



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals

Bureau of Minority Health Access and Promotions

10/31/2023

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Louisiana Bureau of Minority Health Access and Promotions (LDH), I am writing in support of Petition #402 Butte Tribe of Bayou Bourbeaux (BTBB), LA.

BTBB has entered into two contractual agreements with LDH at the request of the Louisiana State Governors Office as a Native American tribe of Louisiana. In my search for tribes within the State of Louisiana who actively work as a family for the betterment of all members, BTBB stands out impressively.

Before making the request, I personally researched the tribe's reputation with community, parish, and state government. I read their oral history; and I personally visited and toured their tribal land. While there, I visited the historical sites that were mentioned in their oral history.

To say that I was impressed with the tour of BTBB lands would be an understatement. I have worked with many Native American tribes (State & Federal) within the State of Louisiana, BTBB was the only tribe that could take me to the exact locations mentioned in their oral history.

Both agreements were successfully completed and BTBB is in good standing with LDH. Should you like to read more about their activities with LDH, please follow the link provided: <https://ldh.la.gov/page/684E1E48-B73D-9534-38CF072D10C2FE93>

Since the time that BTBB has been in partnership with LDH, I have attended several tribal events in which I addressed the tribal body as a unit. As a guest speaker, the presentation of the Louisiana Historical Highway Marker of White Smoke was attended by hundreds of tribal, local and public officials.

Should you need to speak to me concerning the relationship of BTBB and LDH, please feel free to contact me at the number provided below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rudy Macklin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a distinct "Macklin" at the end.

Rudy Macklin, Director
Bureau of Minority Health Access and Promotions
Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports