was born in March. I am fortunate to have Jerry and Beth Shaw as my in-laws. I am culturally grounded and enjoy cooking, sewing, and preparing for the dances.

I have been a hard worker since my early teens and I will dedicate every bit of energy to doing what is right as a member of Congress. I humbly ask you to elect Pam Shaw for Osage Nation Congress.

Melissa Goodfox Dailey announces her candidacy for Osage Nation Congress

By Melissa Goodfox Dailey

My name is Melissa Goodfox Dailey and I am announcing my candidacy for a seat in the Osage Nation Congress 2020.

I will provide the support to protect our culture and grow our Osage Nation.

I am the daughter of Amos Goodfox Sr. (Red Eagle) and Myrtle Morrell. The granddaughter of Willimina Red and Timmy Goodfox. I am the sister of La and Chelsea. I am the proud mother of Rachel and Chelsea.

I was born and raised in Hominy and I have participated in the I'n Lo' my entire life.

I received my degree in Business Administration from Tulsa Community College. I also received my BBA in Accounting from the University of Houston at Victoria. I am a Senior Accountant with an oil company in Houston. I have helped provide coordination of the Texas gathering and the 2020 Strategic planning meetings.

My goals are to:
1. Assist with economic

REWARD

—from Page 11

cy kids!" I remember the old houses on campus that were later turned into offices, and the most exciting memory is when the Tribe went electronic. I'll never forget the first switchboard and all the lights

entertain ourselves by bothering all the employees, playing in the park behind the garages, running up and down the stairs to the downtown area. Some of my fondest memories were at the agency. They still are. The campus is still my home away from home. Many of the employees that work for the Na-

My first job, through the summer youth program, was a janitor. I still work for the Nation.

I've personally seen magnificent growth in direct service programs and revenue over the years. The Nation has exercised and retained Sovereignty through defining membership and strengthening self-gov-

ministrations, and come and go, but the employees remain, to carry on services to the people. Employees are the ones that our Sovereignty alive and well. The 31st Tribal worked hard to develop a constitution that was for the people and by the people

Michael Kidder announces his candidacy for Osage Nation Congress

By Michael Kidder

I am proud to announce my candidacy and to run for Osage Nation Congress.

My Great Grandparents are Ben Wheeler and Fannie Wheeler, Amos Hamilton and Marie Etiva Hamilton. Grandparents are Muskogee Wheeler and Mildred Wheeler. My Parents are Mary Francis Wheeler Kidder and Dennis Kidder.

My work experience includes Barret Refinery as Quality Control Chemists (Owner Rocky Barret and current Chief the of the Citizen Band Pottawatomie's). Kerr McGee on the R&D chemical (Titanium Dioxide). Waste Management R&D converting methane gas into biodiesel off the landfill sites.

I had the privileged to have served the Osage Nation as Osage Gaming Commission from 2014 to 2019, becoming Osage Gaming Commissioner Chairman 2018 to 2019. I am very proud of my time on the Gaming Commission. During my time with Commission, we were able to cut our budget and save the Osage Nation millions of dollars and streamlining the Gaming Commission to run in an efficient manner, while



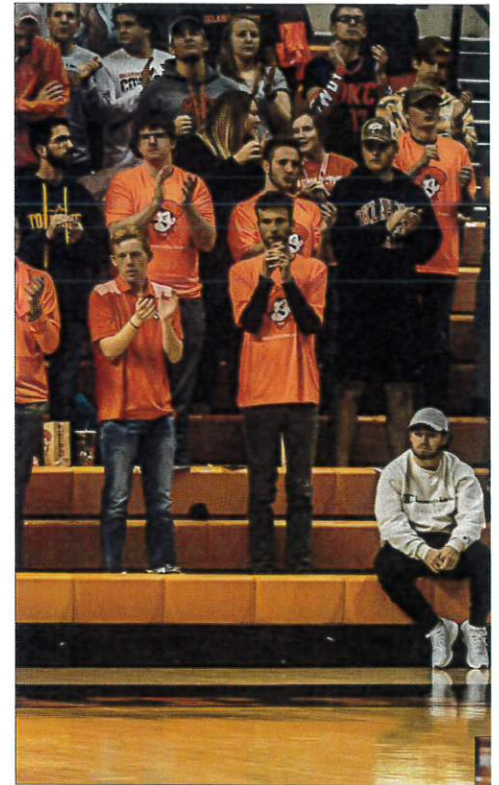
Michael Kidder

maintaining the integrity of the Gaming Commission.

I resigned from Osage Gaming Chairman in October 2019 to work in the Financial Assistance Program to become Employment and Training Coordinator in the Osage Nation. I am delighted to be part of a great team, in Osage Financial Assistance Program. Where we assist and help

See KIDDER

—Continued on Page 16



All photos by CODY HAMMER/Osage News

Fairfax native JK Hadlock warms up before the Oklahoma State University Cowboys' final home game March 4 against the Kansas State University Wildcats. A senior walk-on member of the team, the Pah-Su-L'in water boy appeared in five games in 2019-2020 and had a season high three points in the Cowboys' home Bedlam win on Feb. 22. According to data published in March by the NCAA, Hadlock was one of 635 Indigenous student-athletes across all Division 1 sports nationwide in 2019.



CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRES

Maria Lee Whitehorn

1) **Name:** Maria Lee Whitehorn

2) **Osage Name:** My Osage name is Pa-hu-gra-sa, it means Spotted Hair. My name was given to me by my Great Aunt Magella Whitehorn Green (Wa-shah-she-me-tsa-he) an original allottee. In the order of our traditional family naming ceremony, she came early the morning after I was brought home from the hospital for breakfast and gave me my name.

3) **Clan:** My family is Deer Clan, we are also Water People.

4) **Band(s):** My Great Grandfather Ki-he-kah-na-she was Little Chief Band and my Great Grandmother Frances Whitehorn was William Penn Band, but after marriage she was identified on documents as Little Chief Band.

5) **District:** We belong to the Zon-Zo-li District (Hominy).

6) **Family:** I have been married to my husband, Randy Powell for twenty-five years, who is my support—I am blessed. We have two sons, Mason Whitehorn Powell (No-she-walla) who is married to Alice Salamina, and Andrew Lee Powell (To-ho-ho) who is engaged to Katy Sundbye. Currently, we have no grandchildren, but I do look forward to some new additions in their own time. I count it a privilege to have a very close relationship with my father, Dudley Whitehorn, who will turn eighty-five this May. He has been my mentor and has taught me many things about life and Osage government.

7) **Osage ancestry:** My parents are Dudley and Joyce Whitehorn, my grandparents are Sam and Hattie Whitehorn, and my great grandparents are Ki-he-kah-na-she and Frances Whitehorn (Hu-lah-to-me) both full blood original allottees. My grandfather and his sister Magella were the only children who survived them.

8) **Education:** I attended the University of Oklahoma, the University of Tulsa and Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. My field of study was Geography with an emphasis on water. After the birth of Mason, I chose to be a full-time mother and to home school my boys. I have considered completing my degree, because I find the study of water, in all aspects, fascinating. This has carried over to my time served on Congress, concerning Osage water rights.

9) **Work Experience:** Since 2012, I have had the privilege and honor to serve on the Osage Nation Congress in several leader-

Michael Bristow

1) **Name:** Michael T. Bristow

2) **Osage Name:** Wah-Xa-Dane

3) **Clan:** Deer Clan

4) **Band:** Unknown

5) **Osage District:** WahHhaKonLin

6) **Family:** Divorced, No Children

7) **Osage ancestry:** Mother's side is Osage. Mashunk and Pitts Families. Ben Mashunkashey (Gr.Grandf; Paul Akins (Gr.Gr.Gr.Grandfather), Paul Pitts (Gr.U

8) **Education:** Northeastern State University: Bachel of Science-Biology, Master of Science-Speech Language thology.

9) **Work Experience:** Lab Technician at St. Francis pital; Geriatric Speech Pathologist at Encompass, Cap & HealthPRO Home Health Companies.

10) **Are you cultural?** InLonShka participant at Pawhuska War Dance Committee Waterboy at age 12, mitteeman since age 18.

11) **Are you related to any other candidate?** No

12) **Are you related to any current Osage official** third cousin to Meredith Drent

13) **Anything else to add?**

My mother is Olivia "Biggie" Mashunkashey Br born and raised in Hominy. My maternal great-grandf Ben Mashunkashey, was the first Drumkeeper for the HaKonlin district. My father, Bob Bristow, was a m of the Native American Church. I am proud to have raised with Osage traditions. I took my place at our l Schka dances at the age of 8 and I have held a posit the Pawhuska War Dance committee since the age of

As your Congressman, I will be devoted to the follo Eldercare: I will instill a strong support for Eld during budgeting prioritization. I would like to see th tion focus resources into establishing a skilled nursing ity and develop a comprehensive Eldercare program.

Integrity: As a licensed Speech Pathologist workin geriatric patients, honesty and strong moral principa essential. In my practice, I am retminded daily that the health care needs of our people are addressed, we a thriving community.

Accountability: Our Nation can only move forward ON Legislative and Executive branches make the ch

LEGISLATION

—from Page 6

- subverts the committee's authority and directs a political contribution to be awarded.
- ONCA 20-12 (Congresswoman Shannon Edwards) is a bill to authorize the Membership Department to issue membership identification cards; to require members at least 18 years old to obtain a photo membership card; and to require the membership cards to comply with the federal REAL ID Act.
 - According to a March 23 story by The Hill, The Real ID Act implementation plan stipulated that on Oct. 1, citizens will need Real ID-compliant identification to board commercial flights, enter federal buildings or gain access to U.S. nuclear plants. The article also reported that President Trump is delaying the Oct. 1 requirement, citing the coronavirus to alleviate crowds at local motor vehicle departments nationwide.
 - ONCA 20-13 (Congressional Speaker Joe Tillman) seeks to revise the compensation of the Nation's Chief Trial Court Judge and Associate Justices of the ON Supreme Court.

- ONCA 20-14 (Congresswoman Maria Whitehorn) is an act to require the Nation to provide notice of its internet and electronic mail privacy policies for the benefit of the public and ON government employees.
- ONCA 20-15 (Edwards) is to establish a government tort claims process for the Nation for the benefit of the public.
- ONCA 20-16 (Edwards) is a bill to authorize an appropriate \$4.5 million to the Nation's health benefit fund from FY 2021 tribal revenue for direct assistance to Osage elders (age 65 and over).
- ONCA 20-17 (Edwards) is a bill to authorize and appropriate \$5 million to the Nation's health benefit fund from the Permanent Fund to allow Osage elders (age 65 and over) to receive additional direct assistance (\$400 per member) and an additional \$200 per member to enrolled Osages under age 65. The bill states its purpose is to assist Osages with medical costs due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.
- ONCR 20-01 (Potts) is a resolution to recognize Osage Casino employees for their perseverance in the face of the ongoing Oklahoma tribal gaming compact situation.
- ONCR 20-02 (Potts) is a resolution to request that a hunting and fishing compact be negotiated with the State of Oklahoma.
- ONCR 20-03 (Potts) is a resolution to request implementation of a recycling program for all ON facilities or to have a recycling program explored and findings reported.
- ONCR 20-04 (Congresswoman Alice Goodfox) is a resolution to support legislation by the Oklahoma House of Representatives to specifically add wearing tribal regalia by tribal students at graduation ceremonies as an act covered under the Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act.
- ONCR 20-05 (Whitehorn) is a resolution to authorize the Principal Chief to enter into and execute a Tribal Council Member Agreement with the U.S. Social Security Administration to allow the Osage Nation to extend Social Security coverage to ON Congress members.

For more information regarding ON Congressional regular or special sessions, filed legislation and Congressional committee meetings, visit the Legislative Branch website at www.osagenation-nsn.gov/who-we-are/legislative-branch

CANDI QUEST

Jodie Revard

1) **Name:** Jodie K. Landowner

2) **Osage Name:** XU Jr.

3) **Clan:** Eagle Clan

4) **Band(s):** Beaver I

5) **Osage District:** W

6) **Family:** My parents are F. Revard, both Osage, and a younger brother Matt watchit, and we have four grandchildren, Rebecca. We also have three dogs.

7) **Osage ancestral names:** My grandparents are Henry and Hester. My maternal grandparents are Tomey Coshehe (Pot) and Franklyn, original Osage grandparents are Mar.

8) **Education:** Bachelor's degree from Fort Lewis College.

9) **Work Experience:** 15 years of service, as a member of the 31st Tribal Council in the Nation over the past 19 years. My responsibilities include governmental accounts, policies, and planning of Operations, and my role in the Nation. Although I have many responsibilities, I worked as a board member for the 31st Tribal Council.

10) **Are you cultural?** Yes, I am. I have been in the past 19 years as our new drumkeeper. My relatives were cooks to the Nation, and I was a drumkeeper in the past. I have been on the committee.

11) **Are you related to**

PRATT

—from Page 15

like to add? I appreciate each one of you that supported me two years ago. I am going to ask for your continued support now. There is

but it will also leave a lasting impact that will be felt by the next seven generations. More than ever, we are living in extraordinary times. Our people have endured much in our long history; we must ensure that we are taking a unified approach and that

I know the importance of maintaining and providing fundamentally objective information to key decision makers. The numbers tell a story and it's vital to understand that story as it relates to creating a budget & making important decisions for



2020 ELECTION YEAR IMPORTANT DATES

ELECTION DATES

- APRIL 17 *Deadline to submit Absentee Ballot Request form.*
Request must be received by the close of business at 4:30 p.m.
- APRIL 27 *Absentee Ballot Mailing Begins*
- MAY 29 *Early Voting Day 1*
- MAY 30 *Early Voting Day 2*
- JUNE 1 *Election Day*

ABSENTEE INFORMATION

- **In order to protect the health of our voters, we highly encourage you to request an absentee ballot.**

STAR SCH

The Summertime Achievement
The purpose of this scholarship
students who have been ident
gifted and talented, academi
athletic potential. Applicatio
Nation Education

The deadline to

Eligibility

- For Osage Members not only ad
- Entering seventh through ele
- Must have 3.5 GPA or higher fro
- Interested in preparing uniforms, of
- summer camp, training
- Camp training must occur during

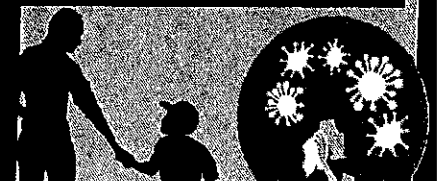
OSAGE NATION
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
102 BUFFALO AVE
HOMINY, OK 74035

For more information, please contact: 405.763.6199



Help prevent the spread of re

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

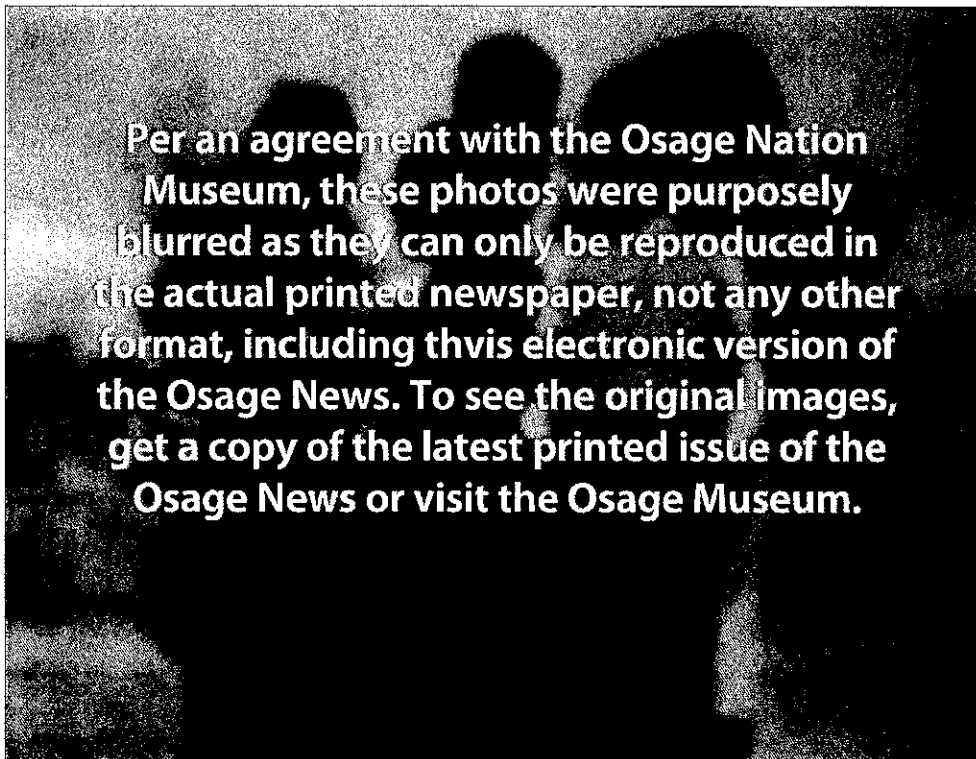


Through the WahZhaZhe Looking Glass



All photos courtesy of the Osage Nation Museum Facebook page

L-R: Dora Strike Axe Murphy McWhirt (Allottee #610), Daisy Ware (Allottee #719), Marie Strike Axe, Unidentified, Ca. 1920s, Osage County, OK. Photographer unknown, Black & White Photograph, ONM Collection. Outdoor scene of three young Osage women and one young unidentified boy. All are dressed in common 1920's clothing typically worn during the spring and summer seasons. They sit on the grass in a yard fenced in with chicken wire. Wooden farm structures such as a barn or chicken coop are visible in the background. In front of the children is a fabric doll dressed and with the appearance of a Native American girl.



Per an agreement with the Osage Nation Museum, these photos were purposely blurred as they can only be reproduced in the actual printed newspaper, not any other format, including this electronic version of the Osage News. To see the original images, get a copy of the latest printed issue of the Osage News or visit the Osage Museum.

L-R Back Row: Doris Red Eagle, Burbon Murphy, Bertha Burnett. Front Row: Helen Murphy, Norma Jean Murphy, Roscoe Murphy. Date unknown, Osage County, OK. Photographer unknown, Black & White Photograph, ONM Collection. Outdoor scene in a rural neighborhood. In the background, two homes and an unidentified child are visible. In the foreground, two rows of three individuals pose for the camera.

Making our

Ruby Hansen Murray
Osage News Culture Columnist

Last month, I wrote about learning to write Osage words via electronic media. We heard the Osage word for buzzard, and they're back on this island in the Columbia River riding the thermals. This week on Facebook Live in the beginner class Wakonze Celena taught us red-tailed hawk. Just as the Osage Language Department is embracing distance learning, the Covid-19 virus has driven businesses and individuals across the country to Zoom meetings and digital platforms. Network news anchors are broadcasting from home.

In Osage, we say húheka (per Carolyn Quintero) for sick. The old Osage faced more than one scourge. Historically, a scourge was a whip used for punishment, now it means a time of great trouble or suffering. There was suffering in Kansas. Those of us who have been to St. Paul, Kansas, have stood beside the unmarked grave in the cemetery at Osage Mission, a stone with no names attached, and mourned those children. Many Osages died in the school when measles spread, and many adults in the bands died as well. Louis Burns lists the series of diseases that hit Osages in the latter part of the 19th century; I won't repeat those painful numbers.

John Joseph Matthews wrote that the Osages dispersed onto the plains when sickness appeared. As the Covid-19 virus spreads, the CDC and WHO recommend we isolate ourselves to avoid coming into contact with it. In Washington State we are under lockdown, i.e. a "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order, under which all gatherings including those for social, spiritual and recreational purposes are banned.

In the small town where I live, our grocery is taking orders over the phone and making curbside delivery to minimize contact with elders and those with underlying health conditions who are more susceptible to

COMMUNITY

Election Day voting to be held at Osage Nation Civic Center

Benny Polacca
Osage News

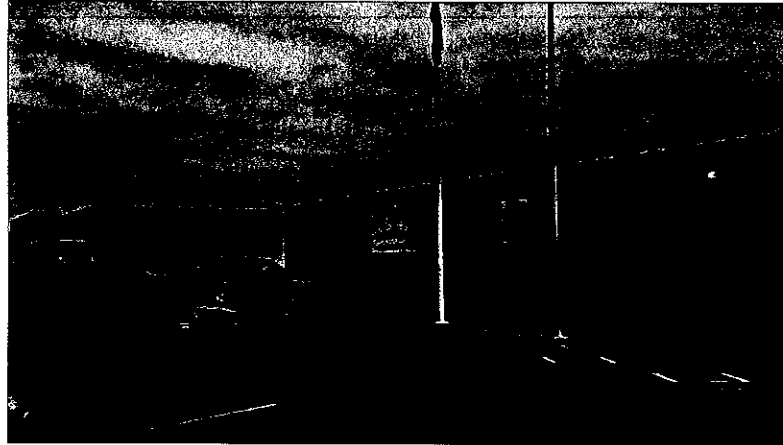
In keeping with social distancing guidelines due to the coronavirus spread, the June 1 Election Day polling location will be at the Osage Nation Civic Center west of downtown Pawhuska.

The Civic Center is located at 1449 W. Main Street and will be open for June 1 Election Day voting from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The ON Election Board voted to set the Election Day polling location at the Civic Center on March 20. In prior election years, the multi-use building – formerly the Wahzhazhe Cultural Center – served as the polling place before moving to the ON Museum for the 2018 election.

But with the rapidly evolving situation with the coronavirus COVID-19 spread and increases in positive tests in Oklahoma and other states, the Election Board changed the venue to be proactive.

“As a precautionary measure due to the spread of the Coronavirus COVID-19, the Board decided to change the polling location from the mu-



Osage News File Photo

The Osage Nation Civic Center will once again serve as the site of Election Day polling on June 1.

seum to the civic center,” said Election Supervisor Alexis Rencountre. “This polling location allows for a larger voting area with voting booths spread apart.”

The Civic Center’s open multi-use space allows for the Election Office to arrange the voting booths in a way to allow voters access with social distancing recommendations. According to the Centers for Disease Control, healthcare professionals recommend people take preventive steps to avoid exposure to the virus, including placing distance between other people.

Also with the coronavirus situation, the Election Office is highly encouraging the Osage public to request absentee ballots for the 2020 election.

The deadline to submit an absentee ballot request form is April 17. The absentee ballot request forms are available on the Election Office website at: <https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/what-we-do/elections> and the Election Office can be reached toll-free at (877) 560-5286.

As of March 20, Rencountre said her office has received 2,422 absentee ballot requests for the upcoming election.

Scholarship administered by Higher Ed

Osage News

Scholarship America are still working to a location Scholarship, plus accessibility.

“The COVID-19 partially every individual world,” said Scholarship America is students in this time of

Scholarship America provider. Their staff and other document lease.

Unofficial transcription to complete pay response, they urge tus or scholarship share at: email: OsageNat

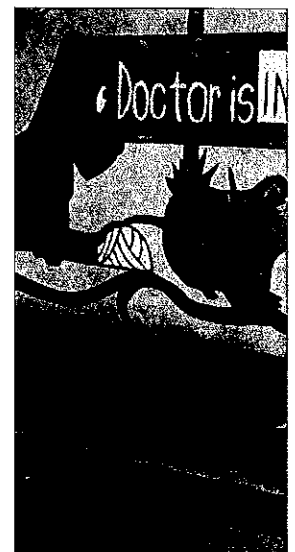
The Osage Nation able to Osage students at the associate level. choices is supported ter’s, and doctoral de

To apply for the Scholarship for the Spring scholarsapply.org/

Election Board certifies all 15 Osage Congressional candidates for 2020 election

Benny Polacca
Osage News

All 15 Osage Congressional candidates’ names will appear on the June 1 general election



Danielle Lynn Nelson

Congratulations!

Danielle Lynn Nelson

CLASSIFIEDS

CO. RA THO. PA

OSAGE NATION JOBS: To apply for a position with the Osage Nation go to <https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/opportunities/job-listings/application-form>. Applicants are welcome to attach a resume and/or cover letter in addition. Please note that all applicants tentatively selected for employment with the Osage Nation will be required to submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use. Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. **OSAGE\ VETERAN\ INDIAN PREFERENCE IS CONSIDERED.** Verification of preference must be included with application. For questions please contact Taryn Crawford, Osage Nation Employee Recruitment Specialist at (918) 287-5445 or email tcrawford@osagenation-nsn.gov.

Family Coordinator – Pawhuska, regular full time. The Family Coordinator will promote coordination and integration of family-centered care to ensure participation and involvement of the entire family. He/she will provide and maintain quality helping services to clients, and will assist clients in their attempt to reach individual treatment goals.

Archaeologist – Pawhuska, regular full time. Staff Archaeologists provide support to the THPO for identification, preservation, and protection of Osage cultural resources in the field and assist with Section 106 compliance review of undertakings on the Osage Nation Reservation and on Osage ancestral lands across 618 counties in 15 states.

Nursing Assistant – Pawhuska, regular full time. The Nursing Assistant provides nursing assistance to physicians, other providers and nurses in the care and treatment of patients throughout the life span.

Language Teacher (Non-Certified) – Pawhuska, regular full time. The Language Teacher

his/her immediate supervisor, the Police Sergeant job requirements shall include the following: Plan, direct, supervise, assign, review and participate in the work of law enforcement staff involved in traffic and field patrol, crime prevention, community relations and related services and activities. Serve as watch commander on an assigned shift, oversee and participate in all work activities. Assume responsibility for assigned special programs projects or department wide functions or activities.

Special Education Teacher – Pawhuska, regular full time. The Special Education Teacher is responsible for assessing students skills to determine their needs and developing teaching plans; adapting lessons to meet the needs of students; developing individualized education programs (IEPs) for each student; planning, organizing, and assigning activities that are specific to each students abilities, implementing IEPs, assessing students performance, and tracking their progress; while also updating IEPs throughout the school year to reflect students progress and goals; and discussing students progress with parents, teachers, and administrators.

Alternative Certified Teacher K-5 – Pawhuska, regular full time. The primary responsibility of the Daposka Ahnkodapi Certified Teacher is to teach core curriculum and develop a community of Osage learners. The Certified Teacher will be required to work with children to develop fluency and literacy in communication with the Osage language, while teaching core skills and objectives to mastery as prescribed by national standards. Additionally, students cultivate understanding and appreciation of Osage culture, inspiring self-esteem and strengthening attitudes among students and their community. The Certified Teacher creates lesson plans and teaches those

and events. Protects company assets while dealing with the public in an efficient and courteous manner.

Bartender – Bartlesville, regular full time. Under general supervision of the Beverage Supervisor, maintain the bar area. Provides excellent customer service in a timely manner. Prepare all drink orders, delivers and refills drink orders, and responds to guest questions and requests. Handle all payment transactions accurately.

Regional Count Team Attendant – Bartlesville, regular full time. Responsible for retrieval of currency boxes and table game drop boxes, emptying drop boxes once they are delivered to the count room and ensuring accuracy of daily count operations. Performs all duties at multiple properties in accordance with Company core values, the objectives of the Osage Nation, internal policies, procedures and controls, as well, as applicable laws including but not limited to the USA Patriot Act, and gaming regulations.

Table Games Supervisor – Bartlesville, regular full time. Responsible for the overall effective and efficient supervision of all Table Games shift operations as assigned by the reporting senior including, but not limited to: providing leadership to assigned staff, ensuring effective internal and external communications, exercising appropriate judgment and decision-making skills, and ensuring that all departmental and staff activities are monitored and performed as efficiently and effectively as possible. Ensures assigned staff operate in compliance with applicable internal policies and procedures, gaming regulations, and external agency requirements.

HOMINY

Security Officer – Hominy, regular full time. Protects company assets and provides a safe environment for employees and guests. To perform this job successfully, an individual must

is responsible for taking and serving food, alcohol or non-alcoholic beverages responsible for proper sale of all transactions at sale. Responsible for friendly and professional to every guest encounter.

SAND SPRINGS

Cocktail Server – Sand Springs, regular full time. This position is responsible for taking orders and serving alcoholic and/or non-alcoholic beverages. Responsible for providing friendly professional service to every guest encountered.

Armed Security Officer – Sand Springs, regular full time. Protects company assets; provides a safe environment for employees and guest position requires a strong disposition and excellent communication and interpersonal skills, as this is the first point of contact for Casino Employee to greet guests and answer phones.

SKIATOOK

Dishwasher – Skiatook, regular full time. Under general supervision of the Food and Beverage Manager, washes and sanitizes all equipment and utensils in food preparation.

Cage Supervisor – Skiatook, regular full time. Responsible for the overall effective and efficient supervision of the Cage Department and/or as assigned by the reporting senior.

Regional Count Team Attendant – Skiatook, regular full time. Responsible for retrieval of currency boxes and table game drop boxes, emptying drop boxes once they are delivered to the count room and ensuring accuracy of daily count operations. Performs all duties at multiple properties in accordance with Company core values, the objectives of the Osage Nation, internal policies and procedures and controls, as applicable laws including but not limited to the USA Patriot Act, and gaming regulations.

OBITUARIES

Sarah Jane Tinker Soderstrom

Sarah Jane Tinker Soderstrom, age 100 passed peacefully on March 9, 2020 at her home in Houston, TX. Sarah Jane was a beauty with a sharp wit and loving, generous nature that stayed with her into her senior years.

She was born February 29, 1920, a member of the Osage Indian tribe, the daughter of Alex and Na Dine Tinker on their family farm in Ralston, OK. Sarah Jane grew up among four brothers: Nick, Ed, Jack, and Bill. Her family had deep roots in Osage County and the tribe, but they feared to remain there in the early 1920s when many Osages were murdered for their inheritance, a dark period often referred to as "the Osage Murders." The family moved to Colorado for their safety, but that didn't stop Sarah Jane from giving her family a scare by falling into a creek at age 5. She was rescued by a bystander. That man came to visit her the next day, and asked to keep a souvenir of the adventure, her "little red shoe."

She was married in 1942 to Joe Soderstrom, with whom she had two children, Patricia and Joe Jr. She lost her son Joe Jr. to leukemia in 1981 at age 36. Her husband Joe suffered a stroke in 1984, and she cared for him until his death in 1999. She is survived by her daughter Patricia Soderstrom of Houston, her grandsons Mark and Michael Stevens, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her leap year birthday was celebrated by her extended family throughout her life. In her 80th year, her family celebrated her "20th" birthday with a 3-day celebration including a family barbecue, a party in Pawhuska with 150 guests, and a family bus tour of Tinker Air Force Base, which was



Sarah Jane Tinker Soderstrom

named for her uncle, Major General Clarence Tinker of World War II fame.

Sarah Jane was a remarkable woman and was deeply loved by her family and friends. She was also involved in her community. She was widely known as a great cook and once prepared dinner for the noted Osage author John Joseph Matthews. Her family was honored in 1957 at the Muskogee State Fair as "Farm Family of the Year." She was the first president of the Osage County Cowbelle Association, which began during her husband's term as the Osage County Cattleman's Association President. Her hobbies included gardening, sewing, painting, quilting, 4-H supporter, golfing, and playing cards, at which she excelled. She always maintained an active social life, especially at the bridge table.

A memorial service will be held in Pawhuska, OK, in late June. Kendrick McCartney Johnson Funeral Home will be in charge.

2020 Inauguration set for July 1 Osage Casino

Benny Polacca

Osage News

The 2020 Osage Nation inauguration ceremony is scheduled Saturday, July 11, at the Tulsa Osage Casino Hotel for the incoming Seventh ON Congress members to take their oaths of office.

This will be the first time the Nation's inauguration for elected officials will be held at the new flagship casino located minutes north of downtown Tulsa.

On Feb. 20, the Congressional Affairs Committee discussed preliminary planning for the inauguration where the six incoming Congress members – who win the June 1 general election – will take their oaths of office administered by an ON Supreme Court justice.

Second Speaker Paula Stabler, also the committee's chairwoman, suggested to the committee that the ceremony follow the same format as the last one in 2018 held at the Ponca City Osage Casino Hotel. Details on invited guest speakers, including those who will deliver the event's benediction and music performances are still in planning.

Stabler said she planned to visit further with casino event planners to discuss items including the venue room type in the conference/banquet

'Congress on Your Corner' town hall hos

Benny Polacca

Osage News

FAIRFAX, Okla. – Ahead of this year's Hun-Kah Session, two Osage Nation Congressmen hosted a Feb. 18

March 30 for its 24-day duration as one of two regular yearly sessions as mandated by the 2006 Osage Constitution.

In his opening, Tillman said the Congressional sessions are times when difficult decisions need to be made,

and businesses that generate crowds to close, a pending federal lawsuit regarding the gaming compacts status is postponed.

In a March 18 Tulsa World article a federal Oklahoma City judge extend-

FAIRFAX

-from Page 21

portunity to provide input to us and tell us where we need to go with the direction of our Nation." This is the second of two events - titled "Congress on Your Corner" by Potts with his first one in summer 2019 in Pawhuska.

Since the last town hall, Potts noted one legislative accomplishment is the passage of bill ONCA 19-40, which is the Nation's budget control act. A previous version of the bill was vetoed, but the second bill passed after suggested amendments were made, Potts said. "Right now, you have in Osage law - the first time since Standing Bear v. Whitehorn and Standing Bear v. Pratt - a budgetary law that this Nation can rest its head on ... Our budget has to be under control and we have to be aware of where our money is going to make sure it's being spent on the right thing."

For the Hun-Kah Session, Potts said he filed six pieces of legislation that will be up for consideration and briefed some of those items.

Bill ONCA 20-09 seeks to create a budget impoundment process. "Sometimes when Congress appropriates money for an issue, we find that somehow that money went somewhere else, we find out that money's not being spent for what it needs to be spent on... (ONCA 20-09) is very similar to what other governments have that allows the Chief the flexibility to communicate back to Congress 'I'm not going to spend this money as appropriated by Congress' and it gives the Chief an avenue to return the money to Congress that allows us to reappropriate it to meet the needs of the Nation."

attendee Casey Johnson, who is director of Executive Branch operations, said the number of employees to be impacted would be 109 because that is the number of employees whose hourly salaries are currently set between \$11.50 per hour and the proposed hourly increase of \$15.98.

When ONCA 20-10 is considered, "there will certainly be a fiscal analysis on this bill, if it is determined that is too large of an amount to be absorbed by the Nation, it's certainly up for a vote by Congress," Potts said.

Potts filed bill ONCA 2011 seeking to require all political contributions made on behalf of the Nation to be funded, administered and awarded by a newly established Political Contributions Committee, if passed. Potts said the bill is to "develop a coherent strategy in how we contribute to political campaigns in Oklahoma and nationwide because the Osage Nation is giving money to people who may not take our phone calls and I think that's to our detriment."

A question from attendee Dana Murrell asked what precautions the Nation is taking with the spread of the coronavirus.

Michael Bristow, a Congressional candidate, who also sits on the ON Health Authority Board, responded and said the Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center doctors are receiving notifications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on procedures, symptoms to look for, procedures to isolate staff "and then the

Without Reserva



HUN-KAH

-from Page 4

ent, but he was uncomfortable attending given the coronavirus spread situation. "I think many healthcare professionals have made the recommenda-

lar session. She also p rule changes could ta in order to allow the C to meet remotely du regular and any spe sions needed during t navirus emergency. also noted another o

VOTE MICHAEL BRISTOW

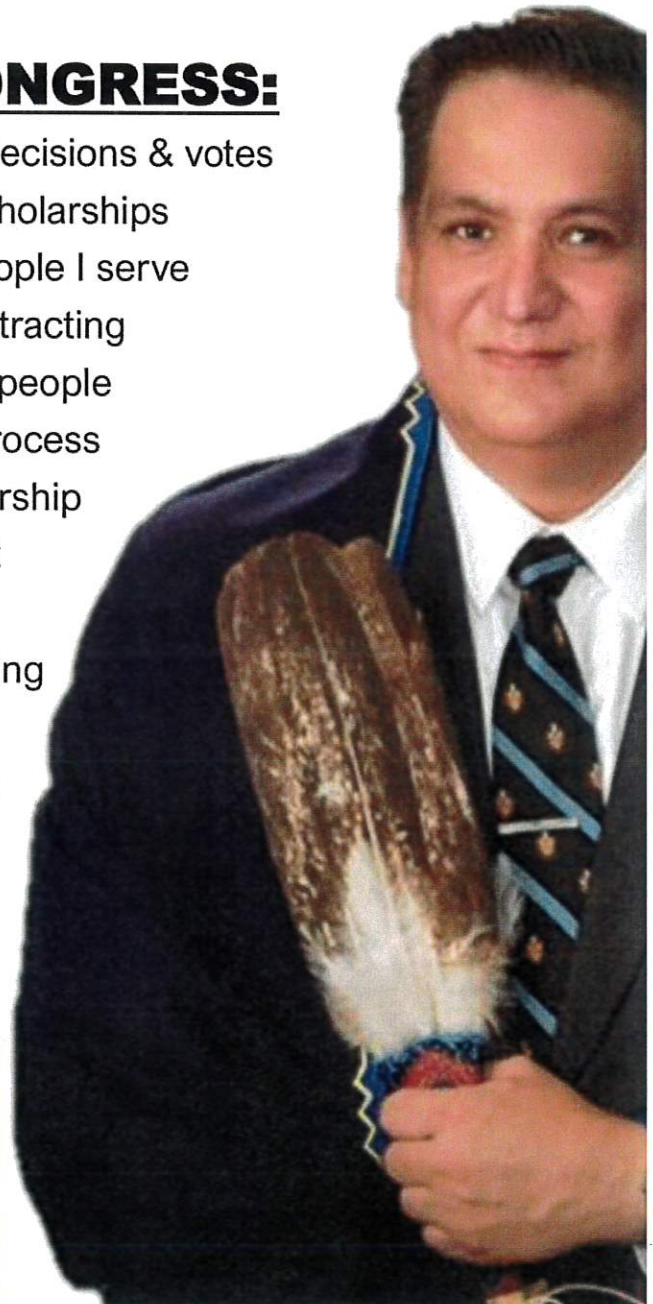
FAMILY: Son of Olivia “Biggie” Mashunkashey Bristow and Bob Bristow. Great Grandson of Ben Mashunkashey, the first Drumkeeper for the Pawhuska District.

OCCUPATION: Geriatric Speech Pathologist for a home health business

EXPERIENCE: Current Member of Osage Nation Health Authority Board

WHAT I WILL BRING TO CONGRESS:

- ◆ Honesty, Integrity and Accountability for my decisions & votes
- ◆ Protection of the burial fund, health card & scholarships
- ◆ The ability to vote for what is **BEST** for the people I serve
- ◆ Support for Osage Preference in hiring & contracting
- ◆ Prioritized budgeting to help all of our Osage people
- ◆ Initiatives for transparency in the legislative process
- ◆ A vision for a strong & healthy Osage membership
- ◆ Strong communication within the government
- ◆ Healthy ideas and good decisions
- ◆ A strong support for Eldercare during budgeting
- ◆ A desire to see an initiative to help Osage graduates and skilled trade students find jobs within the Osage government and the Wah-Zha-Zhi Health Center



Michael
BRISTOW

RE-ELECT

RJ WALL

FOR OSAGE



TAB 3
OSAGE NEWS TIMELINE

April 26, 2020

TIMELINE – OSAGE NEWS

1. JANUARY 24, 2020

Congresswoman Shannon Edwards emails press release to Tara Manthey, Editorial Board vice chair. The press release within is about her appointment as an appellate justice to the Yavapai-Apache Nation Supreme Court. The release includes a photo of her with Yavapai-Apache Nation officials after she took an oath of office.

- A. Osage News Editor Shannon Shaw Duty runs the release and photo, credited to the Yavapai-Apache Nation News in the February edition on page 8.
 - i. The February 2020 edition of the Osage News is submitted to Stigler Printing on January 30, 2020. It is printed and mailed to 7,200 Osage News subscribers on January 31, 2020.

2. FACEBOOK COMMENTS ALLEGE EDWARDS WRONGDOING

- A. Shaw Duty publishes the press release on Osagenews.org about Edwards appointment February 18, 2020.

3. REPORTING

- A. Shaw Duty calls the Yavapai-Apache Nation tribal court on February 20, 2020, and speaks with YAN Court Clerk Tonita Fernando. Fernando confirms Edwards is an appellate justice and answers questions from Shaw Duty. Follow up calls establish Edwards took an oath in August of 2019 and executed a contract with YAN.
 - i. Shaw Duty publishes an article from interviews from Fernando on February 20, 2020 titled, "Allegations arise after report of Congresswoman's tribal judgeship are published."
 - ii. Article is published on the front page of the March 2020 edition of the Osage News.