



## United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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### USET Resolution No. 2013:008

#### **REQUEST THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO CREATE A NEW GRANT PROGRAM WITH TRIBAL SET-ASIDE FROM THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT FUND TO ASSIST NATIVE WOMEN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

- 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,** the USET Board of Directors has adopted Resolution 2012:037 in support of Tribal amendments in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act Senate Bill 1925, and USET has publicly called for the reduction and prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault and has created resources to assist this effort; and
- WHEREAS,** given the inadequate law enforcement response to violence against Native women, victims of domestic and sexual violence too often find that the justice system does not provide a venue to redress the injustices that occur against them due to flaws and gaps in our federal, Tribal, and state legal systems; thus leaving victims unable to access legal and social services and the support that they deserve; and
- WHEREAS,** women and children confronted with life-threatening violence cannot wait for legal and administrative reform of the current outdated system; and
- WHEREAS,** reforms are critically important as the epidemic of violence against American Indian women is growing and requires an immediate response; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon the United States Congress and Department of Justice to create and fund a new Victims of Crime Act program that will support the development and maintenance of emergency resources for Native women victimized by domestic and/or sexual violence; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** USET calls upon the United States Congress and Department of Justice to establish an "above the cap" Tribal set-aside within the Victims of Crime Act fund to support a grant program to develop and maintain services for Indian women victimized by domestic and sexual violence.

### **CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Uncasville, CT, on Friday, October 12, 2012.

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

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