



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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USET Resolution No. 2004:056

### SELECTION PROCESS FOR INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE NASHVILLE AREA OFFICE DIRECTOR

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) 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 current Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area Office Director, Mr. Michael D. Tiger has recently submitted his resignation effective February 6, 2004; and
- WHEREAS,** the IHS will begin the process of selecting a new NAO Director in the near future; and
- WHEREAS,** the IHS has the single largest budget authority for funding provided solely to serve American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people; and
- WHEREAS,** the appropriations provided to the IHS are used to provide health care services to AI/AN people; and
- WHEREAS,** the health status of AI/AN people is of paramount importance to the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) member tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the NAO in cooperation with Tribal Governments has made great strides in developing processes for program development/implementation, consultation, and communication and have effectively changed what was formally a paternalistic environment to a genuine partnership environment; and
- WHEREAS,** it is in the best interest of the IHS and USET Tribal Governments to select an Area Director that supports the delicate balance between IHS and Tribal priorities that has been established in the Nashville Area; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Charles W. Grim, IHS Director, has made the commitment to convene a selection panel to participate in the applicant review, interview and selection process for the new Area Director in accordance with Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors has the opportunity to appoint three Tribal Leaders and two Tribal Health Directors to this selection panel; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors appoints the following individuals to the selection panel:

**Tribal Leaders:**

Ms. Margaret Terrance, Tribal Chief, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe – Chief Terrance is a former Health Director for her tribe and would serve as a valuable resource for the selection panel. She would also provide representation for USET tribes located within the northern states region of the territories occupied by USET member tribes.

Mr. Michell Hicks, Principal Chief, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians – Chief Hicks is a newly elected tribal leader who has oversight responsibility for the largest tribal nation within USET. His new appointment will provide valuable insight regarding future needs that the selection panel should consider. Mr. Hicks will also provide representation for USET tribes located within the central states region of the territories occupied by USET member tribes.

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*

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Mr. Buford L. Rolin, Vice-Chairman, Poarch Band of Creek Indians – Vice-Chairman Rolin is a long time tribal leader and Health Administrator for his tribe. He is also a well-respected individual throughout Indian Country, especially related to health care issues. His experience and reputation will be a valuable resource to the selection panel. Mr. Rolin will also provide representation for USET tribes located within the southern states region of the territories occupied by USET member tribes.

**Health Directors:**

Ms. Elizabeth Neptune, Health Director, Passamaquoddy at Indian Township – Ms. Neptune is a long time Health Director who has served two terms as the Chairperson of the USET Health Committee. Her experience operating a 638-contracted health program will be a valuable resource to the selection panel.

Ms. Peggy Gaddy, Division Administrator, Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana – Ms. Gaddy is a long time Division Manager and former tribal leader. Managing and operating a Self-Governance compacted health program is one of Ms. Gaddy's principal duties. Her experience balancing several tribal priorities with health care priorities will be a valuable resource for the selection panel.; and, be it further

**RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors appoints Mr. James T. Martin, USET Executive Director and Ms. Brenda Shore Fuller USET Director of Tribal Health Program Support as technical advisors to the selection panel to assure fair and equal representation for each USET member tribe regardless of where they are located or how they deliver health care services to their members.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 5, 2004.



Keller George, President  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



Beverly M. Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.