



**USET Resolution No. 2011:060**

**NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN MEMORIAL INITIATIVE**

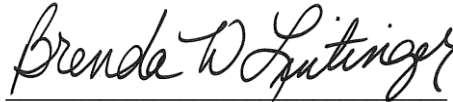
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians serve at the highest per capita rate in the Armed Forces compared to any group of Americans, and have served with valor in all the Nation's wars from the Revolutionary War through the present; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a National Monument, commonly referred to as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, recognizing those Veterans who served, both living and dead; and
- WHEREAS,** the Vietnam Veterans Memorial includes the figures commonly referred to as "The Three Servicemen"; and
- WHEREAS,** "The Three Servicemen" are wearing uniforms and carry equipment of war; one serviceman has the appearance of a Caucasian, the other African-American and the third resembles a Hispanic soldier; and
- WHEREAS,** none of the servicemen resemble an American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) soldier; and
- WHEREAS,** a founder of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Jan Scruggs, a Vietnam Veteran, wanted the memorial to acknowledge and recognize the service and sacrifice of ALL who served in Vietnam; and
- WHEREAS,** an opportunity exists for the Seminole Tribe of Florida to be at the forefront of an initiative to encourage Indian Tribes, Indian Veteran Organizations, and Non-Indian Veteran Organizations with the responsibility to go into Indian Country to communicate with local, regional, and national Indian and Non-Indian groups necessary to gather support in an effort to obtain Congressional authorization to erect a statue adding to "The Three Servicemen" monument; and
- WHEREAS,** the additional Statue will recognize the contributions and sacrifices of the AI/AN soldier; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors commends and supports the resolution submitted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida, "Native American Veteran Memorial Initiative"; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors encourages the USET Veterans Committee to assist in any efforts to support the Seminole Tribe of Florida in its initiative.
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors hereby rescinds USET Resolutions 2010:031 and 2011:013 on this issue.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Marksville, LA, Thursday, May 19, 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”*