



Diné Medicine Men's Association, Incorporated

DINÉ BI NAHAGHA´ YEE DA´ AHÓTA´

P.O. Box 368

Gallup, New Mexico 87305

RESOLUTION

By Virtue of the Inherent Rights of Diné Medicine Men's Association, Incorporated and the Diné Traditional Medicine-People, Urging Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States and the United States Congress Faithfully Consider Changing the Inappropriate Team Mascots as the Trademarks of the National Professional Sports in Relative the Indigenous People of the United States.

WHEREAS:

1. The Diné Medicine Men Association, Inc. (Diné Bi Nahagá Yee Da´ahootá) is a non-profit organization incorporated with the Navajo Nation of Commerce and has been in existence since the early 1970's; and
2. Diné traditional medicine-people always have the commitment to teach, preserve and protect the welfare of the Diné people as well as the welfare of the Diné Nation through providing exceptional protocol of the traditional knowledge of the distinctive oral philosophy of indigenous way of life on the basis of the Diné Ancient Oral Sacred Philosophy of the Spiritual Belief Foundation. Hence, it always has been the moral principle that guided the ceremonial sacred songs and prayers interwoven with intellectual and oral proceeding of planning and teaching with dignity and integrity which is still the effectual foundation of Diné life way since time immemorial; and
3. The local and national elected leaders are bestowed to protect their peoples equally as Diné people, and as their children. Equally, their children, Diné people have the right to self-determination and culture. By virtue of this right the Diné people freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. The right of self-determination is the fundamental human right and cannot be desecrated, discriminated, and taken away by any business entity or any governing institute; and
4. In reference to the concerned measure brought to the attention of the Association that has been ongoing for number of years among the Indigenous peoples; in efforts to eliminate racist stereotypes and cultural appropriation from American sports, including the litigation against the disparaging name of the National Football League Washington franchise (Harjo et al v. Pro football, Incorporated, and ongoing Blackhorse et al v. Pro football , Incorporated, to cancel existing trademarks, and the pending Harjo et al Letters of Protest against new requests to trademark the same racial slur); and legislation that would accomplish the same purpose as the litigation, H.R.1278, the Non-Disparagement of Native American Person or Peoples in trademark Registration Act of 2013, which was referred to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, any other legislation to eliminate racist stereotypes in sports; and

5. Further, on the bases of considerable perspective of the Diné Medicine Men Association in concurrences in reference of highly respectable documents of the United Nation Indigenous Rights, including the statement by the President of the United States that the United States government do recognize its history with the Indigenous Nations is long and troubled living a legacy of injustice that has yet set forth meaningful and faithful strategies that would help Indigenous Nations build enjoyable future choosing through treaties, court decisions, federal and state legislations and the constitution where has sacred pacts with us that all must honor toward enjoyable foundation for security, prosperity and fulfillment of life way; and
6. Diné Medicine Men's Association do associate with Indigenous medicine peoples and elders as the First Nations across the United States in solidarity has worked with the Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Justice on certain national policy and regulation revisions in relativity to the Indigenous peoples, hence faithfully that by the United States federal laws that the Association's intend will morally be considered.

NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVE THAT

1. Diné Medicine Men's Association, Inc. of the Navajo Nation respectfully urging Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States do all necessary to have the United States Congressmen and Senators to acknowledge this here psychological and physical disrupting issue with effectual deliberation to forever eliminate this racist stereotypes and cultural appropriation intertwined in relative to Mascots in the National Professional Sports; and
2. Respectfully urging Honorable Ben Shelly, President of the Navajo Nation to act with all respectable necessities to acknowledge and with fiduciary responsibility present this extremely concerned issue to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, and the Navajo Nation Council in solidarity to be effectually supported and processed through every avenue to highest offices of the Nation in Washington, D.C.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was deliberated on at the duly called meeting at Chinle Indian Health Service Center, in Chinle, Arizona at which a quorum was present and moved with motion by Christopher James, Traditional Diagnostician and seconded by Thompson Billy. Traditional Medicine-man and same was approved by a vote of 10 in favor 01 opposed and 01 abstention on this 17th day of November 2013.



Henry Barber, President