The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Commending the Work of Our Nations' Criminal Justice Systems in the Exercise and Protection of our Sovereignty and Commitment to Public Safety

Resolution No. 21-34

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, in July 2020, the United States Supreme Court affirmed the Muscogee Creek Nation's Reservation for purposes of criminal jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, over the months that followed, the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals applied this historic ruling likewise to affirm the Reservations of the Cherokee Nation, the Chickasaw Nation, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, since the judicial affirmation of our Reservations, each of the Five Tribes' governments has expanded its police, prosecutor, and court systems and endeavored to enhance its productive and cooperative relations with non-Tribal law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, through the work of these law enforcement and criminal justice professionals, the Nations have brought charges in 6,965 felony and misdemeanor cases as of September 30, 2021—with the Muscogee Creek Nation prosecuting 2,771, the Cherokee Nation prosecuting 2,031, the Chickasaw Nation prosecuting 980, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma prosecuting 1,012, and the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma prosecuting 171; and

WHEREAS, likewise, this work has resulted in the issuance of 2,700 traffic citations—with the Muscogee Creek Nation issuing 577, the Cherokee Nation issuing 1,263, the Chickasaw Nation issuing 278 and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma issuing 582; and

WHEREAS, the work of our Nations' law enforcement and criminal justice professionals is an exercise of each Nation's sovereignty and is instrumental to our ability to protect the public's safety while we provide effective law enforcement for our citizens, the communities of our Reservation, and the general public.
NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes commends the diligent work of our law enforcement and criminal justice professionals and their sound exercise and protection of each Nation’s sovereignty as we implement our commitment to public safety and the general welfare of our citizens, the communities of our Reservations, and the general public.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on this 8th day of October, 2021, by a vote of _____ for _____ against and _____ abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation

Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Lewis J. Johnson, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

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

Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation