



USET Resolution No. 2011:048

**UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC. TRIBAL EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012 FUNDING PRIORITIES**

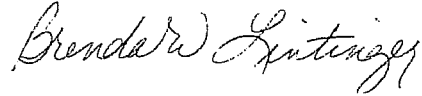
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** federal funding and support is essential for Tribes to enhance their emergency services preparation, response and recovery capabilities; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Tribal Emergency Services Committee has identified the following Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 funding priorities in support of emergencies or disaster situations:
1. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Operations Center Grant
 2. FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, including
 - a. Assistance to Fire Fighters (AFG) Grant
 - b. Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Responders (SAFER) Grant
 - c. Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grant
 3. FEMA Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant (IECG)
 4. FEMA Tribal Homeland Security Grant; and
- WHEREAS,** various FEMA grant funding opportunities do not include funds set aside for the exclusive use of Tribes and do not allow all Tribes to participate equitably in several programs due to qualification requirements which result in arbitrarily excluding otherwise qualified Tribes, and
- WHEREAS,** the United States has a special trust responsibility to Indian Tribes that is confirmed through various treaties and executive orders; and
- WHEREAS,** this special relationship must be considered when analyzing budget priorities in adherence to the President's sound fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction efforts; and
- WHEREAS,** a proposed reduction to FY 2008 levels, with inflation considered, would equate to a drastic reduction to already severely underfunded Indian programs; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls for the exemption of all Indian programs from any mandatory budget reduction imposed for Fiscal Year 2012 and beyond; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors respectfully requests the United States Congress to support the identified funding priorities for Tribal Emergency Services.

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.

"Because there is strength in Unity"