

JENA BAND OF CHOCTAWS



**LaSALLE
PARISH**

TELEPHONE 318/992-2717
JENA, LA. 71342

The Honorable Forrest Gerard
Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20245

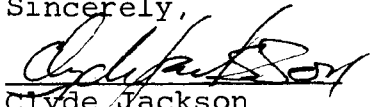
Attention: Federal Acknowledgement Project

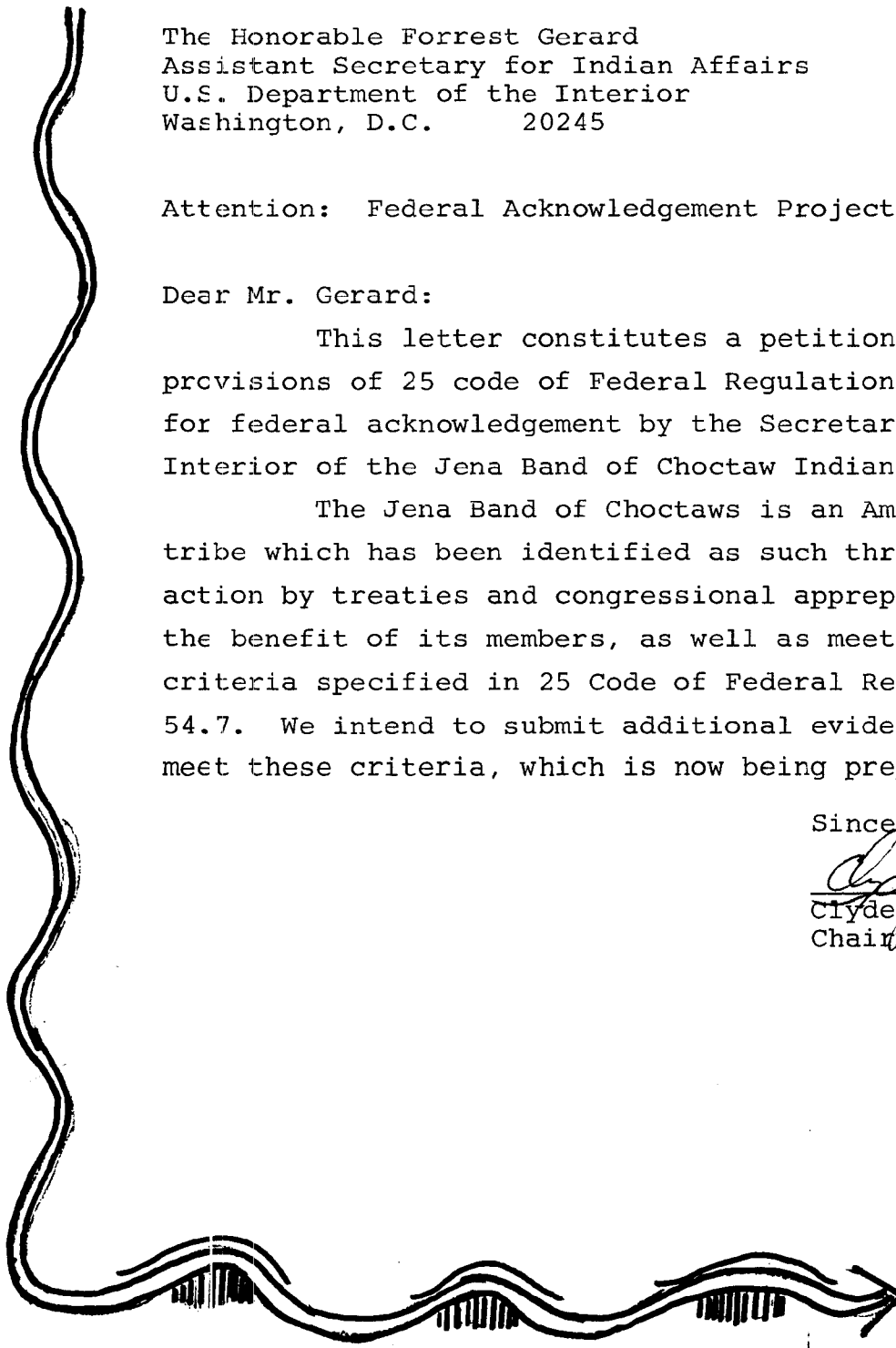
Dear Mr. Gerard:

This letter constitutes a petition pursuant to provisions of 25 code of Federal Regulations, Part 54, for federal acknowledgement by the Secretary of the Interior of the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians.

The Jena Band of Choctaws is an American Indian tribe which has been identified as such through federal action by treaties and congressional appropriations for the benefit of its members, as well as meeting the other criteria specified in 25 Code of Federal Regulations, 54.7. We intend to submit additional evidence that we meet these criteria, which is now being prepared.

Sincerely,


Clyde Jackson
Chairman



000899

RECEIVED

FEB 1 2 06 PM '79

DIVISION OF TRIBAL
GOVERNMENT
SERVICES