UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. B-90-287

AMENDMENT TO THE RULE WHICH PREVENTS INDIAN COUNTRY NEWSPAPERS FROM CONSIDERATION OF THE PULITZER PRIZES IN AMERICAN JOURNALISM

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of 13 federally-recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Pulitzer Prizes in American Journalism are considered the top awards for newspapers and journalists in this country; and

WHEREAS, nominees and winners of Pulitzer Prizes are considered to be standard bearers for the very best in American journalistic accomplishment; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 200 Indian newspapers now published in Indian country, many of which produce quality journalism on a level equal to that achieved by Pulitzer Prize winners and nominees; and

WHEREAS, the great majority of Indian country newspapers survive on small budgets and sparse staff; and

WHEREAS, the great majority of Indian country newspapers are published twice a month or monthly; and

WHEREAS, the Pulitzer Prizes in American Journalism require publication periodicity of at least once a week in order to qualify for nomination; and

WHEREAS, this periodicity rule is designed to protect the Pulitzer from charlatans or one-time publication entrants; and

WHEREAS, this policy excludes almost all Indian newspapers from consideration for the Pulitzer Prize in American Journalism; and

WHEREAS, such a policy is unfair and exclusionary to American Indian newspapers that are published with regularity and produce work worthy of consideration by the prestigious board that approves nominations and conducts the competition known as the Pulitzer Prizes in American Journalism,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT USSET request that this exclusionary rule which prevents Indian country newspapers from consideration for the United States top journalistic awards competition—the Pulitzer Prizes in American Journalism—be eliminated or amended so as not to exclude Indian newspapers and make it possible for the best journalistic accomplishments of Indian country to be recognized alongside the standard-bearers of American journalistic excellence that the Pulitzer Prizes represent.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Board of Directors meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, DC; March 8, 1990.

Joel M. Frank, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Harold Tarbell, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.