

Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples

August 10, 2012

Tracy Toulou, Director, Office of Tribal Justice
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., #2318
Washington, D.C. 20530

Comments concerning: The Department of Justice's consideration of adopting a formal policy memorializing its practice of enforcing federal wildlife laws – Eagle Feathers and other Bird Feathers for Cultural and Religious purpose and The Morton Policy – Eagles, Migratory Birds, or Endangered Species (birds & animals).

First, I want all of you people to understand about Aboriginal Indigenous People of this country, before the immigrant newcomers came uninvited into our Country and later on they called themselves Americans.

Before the arrival of the uninvited, immigrant newcomers to our Land, Aboriginal Indigenous People, were people, following the Natural Law in Balance with the Natural Creations – living in harmony with all Creations, and all people. They were following the Natural Law, the Law of the Human Beings, and doing what they were suppose to do, and we still continue to follow the Natural law and conduct our ceremonies, which is, one of them you are talking about – the Feathers.

We do not kill all kinds of birds. The person selects the bird, and we do a lot of prayers and apologize before we take the Bird, and thank that life, and then take the feathers and then a lot of prayers are said over the feathers continuously and they become part of the People. That is what we call the *Sacred Feathers*.

So, it has nothing to do with the federally recognized tribe, nothing to do with the government to government and it doesn't have anything to do with the United States government. It goes way above those. Which is: you call God or Jesus. These two, the Creator (God) and the Creator's Son (Jesus), are Way Above the federally recognized tribe, government to government, or the United States government.

We did not choose our Way of Life. The Creator (God) is the One who chose our Way of Life for us, and He gave us the Natural Law to follow, and He created the Earth for us, and all the Animals, Trees, Air, Water, and all the other Creations, for us to use, and take care of them, for Him. And that is what we have been doing from generation to generation to generation, passing it on, since the beginning of the Creation of Life, and we will continue to.

You can regulate and enforce your government. You can attempt to regulate and enforce so called federally recognized tribes, and you can regulate and enforce government to government and you can regulate and enforce immigrant people that came into our land, I understand only 450 years ago - a very, very, short time, but you cannot regulate, enforce

or manage over Aboriginal Indigenous People of their own Land. Look how awful it is in that short time, 450 years. It is not the same anymore. Everything is dying, especially American people themselves – disease and sickness because of what they have done to the Natural Law and the Creator's (God's) Creation. Disease and sickness, but yet, they continue to think they are successful.

They call themselves successful and rich and say this is a rich country. They are destroying the Mother Earth and all of the Creator's (God's) Creations to become successful and rich. Destroying the Mother Earth and all of the Creator's (God's) Creations is not going to carry on the peoples' survival.

The Natural Creations, Natural Environments and Natural Systems are disappearing faster than you think because of the people that call themselves successful and rich. The Natural Areas and Natural Systems, the ones the newcomers' call resources, are running out throughout the World. And, when the resources run out, the rich people are not going to be successful. The middle class is not going to be successful. The people living at poverty level are not going to be successful. The homeless, maybe they are the only ones that maybe will be successful. Those are the ones because they are eating garbage, living on the street, sleeping outside without air conditioning, electricity or restaurants or all the other so-called necessity material things, and comforts of modern living. They are the ones who will last longer than so-called rich, successful, and famous.

This is what is going on in the American system and that is what you should focus on trying to make things better for their future. Not focusing on us – trying to regulate something that is Sacred to us that is not hurting anything, or anyone. It has something to do with the facts and truth and respect and being humble under the Creator (God) or Creator's Son (Jesus). That is how we have always lived since the beginning of the Creation of Life. We have been surviving through all different kinds of crisis by doing our ceremonies and prayers recognizing His Creation and the People themselves to acknowledging each other.

So, we are going to continue with the Creator's Gift in us because you did not sit down and talk to us. You made your own policies and rules without us, without our free, prior and informed consent. With that, you can rule your people, and the others I have mentioned earlier, the federally recognized tribes. You sat down with them, and you made an agreement, and now you want to control them with your policies, rules and enforcements.

Don't use those people, the ones you sat down with, in order to ruin the Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples' Culture of their own Land, their Human Rights, and their Religious Rights. It is wrong, of you, to do that. You did not include us in this so-called law, man-made law, you created, so don't try and force it on us. Aboriginal Indigenous People never went to other peoples' countries and destroyed their culture and their lands. They have always remained in their own Land where the Creator meant them to be.

Tribal leaders, people living on the one they call reservations, the ones in the reservation offices, the ones they call tribal representatives or board members went to school and they became to understand the newcomers' way of life and the so-call newcomers, man-made system of law. But the individual Indian people living on the reservation learned different from that and still hold on to the Creator's (God's) Natural Law. These are the ones that have more authority than the ones that call themselves the tribal representatives, or board members.

Our Elders defended themselves against the aggressive attacks during the American wars against the Miccosukee Simanolee Nation. They defended their Right to Live, as they have always lived, and right to follow the Natural Laws given to them by the Creator (God) himself at the beginning of the Creation of Life. We are those People and we are still defending our Rights. American people point out to other countries, but they never see themselves for what they have done to the Miccosukee Simanolee People and other Aboriginal Indigenous People around the world.

We are going to continue living and doing the things we have been doing since the beginning of the Creation of Life. We are going to live according to the Natural Law that was passed on to us. We did not choose this Life. The Creator (God) chose this Life for us, and our Way of Life, and that is what we are going to follow. Aboriginal Indigenous People cannot accept other peoples' man-made laws. We have to maintain the Gift the Creator (God) Himself, created into us, at the beginning of the Creation of Life.

There is no time limit, the end of comment time, because this has been going on since your arrival on our Land. It has never ended, the newcomers trying to get rid of us - Aboriginal Indigenous People living in our own country, living the responsibility what the Creator (God) has given us since the beginning of the Creation of Life - the Life we are suppose to live in.

Aboriginal Indigenous People will continue to defend the Future of Life against your attacks on their Way of Life, and the Natural World: the Sunlight, the Water, the Air, the Land, the Trees, the Birds, the Animals, the Fish, the Insects, and all that is Sacred to us, as our Elders have done since the illegal, aggressive, and brutal immigration of the European Americans, and the other immigrants into our Aboriginal Indigenous Lands.

The Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal People objects to any federal, state, county or local government actions that change or destroy Our Way of Life, Our Spiritual Religious Customs, Aboriginal Indigenous Land (Indian Land), Sacred Grounds, Natural Areas, Natural Systems or Wildlife.

The Creator's Gift is in us, which is: Our Way of Life, and the Natural Law, and all His Creations: The Air, the Water, the Land, the Trees, the Plants, the Animals, the Birds, the Reptiles, and Insects, and all the others, and for that reason, we cannot accept other peoples' way of life, or their man-made laws.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recognizes Indigenous Peoples and the urgent need to Respect and Protect the Inherent Rights of Indigenous Peoples which derive from their politics, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their Lands, territories and resources and Promotes the Rights of Indigenous Peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with States and recognizes that control by Indigenous Peoples over development affecting Them and their Lands and Resources will enable them to maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions and to promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs.

Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples that follow the Natural Laws created into the Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples by the Creator (God) Himself at the beginning of the Creation of Life were born into and have Rights that go way beyond these words created by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This Declaration is considered a "minimum standard" for non-indigenous people to begin working towards fulfilling their obligation to Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples.

Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples will continue to Defend the Future of Life against your attacks on their Way of Life, and the Natural World: the Sunlight, the Water, the Air, the Land, the Trees, the Birds, the Animals, the Fish, the Insects, and all that is Sacred to us, as our Elders have done since the illegal, aggressive and brutal immigration of the European Americans, and the other immigrants into our Aboriginal Indigenous Land.

The Creator (God) Himself gave us the Rights to live in His Creation. The Creator (God) Himself created the Original Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples into the Land at the beginning of the Creation of Life and the Creator (God) created into the Aboriginal Indigenous Peoples the Natural Law at the beginning of the Creation of Life.

The Creator's Gift is in us, which is: Our Way of Life and the Natural Law and all His Creation, which is: The Air, the Water, the Trees, the Plants, the Animals, the Fish, the Birds, the Reptiles, the Insects, and all the others, and for that reason we cannot accept other peoples' way of life or their man-made laws.

Council of the Original Miccosukee Simanolee Nation Aboriginal Peoples

Bobby C. Billie

Cecil Osceola

Vincent Simanolee

Victor Billie

Contact Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1452, Lake Placid, Florida 33862