



# COUSHATTA TRIBE

OF LOUISIANA

Office of the Tribal Council

David Sickey  
Council Member

July 12, 2004

Ms. Ann Tucker, Chairwoman  
Muscogee Nation of Florida  
6 Lakeshore Drive  
Shalimar, FL 32579

Dear Ms. Tucker:

It is with pleasure that I extend my support in your tribe's efforts towards federal recognition and the chance to improve the lives of your members through programs and services. Your tribe is deserving of the government-to-government relationship extended to other tribes by the federal government and the right to your own governance.

With this status your people will be able to address the urgent need for health care, education, housing, recreation, elder care and programs to promote the youth of your community.

I have knowledge of your people and community during my visits and I have seen firsthand the presence of your continued existence as an Indian community and the governing process in administering programs and services to your people. I have also attended tribal and community meetings where you continue to conduct your government traditionally with elders as leaders in giving advice and counsel. There is no question of your identity and your status as Indian people possessing a legitimate and viable tribal government.

Again, I offer my support without reservation and encourage you to call upon me if I can be of assistance in your petitioning process, as well as other areas of mutual interest. Please know that the Coushatta people stand ready to assist you and your people in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,



David Sickey  
Tribal Council Member

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Frances Battise  
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July 10, 2004

Ms. Ann Tucker, Chairwoman  
Muscogee Nation of Florida  
6 Lakeshore Drive  
Shalimar, FL 32579

Dear Chairwoman Tucker:

This letter is to offer my support in your efforts to gain federal recognition for your people and join others who are in support of this process.

As the former Chairwoman of the Council of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and serving on the council, I am deeply aware of the struggles you face in trying to bring changes that will provide your people a chance to establish a government to government relationship and enabling your people to self-govern and establish a foundation for the youth of your tribe. Your tribe is deserving of the recognition as a community of Creek people who we consider brothers and sisters and certainly our ancestry.

During my visits to your tribe, I witnessed an Indian community working together and living in a distinct community and maintaining a pattern of life common to our tribe and others in the Southeast. Your traditional style of government and culture remains a viable part of your people and is evident that your identity has not been lost.

As you proceed in your recognition process, the Alabama-Coushatta people of East Texas are in support and stand by you in your journey towards tribal sovereignty.

Sincerely,



Frances Battise