EASTERN REGIONAL INDIAN TRIBAL COURTS FUND CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-three (23) 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 joint Department of Justice and Department of Interior, Indian Country Law Enforcement Improvement Initiative provides urgently needed funding, through the Indian Tribal Courts Fund for activities related to the administration of tribal justice and tribal courts, by means of a competitive grant process administered by the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance; and

WHEREAS, competition for scarce grant funds is highly competitive among the American Indian/Alaska Native tribes and nations as the need is so great; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, prior to publication of the FY1999 Solicitation for concept papers for grants under Indian Tribal Courts Fund, held regional conferences in Albuquerque, Minneapolis and Seattle for the purpose of assisting tribes to assemble and prepare competitive concept papers; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Justice Assistance has indicated its intention to again hold regional conferences in these same locations prior to announcing the FY2000 Solicitation for Indian Tribal Court Fund grant concept papers; and

WHEREAS, there are no plans to hold a regional conference in close proximity to USET tribes that are in serious need of the tribal justice funds, thus resulting in a disproportionate travel expense to be incurred by USET member tribes; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors requests that the Bureau of Justice Assistance hold at least one regional planning conference for Indian Tribal Courts Fund FY2000 grant process for the tribes and nations located in the eastern United States at the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Reservation at Mashantucket, Connecticut.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Washington, D.C. Thursday, February 3, 2000.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"