SOUTHAMPTON



## CHEROENHAKA (NOTTOWAY) INDIAN TRIBE, SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA P.O. Box 397

Courtland, Virginia 23837



SOUTHAMPTON

## "PEOPLE AT THE FORK OF THE STREAM"

Recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia in The Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the County of Southampton County On March 3, 1851 In the 75<sup>th</sup> Year of the Commonwealth, Witness, Littleton R. Edwards, Clerk of Said Court
-Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe Vs Jeremiah Cobb-

March 15, 2009

**Subject:** Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia, Request for Response to Letter of August 19, 2009 and Concerns Germane to the Group calling themselves the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc.

Virginia Council on Indians

Office of the Governor

ATTN: The Honorable Chief William P. "Bill" Miles, the Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) Council Members & Recognition Committee

P. O. Box 1475

Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Chief Miles, VCI Council Members and Recognition Committee:

## Reference(s):

- Our letter dated August 19, 2008, with 37 Enclosures, Subject: Recognition "petitioning" status of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia - Concern: VCI Bias, Due Process and Fairness. Letter received from Her Majesty the Queen of England's Senior Correspondence Officer.
- 2. Our letter dated February 9, 2006, Subject: Letter of Intent to Petition the Virginia General Assembly to extend State Recognition to our tribe, with 23 enclosures.
- 3. Letter to the VCI from Francis & Francis, P.C., Attorneys At Law, dated February 28, 2006, Subject: Representation of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County Virginia regarding their Letter of Intent.
- 4. Our Letter Intent dated December 7, 2002, Subject: Letter of Intent to File for Federal Recognition.

5. Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc., Letter of Intent to petition for state tribal recognition, dated January 30, 2006, and signed by "FORMER MEMBERS" of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia.

We greet you in the name of the Great Spirit, the one true God, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As we are most appreciative of your time and attention to our official tribal correspondence, delivered / presented to the VCI since 2002; however, we are still concerned as to the response time relegated by your council in addressing our concerns over the past six years, specifically our correspondence since February 9, 2006, (Ref. 2 & 3 - Encl), and most recently our letter dated August 19, 2008 (Ref. 1 – Encl).

We are deeply concerned that an organization, such as the VCI, representing the Governor of Virginia regarding Indian Affairs, has allowed some 120 days + to past without sending an official response addressing the serious concerns mentioned in our letter at Reference 1 above. Our concerns are very serious in nature as they referenced reasons why our tribe had not submitted an official packet to your council, as recommended by Senator Tommy Norment, petitioning for state recognition. Those reasons, germane to Bias, Unfairness and Due Process and in some cases slander of our tribe and / or persons in leadership roles by way if the "Internet" and other written correspondence, were clearly addressed in References A, B and C of said letter.

Even more so, it has come to our attention, and it appears that the VCI and / or one of its officials usurped correspondences sent by Her Majesty the Queen of England by way of her Senior Correspondence Officer to the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia. This correspondence was in regard to the Jamestown 2007 Celebration; to include, correspondence sent by the official governing body of Southampton County Virginia, Board of Supervisors, to Her Majesty, supporting a written request from the undersigned tribe to meet with Her Majesty The Queen upon her visit to the US as part of the Jamestown 2007 Celebration. The purpose of said meeting was to present Her Majesty The Queen with three "Symbolic Indian Arrows", symbolic of the annual tribute paid by the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia, on Saint George Day, to the British Crown. This tribute was paid annually as a testament to the Spotswood Treaty of February 1713 between the Chief of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia, Oracoorass Treeheer AKA King William Edmond and Lieutenant Governor Alexander Spotswood.

Now comes a major concern that our Tribal Government shares: On August 19, 2008 at the same VCI meeting in which we read and delivered to your council our letter at Reference 1, Mr. Al Alston, a former Attorney, and the husband of Lynette Allston (a former member of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County VA, who now styles herself as chief of the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Incl.) also read a letter to your council stating that the group professing to be the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia was a separate group from the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia. It is to be noted that

this group came into being in 2006 and was made up of **FORMER ACTIVE MEMBERS**, of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia, whose names have since been placed on the undersigned Tribes Inactive Rolls.(see Constitution and Bylaws of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe listed on the tribe's website: http://www.cheroenhakanottoway.org Two members of this group are listed on our letter of intent to file for Federal Recognition (see Ref 4). The Council Members whose name appears on this group's petitioning letter at Ref. 5 – Encl., are former active member of the undersigned tribe with the exception of Mr. Greg Stephenson. For you edification and information we have enclosed copies of said individuals notarized applications and other affidavits. The majority of these members joined the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia in the 2004 -2005 time frame, with two in mid and late 2002 and one in mid 2003, by submitting a "NOTARIZED **APPLICATION**" with proven Genealogy in place, accompanied by a Reaffirmation Signed Affidavit of Reaffirmation of Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribal Citizenship; as such, WE the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia GO ON **RECORD** and state that from our Tribal Government's prospective that WE look upon the tribal council and members of the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc., as a **SPLINTER GROUP** of Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County, Virginia!

We further request that a copy of this letter be provided to all VCI Council Member, the At-Large Member(s) and the Recognition Committee.

Again, on behalf of the governing body of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe, Southampton County Virginia, we thank you in advance for your expeditious support in providing an official written response addressing our concerns as stated in this correspondence.

Quaker-Hun-te, EE Sun-ke Was-we-kr (Creator, My Heart Speaks)

"May your walk in this sacred circle of life make better the walk of another"

Ia (*I walk*),



Walt "*Red Hawk*" Brown Chief, Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe Southampton County, Virginia P. O. Box 397

Courtland, Virginia 23837 Home #: (757) 562-7760 Cell #: (757) 334-5510

Email: WDBrownIII@aol.com

Tribal Web Site: http://www.cheroenhaka-nottoway.org

Cc: The Attorney General of Virginia

Encl as:

## **ENCLOSURES:**

- August 19, 2008 Letter To VCI
- February 9, 2006 Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Tribe's Letter Of Intent To VCI
- February 28, 2006 Letter To VCI From Francis & Francis, P. C. Attorneys At Law
- December 7, 2002 Letter of Intent to File for Federal Recognition
- Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc letter of Intent with Council Members
- Notarized Application with Reaffirmation Affidavits:
  - Lynette Allston
  - o Ed Branch
  - Vivian Lucas
  - o Greg Branch
  - o William Wright
  - o Sam Fleming
  - Sidney Turner
  - o Archie Elliott
  - o Angel Dukes-Montague
  - o Adam Allston
  - o Lynnita Montague
  - o Sarah Montague
- Letter From Lynette Allston
- Letter To Lynette Allston dated December 20, 2005 reference negative email she sent to all tribal members and Senator Lucas.
- Issue II, 2005 with Lynette Allston as Journal Chairperson and Ed Branch as Powwow Chair. Special Article By Edwin Dukes
- Waskehee Issue I, 2004 with Lynette Allston as Journal Editor and Ed Branch as Powwow Chair.