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Washington, DC



March 14, 2016

US Department of the Interior
Acting Assistant Secretary Lawrence S. Roberts
Bureau of Indian Affairs
MS-3642-MIB
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Assistant Secretary Roberts:

This letter is to support the federal recognition of the Tribal Government of the Muscogee Nation of Florida, the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians. Members of this Nation are attached to the Bruce Community of historic Walton County Florida.

The Muscogees have lived in Walton County for many years. Their families left Alabama by following the Choctawhatchee River south into a remote area of the Florida Panhandle during Indian Removal Policies of the 1830s up to the years of the Civil War. They established homesteads in the territory of Florida. The descendants of these same families still reside in areas around and in the Bruce Community and are known to be Creek Indians. They continue to maintain their culture and traditions. The Tribal Government has a Council House that was originally a 3 room school building constructed in the 1880s. Tribal members tie to School Rolls and handwritten Church Rolls which can be used as baseline evidence for a distinct and separate people.

#03-41

The Tribe members are our friends and neighbors who, while being members of the overall Walton County community, have always maintained their own culture and community.

We respectfully ask that you give this tribe their long awaited recognition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Wolfe". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Thomas Wolfe, Ph.D., Chair

Walton County Democratic Party

cc: Office of Federal Acknowledgment

R. Lee Fleming, Director

DOI / Office of the Assistant Secretary — Indian Affairs

1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

MS-34B-SIB

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