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MAY 06 2024

FCC MAIL ROOM

**The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL
Of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES**
Organized February 3, 1950



Chuck Hoskin Jr.
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Chief



David W. Hill
Principal Chief



Lewis J. Johnson
Chief

April 26, 2024

Ms. Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is pleased to share with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) a resolution passed at our most recent meeting.

Included with this letter is a resolution urging the FCC to establish a missing persons code. We believe that establishing a Missing and Endangered Persons Event Code as part of the Emergency Alert System and the Integrated Public Alert Warning System will aid first responders in their efforts to locate missing First American men and women and improve the safety of our communities.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my office at (580) 436-7208.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Anoatubby".

Bill Anoatubby, President
The Inter-Tribal Council of the
Five Civilized Tribes

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Urging the Federal Communications Commission to establish a specific event code for Missing and Endangered Persons

Resolution No. 24-03

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole Nation, representing approximately 815,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the federal government maintains a trust and treaty responsibility to Indian tribes, which is a legal and moral obligation created by treaties, statutes, executive orders and other legal agreements and laws. Congress therefore has the responsibility to uphold the best interests of tribal governments and their citizens; and

WHEREAS, First American men and women have historically been disproportionately affected by missing person cases, with First Americans constituting 2.5% of all missing persons cases despite comprising only 1.2% of the U.S. population, as reported by the National Crime Information Center, underscoring the urgent need for targeted measures, and

WHEREAS, First American women are at an even greater risk of going missing or being endangered, with estimates suggesting that they are ten times more likely to fall victim to homicide than the average American woman, emphasizing the urgent need for focused attention and specialized support, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is the regulatory agency responsible for maintaining the list of approved Event Codes in their Rules. The existing FCC-approved Event Codes for missing persons fail to account for the unique circumstances and challenges faced by missing and endangered First American adults, highlighting the necessity for tailored solutions, and

WHEREAS, establishing a specific event code for missing and endangered adults would guarantee that these cases receive the alerting attention over the nation's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to enhance the efforts to address the murdered and missing Indigenous peoples crisis.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes urges the Federal Communications Commission to establish a National Emergency Alert System (EAS) event code specifically designated for Missing and Endangered Persons (MEP), ensuring that missing and endangered Indigenous and



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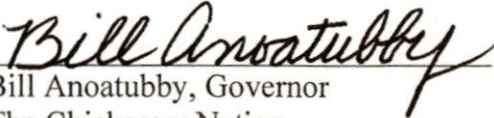
Lewis J. Johnson
Chief

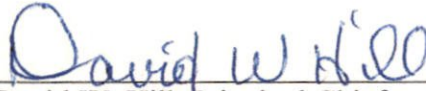
The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

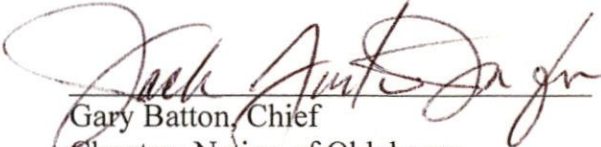
Tribal citizens (adult persons over the age of 21 and thus not subject to Amber alerts) are promptly identified and alerted via the IPAWS network to radio, television, and both wireless and wireline internet platforms, thereby enhancing their chances of being located in a timely and effective manner.


CERTIFICATION


The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Thackerville, Oklahoma on this 19th day of April, 2024, by a vote of _____ for _____ against and _____ abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


David W. Hill, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation


Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation


Lewis J. Johnson, Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma