

Constitution of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities

PREAMBLE

We, the People of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, in order to preserve our inherent sovereignty, enrich our culture, achieve and maintain a desirable measure of prosperity and the gifts of freedom, acknowledging with humility and gratitude the goodness, aid and guidance of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe in permitting us to do so, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the government of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities.

Article I. Federal Relationship

The Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities reaffirm its inherent sovereignty and mutually beneficial relationship with the United States of America.

Article II. Territorial Jurisdiction

- 1. The boundaries of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities territories shall be those described by the Land Patent Titles for the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge hamlets, within the geographical location commonly known as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as stated below:*

Map Coordinates:

Latitude:	Longitude:
<i>N41.11871°</i>	<i>W75.05156°</i>
<i>N41.119475°</i>	<i>W75.046271°</i>
<i>N41.12093°</i>	<i>W75.04462°</i>
<i>N41.12092°</i>	<i>W75.05164°</i>
<i>N41.11871°</i>	<i>W75.05156°</i>
<i>N41.11259°</i>	<i>W75.05073°</i>
<i>N41.1034364°</i>	<i>W75.0426968°</i>
<i>N41.0890°</i>	<i>W75.0388°</i>
<i>N41.1309</i>	<i>W74.9916</i>
<i>41.15669</i>	<i>-74.99067</i>
<i>41.150833</i>	<i>-74.99</i>
<i>41.1402</i>	<i>-74.986</i>

41.13135 -75.00129
41.1466332431681 -74.99482575447934

2. *The Land Patent Title boundaries of the southern extension of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities are within the geographical location commonly known as Dacula, Georgia, as illustrated below:*

Block and Lot: A 83 Block and Lot: A 19
Block and Lot: A 44 Block and Lot: A 59
Latitude: 34.038995 Longitude: -83.91606

3. *Also various other smaller Land Patent Titles.*

Article III. Bill of Rights

The People of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall have and do affirm the following rights:

Section 1. *The judicial process of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be open to every woman and/or man and/or youth and/or entity within the jurisdiction of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. Speedy and certain remedy, and equal protection, shall be afforded under the laws of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities.*

Section 2. *In all criminal proceedings, the accused shall have the right to: counsel; confront all adverse witnesses; have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in favor of the accused; and, to a speedy public trial by an impartial jury. The accused shall have the privilege against self-incrimination; and the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall not twice try or punish an accused for the same offense. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted.*

Section 3. *The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate, and the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall not deprive any woman and/or man and/or youth and/or entity of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.*

Section 4. *The Council shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press, or the right of the*

People to peaceably assemble, or to petition the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities for a redress of grievances.

Article IV. Citizenship

Section 1. *All citizens of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities must be original enrollees or descendants of original enrollees listed on the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Rolls. Enrollment requirements are in conjunction with a minimum of 50% (½) blood quantum of direct American Indian descent.*

The Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities recognizes the basic rights retained by all distinct People and groups affiliated with the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, retained from time immemorial, to remain a separate and distinct People. Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to prohibit the Aboriginal Americans from pursuing their inherent right to govern themselves, provided that it does not diminish the boundaries or jurisdiction of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and extensions or conflict with Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities laws.

Section 2. *There shall be established a Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Register, to be kept by the Registrar, for the inclusion of any Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities for citizenship purposes in the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities who presents the necessary evidence of eligibility for registration. The Council may empower the Registrar to keep and maintain other vital records.*

(a) A Registration Committee shall be established. It shall be the duty of the Registration Committee to consider the qualifications and to determine the eligibility of those applying to have their names entered in the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Register. The Registration Committee shall consist of a Registrar and two (2) assistants. All members shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Council.

(b) There shall be a number assigned to every name, which is approved and entered into the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Register. This number shall be preceded by the words, "Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Registry Number."

(c) The decisions of the Registration Committee shall be subject to de novo review by the lower courts created by Article VIII.

Section 3. *Registration as used in this Article refers to the process of enrolling as a citizen of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and is not the same as registration for voting purposes.*

Article V. Distribution of Powers

The powers of the government of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be divided into three (3) separate branches: Legislative, Executive and Judicial; and except as provided in this Constitution, the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches of government shall be separate and distinct and no branch shall exercise the powers properly belonging to either of the others.

Article VI. Legislative

Section 1. *The legislature shall consist of one legislative body to be called collectively the Council of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. Also known as the Counsel of Seven (7); the Counsel of Seven shall consist of elected representatives from the following districts:*

- 1. The Saw Creek Subdivision- Millpond region;*
- 2. The Saw Creek Subdivision- Falls region;*
- 3. The Saw Creek Subdivision- Eastern Central Saw Creek region;*
- 4. The Saw Creek Subdivision- Western Central Saw Creek region;*
- 5. The Pine Ridge Subdivision- Eastern Pine Ridge region;*
- 6. The Pine Ridge Subdivision- Western Pine Ridge region;*
- 7. The Dacula, Georgia Subdivision.*

Section 2. *The Council shall establish rules for its credentials, decorum, and procedure, and shall elect a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker from its own membership to officiate over Council meetings. The Speaker may vote in all matters before the Council. The Speaker shall be third in line of succession to serve as Acting Principal Chief in case of removal, death, resignation or disability of both the Principal Chief and Deputy Principal Chief until the disability be removed or a successor shall be appointed.*

Section 3. *The Council shall consist of seven (7) members, who are citizens by blood of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. Any citizen by blood of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities at least twenty-five (25) years of age on that date of the election may be a candidate for the Council.*

Each Council member shall be elected in the general election for a term of four (4) years and until his or her successor is duly elected and installed. All Council members shall be limited to two (2) consecutive elected terms on the Council. All Council members having served two consecutive terms must sit out one (1) term before seeking any seat on the Council.

The Council shall establish representative districts which shall be within the boundaries of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities' jurisdiction. These seats shall be apportioned to afford a reasonably equal division of citizenship among the districts.

The Council members representing districts within the boundaries must be domiciled within their district.

All registered voters residing outside the boundaries of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, may, at the time of the first election to fill Council seats, choose to continue to be registered to vote in the district in which they were previously registered. In the absence of making that choice, they shall be registered to vote. Notwithstanding the above, citizens under the age of twenty-five (25) who reside outside the boundaries and who have not previously registered to vote, may make a single choice to register to vote in the district of their choice at the time of their first registration, failing which their registration shall be to vote. All citizens age twenty-five (25) or older residing outside the boundaries not registered to vote at the time of the first election to fill Council seats may only register to vote. Citizens residing outside the boundaries who relocate within a district shall be subject to the requirements to vote in that district. Those residing within the boundaries must vote within the district of their residence.

The Council shall, within one year of this Constitution taking effect, establish a system of staggered terms for all seats on the Council to be organized into elections every two years.

Section 4. *There shall be at least one regular session of the Council in the calendar year which shall convene on the second Monday in each January or at such other date as the Council shall determine. No business shall be conducted by the Council unless at least two-thirds (2/3) of members thereof regularly qualified shall be in attendance, which number shall constitute a quorum. The session may not exceed a maximum of thirty (30) calendar days for pay purposes.*

Section 5. *Special meetings of the Council may be called: (A) by the Principal Chief, (B) by the Deputy Principal Chief when he or she has the full powers of*

the Principal Chief as elsewhere defined, (C) upon written request of fifty-one percent (51%) of the members of the Council, or (D) upon the written request of ten percent (10%) of the number of registered voters who voted in the last general election of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. The purposes of said meeting shall be stated in a notice published not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting, and the Council may not consider any other subject not within such purposes. No meetings may convene until thirty (30) days have elapsed after the adjournment of a prior session or meeting, unless called pursuant to Section 7 of Article VII.

Section 6. *All meetings of the Council and of its committees shall be open to the public except: (A) when the discussion shall concern employment, retention or discharge of personnel; (B) when the question of the moral turpitude of any citizen is discussed; and (C) when the decorum of the audience shall prejudice orderly administration of business. In the event that consideration of a subject shall take place in executive session, the vote shall take place in an open meeting.*

Section 7. *The Council shall have the power to establish laws which it shall deem necessary and proper for the good of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, which shall not be contrary to the provisions of this Constitution. The style of all bills shall be: "Be It Enacted By The Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities". The style of all resolutions shall be "Be It Resolved By The Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities ".*

Section 8. *No laws passed by the Council shall have retroactive effect or operation.*

Section 9. *The Council shall have the power to remove elected and appointed officials in the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and said removal must be conducted in accordance with Article XI of this Constitution.*

Section 10. *Every enactment which shall have been approved by a majority of the members in attendance at the Council shall, before it becomes effective be presented to the Principal Chief, who may approve the enactment by signing it; if not, the Principal Chief shall return it with objections to the Council, which shall enter the objections in the Journal and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds (2/3) of the entire council shall agree to pass the enactment, it may become fully effective and operational notwithstanding the objections of veto of the Principal Chief. In all such cases, the vote of the Council shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting shall be entered on the Council's Journal. If any enactment shall not be returned by the Principal Chief within five (5) days (Sundays and holidays*

excepted) after it shall have been presented, the same shall be law in like manner as if approved by the Principal Chief.

Section 11. *The Council shall establish a continuing system of permanent publication for all laws of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and judicial opinions of the highest appellate court. The system shall provide for regular updating, indexing and digesting and shall be of public record at all times. The text of all laws, resolutions, judicial opinions and orders, except otherwise protected by law, and all other governmental publications, except those by the land title holder and descendants-owned entities, shall be in the public domain and free from encumbrances against use by the Citizens. This shall not constrain the Nation from copyrighting other aspects of governmental publications, except that citizens shall always have license for personal use of the copyrighted work without notice or fee.*

Section 12. *There shall be created the office of Delegate to the United States House of Representatives, appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Council. The Delegate shall be a citizen of the Nation and upon recognition by the United States shall be seated in accordance with federal law. The Delegate shall endeavor to participate in congressional activities and shall at all times advocate the best interests of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities People. The Delegate shall make regular reports to the Council and Principal Chief on congressional activities and administrative matters relating to federal law and policy and shall produce an annual report to the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities People.*

Section 13. *In the case of removal, death, resignation or disability of any of Council member, such seat shall be filled by the candidate having the next highest number of votes in that district, who is available and willing to serve and whose eligibility is confirmed by the Election Commission. In the event no such candidate exists, the Council shall fill the vacated seat in the following manner: If a majority of the four-year term remains to be served, the Council shall authorize a special election in the district of the vacated seat to be conducted within ninety days; if a minority of the four-year term remains to be served, the Council shall elect a replacement who would otherwise be qualified to serve from the district of the vacated seat.*

Section 14. *Members of the Council and all Executive Officers shall be bound by oath, provided in Article XIII, to support the Constitutions of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and the United States of America, do everything within the woman's or man's power to promote the culture, heritage and traditions of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and to perform the duties of their respective offices.*

Article VII. Executive

Section 1. *The executive power shall be vested in a Principal Chief, who shall be styled "The Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities ". The Principal Chief shall be the original land patent owner or a direct bloodline matriarchal descendant of the original land patent owner (heredity).*

Section 2. *The Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be a citizen of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities in accordance with Article IV; shall be domiciled within the boundaries of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities; and, shall have obtained the age of thirty (30) years at the time of her position.*

Section 3. *The Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall appoint a Deputy Principal Chief, who shall possess the same qualifications as the Principal Chief. The Deputy Chief shall be subject to the term limitations as provided by the Principal Chief in this Constitution.*

Section 4. *In case of the absence of the Principal Chief from office due to death, resignation, removal or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office, the same shall devolve upon the Deputy Principal Chief. In case of disability, such powers shall continue during the term of such disability. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of the Deputy Principal Chief, or her inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office, the woman who is then the Speaker of the Council shall succeed to the office of the Deputy Principal Chief for the balance of the term. In the case of temporary disability, said woman shall serve as Acting Deputy Principal Chief for the duration of the disability and thereafter shall reassume the office of Speaker.*

Section 5. *The Council may, in the case of removal, death, resignation or disability of the Principal Chief, Deputy Principal Chief and the Speaker of the Council, provide by law what officer shall then act as Principal Chief until the disability be removed or a successor shall be elected.*

Section 6. *The Principal Chief and Deputy Principal Chief shall, at stated times, receive for their service a compensation not inconsistent with Article X.*

Section 7. *The Principal Chief may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Council at the seat of government pursuant to Article VI, Section 5, and such notice and other laws as may be prescribed by the Council. The purposes of said meetings must be stated and the Council may consider only such matters as are specified in the call of the extraordinary meetings. Before the extraordinary*

meetings may be legally sufficient to conduct business, a quorum of the Council must be present.

Section 8. *At one session of the Council annually, the Principal Chief shall deliver and communicate to the Council a message upon the condition of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities; and shall recommend such matters to the Council as she shall judge expedient.*

Section 9. *The Principal Chief shall cause the laws of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities to be faithfully executed, and shall conduct in person and in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, all communications and business of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. The Principal Chief may cause to be formed and operated, trusts, the beneficiary of which shall be the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and these trusts shall be granted such powers as provided by law for public trusts. Authorization for these trusts, however, must be approved by a majority vote of the Council.*

Section 10. *The Deputy Principal Chief shall, by virtue of the office, aid and advise the Principal Chief in the administration of the government.*

Section 11. *Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed as preventing the Principal Chief from employing such administrative assistants as deems proper.*

Section 12. *There shall be a cabinet composed of the following women and men who shall be citizens of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities: (1) Secretary of State, (2) Treasurer, (3) Secretary of Natural Resources. These women and men shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Council. The Council, on recommendation of the Principal Chief only, may create additional cabinet positions and departments. The Principal Chief shall prescribe the duties and responsibilities of cabinet members. Cabinet members shall be authorized to appoint such staff and other assistants as they deem necessary. The Council may, with recommendation of the Principal Chief, abolish any established cabinet position or function or revise the title or responsibilities of any foregoing department or function.*

Section 13. *There shall be created an office of the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall be a citizen of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, admitted to practice law before the highest court of any state of the United States. The Attorney General shall represent the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities in all criminal cases in the courts of the Nation, and in all civil actions wherein the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities is named as a party, and shall have such other duties as the*

Council may prescribe by law. The Attorney General shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Council for a term of five (5) years. The Attorney General shall be authorized to designate such prosecutors and other assistants as deemed necessary to carry out the duties of office, and may only be removed from office in conformance with Article XI.

Section 14. *There shall be created an office of the Commissioner of Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Public Safety. The Commissioner shall be a citizen of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and possess such training and experience in law enforcement as prescribed by law. The duties and authority of the Commissioner shall be prescribed by law. The Commissioner shall be authorized to deputize such officers as necessary to carry out the law enforcement needs of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. The Commissioner shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and be confirmed by the Council for a term of five (5) years. The Commissioner may only be removed from office in conformance with Article XI. The terms of the Commissioner and the Attorney General shall not be concurrent.*

Section 15. *A vacancy of an elected office by reason of removal, death, resignation or disability of the elected official, for which this Constitution does not provide a process for seating a replacement to serve out the term, shall be filled by appointment by the Principal Chief with confirmation by the Council.*

Section 16. *Removal of the Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. When a Principal Chief's actions and judgment appears questionable and narcissistic thus by neglecting duties to the nation. The Counsel of Seven (7) shall conduct an emergency intervention with the Principal Chief to discuss a solution, to the following Weak Character attributions:*

- 1. Detrimental addictions;*
- 2. Actions and priorities that would deprive tribal obligations to the extent of neglect to the internal affairs of tribal citizens' welfare;*
- 3. Traits of extreme narcissism which are negative to the economic interests and/or political integrity of the tribal nation.*
- 4. Lack of due diligence in governmental affairs and political diplomacy.*

The Principal Chief has (6) six months to dispel such weak character attributes; if after (6) six months the Principal Chief fails to prioritize her duties as the Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. Either she shall resign or the counsel of Seven (7) shall terminate the weak character Principal Chief's position and appoint the most qualified Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities with the requirements of Article VII, Section 1 and Section 2.

Article VIII. Judicial

Section 1. The Judicial powers of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be vested in a Supreme Court and such lower courts as the Council shall from time-to-time ordain and establish. The Judicial Appeals Tribunal shall become known as the Supreme Court of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. The Supreme Court shall be composed of three (3) members all of whom must be citizens of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and be admitted to practice law before the highest Court of any state of the United States.

Section 2. Justices of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Council to serve terms of ten (10) years. An appointment to the Supreme Court shall take place once every two (2) years, except in the case of filling a vacated seat on the Court for the remainder of that term. The Council shall, within six (6) months of this Constitution taking effect, pass such laws as are necessary for carrying into effect the provisions of this section.

Section 3. Judges of the District Court shall be citizens of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, and shall be admitted to practice law before the highest Court of any state of the United States, and shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Council to serve terms of four (4) years each. In the event of a judicial vacancy due to death, resignation, or removal from said office, any successor duly appointed and confirmed shall only serve the balance of the term of the vacancy being filled.

Section 4. The original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court shall extend to a general supervisory control over all lower courts. General supervisory control does not include suspension, removal, or disciplinary action of any member of the judiciary. These powers are specifically reserved for the Court on the Judiciary as prescribed in Section 5 and/or Article XI.

The Supreme Court shall employ an Administrator, who shall have general administrative duties in the judicial branch. The Justices of the Supreme Court shall have supervisory authority over the Administrator.

In support of its original and appellate jurisdiction, the Supreme Court shall have power to issue, hear and determine writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, prohibition and such other remedial writs as may be provided by law and may exercise such other jurisdiction as may be conferred by statute. The appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court shall extend to all

cases at law and in equity arising under the laws or Constitution of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities.

The Supreme Court shall promulgate rules of procedure relating to its original and appellate jurisdiction to insure any litigant appearing before it receives due process of law and impartial justice, together with prompt and speedy relief. Decisions of the Supreme Court shall be published and indexed and shall be final insofar as the judicial process of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities is concerned.

Section 5. *There is hereby created a Court on the Judiciary. Each branch of the government shall select two members of the Court; one of whom shall be a member of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Bar Association and the other shall be a non-lawyer. The six members shall appoint a seventh member. The members of the Court on the Judiciary shall promulgate its own rules of procedure, assuring due process, to be submitted to the Council for review and approval. The authority of the Court shall include suspension, sanction, discipline or recommendation of removal. The members shall not be employees of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities or any entities thereof. The Council shall pass such laws as are necessary for carrying into effect the provisions of this section. All members of the Court shall be citizens of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities.*

Section 6. *The District Courts of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be courts of general jurisdiction and shall be vested with original jurisdiction, not otherwise reserved to the Supreme Court, to hear and resolve disputes arising under the laws or Constitution of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities in both law and equity, whether criminal or civil in nature. The Council shall enact, with advice from the judiciary, rules of procedure which shall insure that all litigants receive due process of law and impartial justice, together with prompt and speedy relief.*

Section 7. *The Justices of the Supreme Court and Judges of the District Court shall receive a compensation which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but shall receive no other fee, gratuity or perquisite of office, nor hold any other position of title, trust or profit within the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities or any entity thereof, either directly or indirectly.*

Section 8. *Members of the judiciary shall be subject to removal from office only for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, habitual drunkenness, incompetency or any conviction of a felony, a crime under the laws of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities that if committed in some other*

jurisdiction would be a felony, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or offenses against the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities citizens committed while in office.

Article IX. Election

Section 1. *There is hereby created a Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities Election Commission. The Commission shall be an autonomous and permanent entity charged with the administration of all Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities elections, in accordance with election laws. The Council shall enact an appropriate law not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution that will govern the conduct of all elections.*

Section 2. *No woman or man who shall have been convicted of a felony charge under the laws of United States, or of any State, Territory, or Possession thereof, or a crime under the laws of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities that if committed in some other jurisdiction would be a felony, shall be eligible to hold any office or appointment of honor, profit or trust within this Nation unless such woman or man has received a pardon from the appropriate jurisdiction. Any woman or man who holds any office of honor, profit or trust in any other tribe or Nation of American Indians, either elective or appointive shall be ineligible to hold simultaneously any office of honor, profit or trust of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities unless approved by the Council.*

Section 3. *All elections shall be determined by secret balloting.*

Article X. Fiscal

Section 1. *The fiscal year shall commence on the first day of October in each year, unless otherwise provided by law.*

Section 2. *The Council shall provide by law for annual expenditure of funds, and the source from which funds are to be derived, to defray the estimated expenses of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches and the departments of government of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities for each fiscal year. The budget shall not exceed estimated revenues.*

Section 3. *At least forty-five (45) days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the Treasurer shall cause to be made and presented to the Council an itemized*

estimate of revenues and expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year adhering to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Section 4. *The Council shall require that records be maintained and provided to the Council of all funds, monies, accounts and indebtedness and all other accounts bearing upon the fiscal interests, including but not limited to, any and all outside business interests, both for-profit and not-for-profit, of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities by the use of an accounting system adhering to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The annual financial statement shall be audited by a Certified Public Accountant and presented to the Council within six months following the end of each fiscal year. Unaudited reports will be submitted as required by the Council.*

Section 5. *The Treasurer shall be authorized to accept all grants, donations of money, interest of funds of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, judgments and any and all other sources of monies available to the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, for uses and purposes and upon the conditions and limitations for which the same are granted or donated. The faith of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities is hereby pledged to preserve such grants and donations as a sacred trust, and, if or when designated, to keep the same for the use and purposes for which they were granted or donated.*

Section 6. *The Council shall authorize the Treasurer to invest funds or money of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and determine the preference to be given to the security for such investments, the manner of selecting the securities, prescribing the rules, regulations, restrictions and conditions upon which the funds shall be loaned or invested, provided that no investment shall be in mortgages other than first mortgages only, and do all things necessary for the safety of the funds and permanence of the investments. If required by law, such investments would be subject to the approval of the Principal Chief.*

Section 7. *The credit of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall not be given, pledged, or loaned to any woman, man, firm, company, corporation, or association without the approval of the Principal Chief and the Council. The Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall not make any donations by gift, bonus, or otherwise, to any woman, man, firm, company, corporation, or association without the approval of the Principal Chief and the Council.*

Section 8. *All laws authorizing the expenditures of money by and on behalf of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall specify the purpose for which the money is to be used, and the money so designated shall be used for no*

other purpose. No monies or resources of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities or any of its entities shall be used to pay for representation of a defendant in a criminal matter, except where a public defender is authorized under Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities law. Annual expenditures shall not exceed the available funds.

Section 9. *General laws shall be enacted by the Principal Chief and the Council providing for the deposit of funds of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, and the depository thereof, and such funds shall be under the control of the Treasurer, under such terms and conditions as shall be designated by the Principal Chief and the Council and under such laws which shall provide for the protection of said funds.*

Section 10. *No official, member or officer of the Council, Cabinet Member, employee of any official, Council, Cabinet, or subdivisions thereof, or any woman or man employed in any capacity by the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall receive from any woman or man, partnership, corporation, or entity doing business with the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities directly or indirectly, any interest, profit, benefits or gratuity, other than wages, salary, per diem, or expenses specifically provided by law.*

Section 11. *All officers elected or appointed, who are authorized by this Constitution or any subsequent legislation to a position of trust over any land, property, accounts or monies, shall execute an official surety bond in the amount as may be required by the Principal Chief and the Council. Such surety bonds shall inure to the benefit of, and be paid for by, the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities for whose protection or surety the same shall be required. In no event shall said surety bond be other than by a Licensed Insurance Company, authorized to do business.*

Article XI. Removal from Office

Section 1. *The members of the Council, Attorney General and Commissioner shall be subject to removal from office for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, habitual drunkenness, incompetency or any conviction of a felony, or a crime under the laws of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities that if committed in some other jurisdiction would be a felony, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or offenses against the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities citizens committed while in office.*

Section 2. Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, all other appointed officials shall be subject to removal for cause, as prescribed by law.

Section 3. No official may be removed under Sections 1 or 2 of this Article or Section 8 of Article VIII except after trial before the Council, with the accused having been afforded due process and opportunity to be heard. Provided, removal under Sections 1 or 2 of this Article or Section 8 of Article VIII shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Council.

Section 4. Separate from the Council's removal powers, the People of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities reserve unto themselves the exclusive power to recall any elected official through petition and recall referendum. A petition must be signed by Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities citizens registered to vote. In the case of district offices, signatures must total the greatest of five hundred (500) or twenty-five percent (25%) of the total number of registered voters in that district in the previous general election. The signed petition shall be filed with the Election Commission to determine whether the signatures are valid. Said determination shall be made within thirty (30) days after the filing of same. Upon verification of the requisite number of signatures the Election Commission shall certify the petition as valid and notify the Council and the Secretary of State. Upon notification of a valid certified petition the Council shall immediately call for and approve a special recall election for the office in question within sixty (60) days. The special recall election shall be limited in scope to the voting populous for the elected office in question. Vote's casts shall be tabulated and the results certified in the same manner as in general elections. A majority vote to affirm the official shall retain the official in office. A majority vote to recall shall immediately remove the official from office. In the event of a tie-vote the Council shall call a special meeting to conduct a tie-breaking vote. Elected offices vacated under this section shall be filled as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

Article XII. Employee Rights

No employee, who having served in a position at least one (1) year, shall be removed from the employment of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities except for cause, and only after being afforded pre-termination due process. Provided, the right of such employee to seek redress in the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities courts shall not be abridged.

Article XIII. Oath

Section 1. All officers elected or appointed shall, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will faithfully execute the duties of _____ of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitutions of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, and the United States of America. I swear or affirm further, that I will do everything within my power to promote the culture, heritage and traditions of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities."

Section 2. The foregoing oath shall be administered by any woman or man authorized by the Council to administer oaths. The oath shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State.

Article XIV. Clans

Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to prohibit the right of any citizen to belong to a recognized clan or organization in the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities.

Article XV. Initiative, Referendum and Amendment

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VI, the People of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities reserve to themselves the power to propose laws and amendments to this Constitution and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the Council.

Section 2. Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Principal Chief and the Council, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members of the Council and the Principal Chief, such proposed amendment or amendments shall, with the yeas and nays thereon, be entered into the Journal and referred by the Secretary of State to the People for their approval or rejection, at the next regular general election, except when the Principal Chief and the Council, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, shall order a special election for that purpose. If a majority of all the registered voters voting at such election shall vote in favor of any amendment thereto, it may thereby become a part of this Constitution.

Section 3. The first power reserved by the People of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities is the initiative, and ten percent (10%) of the registered voters shall have the right to propose any legislative measures by

petition and fifteen percent (15%) of the registered voters shall have the right to propose amendments to the Constitution by petition, and every such petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed. The second power is the referendum, and it may be ordered (except as to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety), either by petition signed by five percent (5%) of the registered voters or by the Council and the Principal Chief as other enactments is effectuated. The ratio and percent of registered voters hereinbefore stated shall be based upon the total number of votes cast in the last general election.

Section 4. *Referendum petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of State not more than ninety (90) days after the final adjournment of the session or meeting of the Council and the Principal Chief which passed the bill on which the referendum is demanded. All elections on measures referred to the People of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be had at the next regular general election except when the Council or the Principal Chief shall order a special election for the express purpose of making such reference. Any measure referred to the People by the initiative shall take effect and be in force when it shall have been approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon.*

Section 5. *Petitions and orders for the initiative and for the referendum shall be filed with the Secretary of State and addressed to the Principal Chief of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities, who shall submit the same to the People. The Council shall make suitable provisions for carrying into effect the provisions of this Article.*

Section 6. *The referendum may be demanded by the People against one or more items, sections or parts of any enactment of the Council in the same manner in which such power may be exercised against a complete enactment. The filing of a referendum petition against one or more items, sections or parts of an enactment shall not delay the remainder of such act from becoming operative.*

Section 7. *If two or more amendments are proposed they shall be submitted in such manner that registered voters may vote for or against them separately.*

Section 8. *No proposal for the amendment of this Constitution which is submitted to the voters shall embrace more than one general subject and the voters shall vote separately for or against each proposal submitted; provided, however, that in the submission of proposals for the amendment of this Constitution by articles, which embrace a general subject, each proposed article shall be deemed a single proposal or proposition.*

Section 9. No convention shall be called by the Council and/or Principal Chief to propose a new Constitution, unless the law providing for such convention shall first be approved by the People on a referendum vote at a regular or special election. Any amendments, alterations, revisions or new Constitution, proposed by such convention, shall be submitted to the registered voters of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities at a general or special election and may be approved by a majority of the registered voters voting thereon before the same shall become effective. The question of such proposed convention shall be submitted to the citizens of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities at least once every twenty (20) years.

Article XVI. Seat of Government

The Seat of Government of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities shall be at Saw Creek, Bushkill, Pennsylvania.

Article XVII. Adoption

This Constitution shall become effective as of August 03, 2018. It shall be engrossed on parchment and signed by the Principal Chief. It shall be filed in the office of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities and sacredly preserved as the fundamental law of the Saw Creek and Pine Ridge Indian Communities. The Council shall enact laws in conformance with this Constitution within eighteen (18) months of its ratification, provided that the provisions for Article XI shall be enacted within six (6) months of its ratification.



Principal Chief and Land Title(s) Owner