

## **USET Sovereignty Protection Fund, Inc.**

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# USET Sovereignty Protection Fund Issues Statement on U.S. Supreme Court decision in Dollar General v. Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

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### Statement from USET Sovereignty Protection Fund President Brian Patterson:

"The USET Sovereignty Protection Fund is pleased that today's decision upholds the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians' inherent sovereign right to jurisdiction in this case. We congratulate the Tribe and look forward to seeing the civil case against Dolgencorp Inc. proceed according to the rules of Choctaw Civil Procedure. It is our hope that the upheld Fifth Circuit decision will be influential on other circuits that may address similar issues.

USET SPF remains focused on protecting the sovereignty of all Tribal Nations, so they may exercise their right to regulate and adjudicate all civil matters that occur in Indian Country. Ultimately, Tribal Nations must have the ability to serve and protect their citizens. The answer is simple: if you are on Tribal land, you are subject to a Tribal Nation's civil jurisdiction and can be sued in Tribal court."

USET SPF is releasing this statement in response to the United States Supreme Court decision in the Dollar General versus Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians case. The following is a link to Supreme Court Decision: <a href="http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/15pdf/13-1496">http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/15pdf/13-1496</a> 7648.pdf

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### **USET Sovereignty Protection Fund**

The USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) was founded in 2014 as an affiliate organization to USET. USET SPF engages in national advocacy and diplomacy in an effort to uphold, protect, and advance Tribal sovereignty on behalf of member Tribal Nations, their citizens, and all of Indian Country.



Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Chief Phyliss Anderson outside the Supreme Court