

# The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

## *A Resolution Opposing the Placement and Operation of a Proposed Immigration and Customs Enforcement Detention Facility in Durant, Oklahoma*

### Resolution No. 26-05



Chuck Hoskin Jr.  
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby  
Governor



Gary Batton  
Chief



David W. Hill  
Principal Chief



Seno Yessilith  
Chief

**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 877,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Five Civilized Tribes are sovereign Tribal Nations and, in the exercise of their inherent self-governing authority, are committed to promoting and safeguarding the health, safety, welfare, and security of their citizens, employees, visitors, and those who work at, visit, or receive services at Nation facilities within their respective Reservations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Choctaw Nation maintains key governmental operations and community-serving facilities in and around Durant, Oklahoma, including its headquarters and facilities serving children, elders, patients, families, and the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Choctaw Nation operates major economic enterprises in Durant, including gaming and hospitality facilities within a mile of the proposed detention facility that support essential governmental services, jobs, and regional economic stability; and

**WHEREAS**, information presented to the Choctaw Nation reflects a proposal to locate and operate an ICE detention facility at the former Big Lots distribution facility site in Durant, Oklahoma, with a contemplated scale that could house up to thousands of detained individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, Choctaw Nation mapping and internal analysis reflect that the former Big Lots distribution facility site is in close proximity to the Nation's headquarters and multiple community-serving facilities, including childcare and child development services, health services, wellness services, and facilities serving elders and families; and

**WHEREAS**, the public and governmental health analysis further identifies significant public health concerns associated with detention operations of this scale, including, without limitation, infectious disease transmission risks, strain on local and regional health systems, and environmental and infrastructure impacts related to water use, wastewater output, and sanitation demands; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Choctaw Nation's analysis also identifies significant safety and security concerns associated with detention operations of this scale, including, without limitation, increased demand on law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services; the potential for protests and traffic disruption; facility security incidents; and other impacts that could divert public safety resources from existing community needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Inter-Tribal Council finds that the proposed placement and operation of an ICE detention facility at this location is inconsistent with the Five Civilized Tribe's obligation to protect children, elders, patients, employees, and visitors; undermines community security and public confidence; and poses unacceptable risks to the Choctaw Nation's governmental operations and economic enterprises in Durant; and

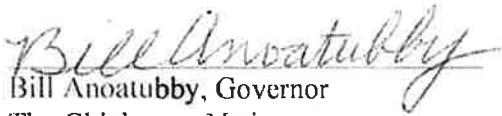
**WHEREAS**, the Inter-Tribal Council opposes the placement and operations of ICE detention facilities whenever the location is in close proximity to tribal governmental offices, community-serving facilities such as childcare centers, healthcare buildings, tribal businesses, and culturally significant and historic sites without Tribal consent; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes opposes the placement and operation of a proposed ICE detention facility at the former Big Lots distribution facility site in Durant, Oklahoma, within the Choctaw Nation Reservation, due to public health, safety, community, and economic impacts; and

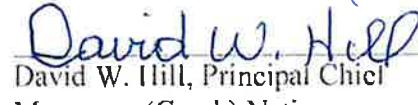
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## CERTIFICATION

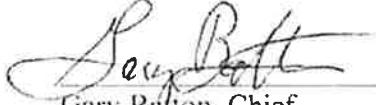
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Catoosa, Oklahoma on this 9th day of January, 2026, by a vote of 24 for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

  
Bill Anoatubby, Governor

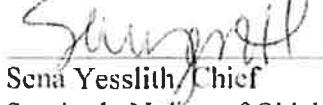
The Chickasaw Nation

  
David W. Hill, Principal Chief

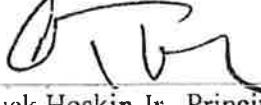
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

  
Gary Balton, Chief

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

  
Sena Yesslith, Chief

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

  
Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief

Cherokee Nation