



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.  
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214  
(P): 615-872-7900 • (F): 615-872-7417

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**USET Resolution No. 2011:047**

**SUPPORT THE NOMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF ARVO MIKKANEN AS UNITED STATES FEDERAL JUDGE  
FOR WESTERN OKLAHOMA**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** USET recognizes the critical role the United States (U.S.) District Courts play in the development of Federal Indian law, including both criminal and civil jurisdiction matters; and
- WHEREAS,** it is of great importance that the federal judiciary be familiar with Indian Country issues and with the fundamental principles of Federal Indian law, including the Federal Trust Responsibility and the importance of the government-to-government relationship between Indian Tribes and the U.S.; and
- WHEREAS,** the Obama Administration has nominated Assistant U.S. Attorney Arvo Mikkanen to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma; and
- WHEREAS,** Assistant U.S. Attorney Mikkanen has served this country for many years as a federal prosecutor and has vast experience in both Federal and Tribal law; and
- WHEREAS,** when confirmed, Assistant U.S. Attorney Mikkanen will be the only American Indian serving on the federal bench out of a total of 875 federal judgeships, and only the third American Indian in history to secure a federal judgeship; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors fully endorses the confirmation of Assistant United States Attorney Arvo Mikkanen to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 10, 2011.

Brian Patterson, President  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Brenda Lintinger, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.