



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2005:038

CONTINUED FUNDING FOR ON-RESERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL SERVICES

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) 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,** state and federal authorities are obligated to serve the communities of USET member tribes to ensure appropriate law enforcement, including but not limited to, investigation, prosecution, sentencing and probation monitoring to ensure completion of court ordered sentences and alternatives to sentencing; and
- WHEREAS,** USET member tribes do not enjoy full jurisdictional authority or funding to ensure appropriate law enforcement without the assistance of state and federal authorities; and
- WHEREAS,** most USET member Tribes provide on-site/on-reservation law enforcement coverage, which maintains close contact with community members and community business enterprises and provides initial investigation and referral services for all three jurisdictions and this on-reservation presence must be maintained to ensure public safety, appropriate investigation and case referral; and
- WHEREAS,** every USET Tribe is committed to ensuring the public safety of the entire community population and many USET Tribes operate commercial enterprises that attract large non-native populations that greatly impact the on-reservation law enforcement resources; and
- WHEREAS,** USET has been informed of pending budget cuts that will place on-reservation law enforcement coverage at risk of substantial reduction and thereby create a vacuum that is further aggravated by failure of U.S. Attorney's Offices and State Prosecutors to properly communicate with Tribes and prosecute offenses originating on tribal lands thereby creating a prosecutorial void which may be exploited by criminals and/or terrorists, domestic and foreign; and
- WHEREAS,** USET recognizes that accurate statistics are used to drive funding and appropriations and that to date, efforts to collect and report empirical statistical data relative to on-reservation law enforcement and judicial activities have been inadequate and they fail to reflect, among other things, accurate peripheral impacts to on-reservation service providers, including courts and court related services; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests the reinstatement of funding for on-reservation law enforcement and increased funding for Homeland Security earmarked for on-reservation law enforcement and judicial services and increased funding to the U. S. Attorney's Office, earmarked for prosecution services on Indian Lands; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors requests the Department of Justice (DOJ) direct the U. S. Attorney's Office to collect statistical data for all case referrals and prosecution declinations and to share these statistics with USET; and, be it further

“Because there is strength in Unity”

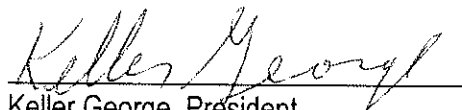
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RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors supports the collection of empirical statistical data that reflects on-reservation law enforcement activities, with an emphasis on police reports and referrals, and that the report should conform to the standards established by the Congressional Appropriations Committee; and, be it further

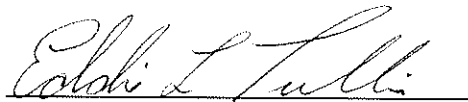
RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors authorizes the USET Executive Director to work with the U. S. Attorney General and the DOJ to thoroughly address the issues in this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, Thursday, February 10, 2005.



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



Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.