



Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

Business Council Members
Billy Cypress, Chairman

Jasper Nelson, Ass't. Chairman
Max Billie, Treasurer

Andrew Bert Sr., Secretary
Jerry Cypress, Lawmaker

June 17, 2005

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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Mr. George Ballo
FDOT
Environmental Management Office MS-37
605 Suwanee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Dear Mr. Ballo:

The beliefs, customs, and traditions of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida are such that it is against our religion to speak or even talk about death or related topics. Two individuals have been selected by the Tribe to represent them in these matters. They are Mr. Steve Terry, Tribal NAGPRA and Section 106 Representative, and Mr. Fred Dayhoff, Tribal Cultural Representative.

Mr. Terry has earned the trust and respect of the Tribe through his efforts on our behalf since his employment began in 1985. He has been an advocate for Tribal Trust Rights and Tribal Sovereignty. Due to his ability to ascertain the will of the Tribe through confidential consultations and discussions with Tribal Administration and Tribal members, he was appointed as the Tribe's NAGPRA and Section 106 Representative in 1992. He has since learned what our beliefs, customs, and traditions are concerning NAGPRA and Section 106 items.

Mr. Dayhoff has a long history with the Miccosukee Tribe. He has lived in our area and known Tribal members for over 50 years. Through his association with the National Park Service, he has assisted in the Traditional Burials of our Tribal members for over 40 years. He has extensive knowledge of our beliefs, customs, and traditions which he keeps confidential according to our wishes. He assisted the National Park Service in their archaeological surveys in both Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve. He was appointed as the Cultural Representative in 1992.

Mr. Terry and Mr. Dayhoff speak on our behalf on these items with the understanding that our beliefs, customs, and traditions must remain confidential. They have proven their trustworthiness time and again. They are our Representatives. Please send correspondence to Mr. Terry at the below address. He will consult with Mr. Dayhoff and respond back to your concerns on behalf of the Tribe.

Sincerely,

Billy Cypress
Billy Cypress
Tribal Chairman

P.O. Box 440021, Tamiami Station, Miami, Florida 33144, (305) 223-8380, fax (305) 223-1011
Constitution Approved by the Secretary of the Interior, January 11, 1962