

**Declaration on the Exercise
of Inherent
Sovereignty and Cooperation**

Arizona State University

Tempe, AZ

January 16th, 2014



ASU SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR
COLLEGE *of* LAW

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

INDIAN LEGAL CLINIC

INDIAN LEGAL PROGRAM

ASU SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR
COLLEGE *of* LAW
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Declaration on the Exercise of Inherent Sovereignty and Cooperation
Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, January 16, 2014

Indigenous Nation representatives meeting on this day in the traditional territory of the O'Odham, in order to protect our nations, preserve our cultures and do our part in meeting the challenges facing all of Life and Creation, act by:

Honoring our Creator and our sacred teachings. Since time immemorial Indigenous Nations have sought out and implemented these duties in order to maintain balance in the world around us and in ourselves. We have been taught to walk softly on Mother Earth and to live with the rest of the beings with whom we share this creation;

Building on the wisdom and cultural heritage provided by our ancestors. We work to protect our languages, sacred sites, sacred objects, and cultural practices from theft, misappropriation, and neglect. We hold gatherings and ceremonies in order to teach our children to perpetuate our unique cultural heritage and lifeways;

Expressing the rights of self-determination and self-government exercised and fought for by our ancestors. We have always practiced this exercise of inherent sovereignty as we choose our own governing structures, define our own identity and choose how we worship our Creator;

Desiring to protect our collective futures by fostering safe community environments for our children, families and our elders. Securing human rights and social justice takes years of work and effort. Only in this security can we develop to our full potential for the coming generations;

Accepting the challenges that face our collective nations in the political realm and in the environment as we deal with the effects of the changing climate. We have become place based nations unable to move with these climate changes as we have moved in the past, causing greater threats to maintaining our relationship with the plants and animals of cultural significance.

Knowing that we gain great strength in unifying our collective efforts while at the same time supporting each other's rights to determine our own actions. We assert the right and responsibility to support each other through intergovernmental agreements and accords, and through individual actions.

Acknowledging the many bureaucratic and systemic barriers that make exercising our inherent sovereignty difficult. Negotiating the acceptance of our inherent sovereignty takes many forms and is a task that is never complete, but rather it takes constant vigilance to achieve and/or maintain. In the struggle to have our status as self-governing nations acknowledged by other nations such as the United States, we benefit by sharing our collective experiences and by working together to improve and inform the process.

Bestowing gratitude and thanks to all those who have worked over the many decades to provide national and international policies, accords, agreements, laws and constitutional provisions that help us to achieve the goals of this immense political and social justice undertaking. Undoing the effects of the attacks on our indigenous nations based on the Doctrine of Discovery is a daunting task. We have tools today that have been incorporated within our Tribal Constitutions, within the US Constitution and laws, and in such documents as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Gathered together today, January 16, 2014, at Arizona at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, we hereby pledge, affirm and proclaim:

To work with each other to exercise our inherent sovereignty as governments, to protect our individual and common human rights, and to seek social justice. The dust and spirits of our ancestors that make up our cultural and national roots are deep in the waters and soil of this land, nurtured by the gifts of Mother Earth. As we stand on this land, we drink together from the waters of knowledge, we breathe the air of freedom and wisdom, and we bask in the light of cooperation and compassion. We assert these for our children's children and beyond. We carry many lessons from our ancestors, and we share in the collective wisdom and experiences that they have entrusted to us to provide for our coming generations.

Nations:

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| Print Name Christine Verdin | Print Name Lorraine Garcia |
| Signature Christine Verdin | Signature Lorraine Garcia |
| Nation Ponite-Au-Chien Indian | Nation Cherokee Nde Nation of New Mex |
| Print Name Frank D. Cook | Print Name FRANCIS C. GRAY |
| Signature Frank D. Cook | Signature Francis C. Gray |
| Nation Arkansas Cherokee "chickawauca" | Nation Piscataway-Conoy |
| Print Name Paul R. Platero | Print Name Albert A. Baker |
| Signature Paul R. Platero | Signature Albert A. Baker |
| Nation Council of People's Nations | Nation Dumbria Tribe of NC |

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|---|------------|
| Print Name Gene Jacobs | Print Name |
| Signature <i>Gene Jacobs</i> | Signature |
| Nation Cohaine | Nation |
| Print Name Danny K. Marshall | Print Name |
| Signature <i>Danny K. Marshall</i> | Signature |
| Nation Steilacoom | Nation |
| Print Name FRAMON WEAVER | Print Name |
| Signature <i>Framon Weaver</i> | Signature |
| Nation MOWA Band of CHOCTAW | Nation |
| Print Name KAY STOCKTON | Print Name |
| Signature <i>Kay Stockton</i> | Signature |
| Nation Soe River / White River of Chickamauga Cherokee Nation | Nation |
| Print Name CLARENCE BARTRAM | Print Name |
| Signature <i>Clarence Bartram</i> | Signature |
| Nation Sovereign Nation of the Chickamauga Cherokee Tribe | Nation |

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| Print Name Chief Dunne "Yellow Feather III" | Print Name John Narwood |
| Signature Chief Dunne "Yellow Feather III" | Signature [Handwritten Signature] |
| Nation Pocasset Wampawaog | Nation Nanticoke Indian Tribe |

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| Print Name Kenn Grey Elk Des Combes | Print Name Robert Robinson |
| Signature Kenn Grey Elk Des Combes | Signature [Handwritten Signature] |
| Nation Northern Cherokee Nation | Nation Kern Valley Indian Community |

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| Print Name Chief Thomas Dardar Jr | Print Name Roberto Lujan |
| Signature Thomas Dardar Jr | Signature Roberto Lujan |
| Nation United Houma Nation | Nation Apache-Jumano |

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| Print Name Tanya Norwood | Print Name Donielle Ancar Brinkley |
| Signature Tanya Norwood | Signature [Handwritten Signature] |
| Nation Lenape Indian Tribe of DE | Nation Grand Bayou Indian Village |

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| Print Name John Narwood | Print Name Crystlyn Rodrigue |
| Signature [Handwritten Signature] | Signature Crystlyn Rodrigue |
| Nation Nanticoke Lenape Tribe Nation | Nation Grand cailay/Dube Band of Biloxi Chitamacha Choctaw Indians |

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|--|---|
| Print Name Angelina D. Terrebonne | Print Name May Preston |
| Signature Angelina D. Terrebonne | Signature M Preston |
| Nation Bayou Lafourche Band of BCCM | Nation San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe |
| Print Name Earl Evans | Print Name Amy E. De Ouden on behalf |
| Signature [Signature] | Signature of Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation |
| Nation Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe | Nation EASTERN PEQUOT TRIBAL NATION |
| Print Name BRUCE RICHARD HAMLIN | Print Name Nancy Carney |
| Signature [Signature] | Signature Nancy Carney |
| Nation CHEBOYGAN BAND (AKA) BURT LAKE BAND | Nation Machis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama |
| Print Name REGINALD W. TUPPANCE JR | Print Name Peter Running Deer Silva |
| Signature [Signature] | Signature [Signature] |
| Nation Upper Mattaponi | Nation Assaramisco Indian Reservation |
| Print Name Albert P. NAQUIN | Print Name |
| Signature [Signature] | Signature |
| Nation Isle de Jean Charles Band of BCC | Nation |

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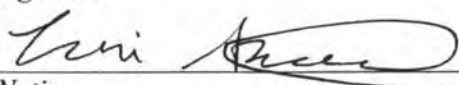
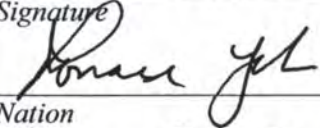
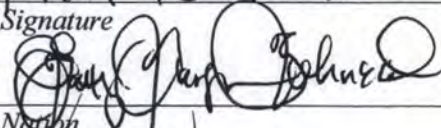
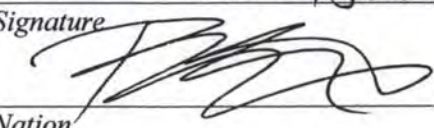
In Witness Whereof the Declaration on the Exercise of Inherent Sovereignty and Cooperation:

Witnesses:

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| <i>Print Name</i> Frank Ettawageshik | <i>Print Name</i> Robert B. Caldwell Jr |
| <i>Signature</i>  | <i>Signature</i>  |
| <i>Nation</i> Wasana Kistig Odawa | <i>Nation</i> Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb |
| <i>Print Name</i>  | <i>Print Name</i> Harlan Bohnee |
| <i>Signature</i>  | <i>Signature</i>  |
| <i>Nation</i> | <i>Nation</i> |
| <i>Print Name</i> MARJORIE ALBITRE | <i>Print Name</i> KATHRYN MORGAN |
| <i>Signature</i>  | <i>Signature</i>  |
| <i>Nation</i> Paiute | <i>Nation</i> TEJON |

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| Print Name William Gollbeck | Print Name Starr Mayo |
| Signature <i>William Gollbeck</i> | Signature <i>Starr Mayo</i> |
| Nation Tsjin | Nation Northern Cherokee Nation |
| Print Name Harold Karsk | Print Name Leon Stockton |
| Signature <i>Harold Karsk</i> | Signature <i>Leon Stockton</i> |
| Nation Cherokee | Nation White River Band Chickamauga |
| Print Name Donald A Parkey | Print Name Myra Chauhan |
| Signature <i>Donald A Parkey</i> | Signature <i>Myra Chauhan</i> |
| Nation Burt Lake Band | Nation Kohkaw Valley Band of Maidu |
| Print Name JAMES ALEX BREWINGTON | Print Name Roy maynor |
| Signature <i>James Alex Brewington</i> | Signature <i>Roy maynor</i> |
| Nation Coharie | Nation Cherokee/Sioux |
| Print Name Shannon Lee Marshall | Print Name RUTH GARBY TORRES |
| Signature <i>Shannon Lee Marshall</i> | Signature <i>Ruth A Torres</i> |
| Nation Steilacoom | Nation SAGHATICOKÉ TRIBAL NATION |

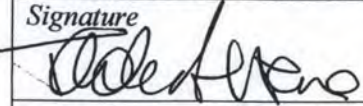

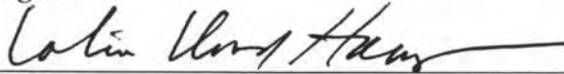
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| Print Name Lori Stewart | Print Name Michelle Matherm |
| Signature <i>Lori Stewart</i> | Signature <i>Michelle Matherm</i> |
| Nation Pointe-Au-Chien Indian Tribe | Nation Pointe-Au-Chien Tribe |
| Print Name SHARON TURNER | Print Name DOYLE TURNER |
| Signature <i>Sharon Turner</i> | Signature <i>Doyle Turner</i> |
| Nation SAC & White River Chickamauga → Cherokee | Nation |
| Print Name Laurencia Billiot | Print Name Steven L. Austin |
| Signature <i>Laurencia Billiot</i> | Signature <i>Steven L. Austin</i> |
| Nation Pointe-Au-Chien Indian Tribe | Nation Anthropologist |
| Print Name Emery Billiot | Print Name Yvonne Ferguson |
| Signature <i>Emery Billiot</i> | Signature <i>Yvonne Ferguson</i> |
| Nation P.A.C.I.T | Nation Point-Au-Chien Indian Tribe |
| Print Name DAVID MARTINEZ | Print Name Andrea Skelton |
| Signature <i>David Martinez</i> | Signature <i>Andrea Skelton</i> |
| Nation Northern ARAPAHO | Nation Kusa Nunaki Tribal Band of Cherokee Indian |

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| Print Name Andrea Skelton | Print Name Loni Burnette |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Kusaunaki Tribal Band of Cherokee Indians | Nation |
| Print Name Stephanie Whisnant | Print Name Ronald Lab |
| Signature Stephanie Whisnant | Signature  |
| Nation Osage | Nation Grand River Bands of Ottawa |
| Print Name Edd Welsh | Print Name FRANCES COMPO |
| Signature Edd Welsh | Signature Frances Compo |
| Nation Brotherton (WISCONSIN) | Nation GRAND RIVER BANDS OF OTTAWA INDIANS |
| Print Name Karla Martin | Print Name NINESE WAUBGAYKEKE |
| Signature Karla Martin | Signature Ninese Waubygkeke |
| Nation The Poarch Band of Creek Indians | Nation ODAWA-GRAND RIVER |
| Print Name PATTY FERGUSON-BONICE | Print Name BRYAN MCKINLEY JONES BRAYBOY |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Pank-shshven Indian Tribe | Nation Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina |

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| Print Name Robert UPHAM - HARLEM Indian | Print Name Tracie Reus |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation DAKOTA | Nation Euchee/Yuchi Tribe |
| Print Name Justin Hongeva | Print Name JUDITH A. SHAPIRO |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Hopi | Nation |
| Print Name JACK TROPE | Print Name GALE TOENING |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation | Nation Indian Country Today OWNER of MR |
| Print Name Lisa A. Wyzlic | Print Name Jessica L. Duggan |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians | Nation United Houma Nati- |
| Print Name Gregory A. Richardson | Print Name Frances Gray |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Haliwa - Saponi | Nation Piscataway County Tribe of MD. |

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| Print Name ROBERT N. CLINTON | Print Name ROSS L. JOHN SR. |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation | Nation Seneca |
| Print Name Hally Ann John | Print Name JOE WALTZER |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Seneca | Nation |
| Print Name JOHN KANE - KARHIO | Print Name Rosalee Gonzalez |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation KANIENKEHAKA - MOHAWK | Nation Kickapoo |
| Print Name G. Dribine | Print Name Theodore Platero |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Osage | Nation Canoncito Band of Navajos |
| Print Name Loretta Tuell | Print Name ERIC S. JOSEPHSON |
| Signature  | Signature  |
| Nation Myrtle | Nation Kawhow Valley Band of Modoc |

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| Print Name Michael Paul Hill | Print Name Jennifer K. Williams |
| Signature Michael Hill | Signature Jennifer Williams |
| Nation Chihene Nde Nation / San Carlos Apache | Nation |
| Print Name Velma Provencio | Print Name Judy Marquez |
| Signature Velma Provencio | Signature Judy Marquez |
| Nation Chihene Nde Nation | Nation Chihene Nde Nation |
| Print Name Fernando Almerdaca | Print Name Katherine Tevis |
| Signature Fernando Almerdaca | Signature Katherine Tevis |
| Nation Gennaro Indian Community | Nation |
| Print Name Robert Stone | Print Name Dartene Lester |
| Signature Robert Stone | Signature Dartene Lester |
| Nation Gila River Indian Community | Nation |
| Print Name Angelica Davis | Print Name HELEN E. BURTIS |
| Signature Angelica Davis | Signature Helen E. Burtis |
| Nation | Nation |

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| <i>Print Name</i> Tabda Antone | <i>Print Name</i> Corey Coswell |
| <i>Signature</i>  | <i>Signature</i>  |
| <i>Nation</i> Kiowa Nation | <i>Nation</i> |
| <i>Print Name</i> COLIN CLOUD HAMPSON | <i>Print Name</i> |
| <i>Signature</i>  | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Nation</i> Winnebago/Chippewa | <i>Nation</i> |
| <i>Print Name</i> | <i>Print Name</i> |
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