

Hanna, Jeanette

From: Sherry Treppa [sherrybridges@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 6:49 PM
To: Echohawk, Larry
Cc: Laverdure, Del; Newland, Bryan; Newland, Bryan; Warrington, Burton; Sherry Treppa
Subject: Habematolel-Ltr of support for CVMT decision
Attachments: HPUL Ltr for cvmt 1.18.11.pdf

Dear Assistant Secretary EchoHawk,
Please see the attached letter regarding your recent decision on the Sovereignty matter involving the Calif Valley Miwok Tribe.

Sincerely,

Sherry Treppa
Chairperson
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January 18, 2011

The Honorable Larry EchoHawk
Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
United States Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Recent Decision Upholding Tribal Sovereignty

Dear Assistant Secretary EchoHawk:

On the well known Turtle Talk website I learned that your office made a recent ruling dated December 22, 2011, regarding the California Valley Miwok Tribe. I write this letter on behalf of the Habematolel Pomo Tribe of Upper Lake to thank you for the courage to uphold the California Valley Miwok Tribe's sovereignty. Indeed, all federally recognized Indian tribes—as sovereign nations—have the right to define their own membership. The BIA and the various States should allow tribes to resolve their own membership disputes. Your decision clearly left membership issues in the hands of the existing General Council, and you made the correct decision.

With this decision, you have preserved and protected the sovereign rights of all federally-recognized tribes throughout the country and such actions will not go unnoticed.

Thank you for dedication to this issue.

Sincerely,

Sherry Treppa
Chairperson
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake

