



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET Resolution No. 2012:031

SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, AND FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY INCREASED EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIAN TRIBES

- 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 United States Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is working to support the Administration and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) by increased consultation and coordination with the Nation's federally recognized Indian Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** FEMA has a stated goal to build a stronger and lasting partnership with Indian Tribes to assist them in preparing for the hazards they face, reducing their disaster vulnerabilities, responding quickly and effectively when disasters strike, and recovering in their aftermath; and
- WHEREAS,** FEMA acknowledges the trust responsibility of the Federal Government to Tribal Governments as established by specific treaties, court decisions, statutes, executive orders, regulations, and policies; and
- WHEREAS,** USET acknowledges and encourages changes such as FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate's elevation of the position of FEMA National Tribal Liaison to Special Advisor for National Tribal Affairs; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors requests the Federal Emergency Management Agency to continue to support Tribal communities by encouraging States to incorporate the inclusion of Indian Tribes into grant programs and processes, designating full-time Tribal liaisons in appropriate FEMA regional offices, expanding training efforts to develop and deliver regional homeland security and emergency management training at Tribal locations, and periodically engage Tribal Government leadership in planning discussions prior to disasters and coordinate follow-up visits to discuss practical solutions.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 16, 2012.

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

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