

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF KARA BACON TO SERVE ON THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION TRIBAL ISSUES ADVISORY GROUP

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL RESOLUTION

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE a Resolution supporting the nomination of Kara Bacon, Choctaw Nation Tribal Prosecutor, to serve on the United States Sentencing Commission Tribal Issues Advisory Group as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

WHEREAS, the United States Sentencing Commission (USSC) solicits requests for applications for its Tribal Issues Advisory Group to provide recommendations on criminal sentencing and other criminal issues facing Indian Country;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the "Nation"), the Chief has the power to "establish and appoint committees, members and delegates to represent the Choctaw Nation with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council.";

WHEREAS, Chief Gary Batton nominates Kara Bacon, Tribal Prosecutor and Choctaw tribal member, to serve on the United States Sentencing Commission Tribal Issues Advisory Group to represent the Nation, Choctaw Nation Members, and Indian Country as a whole;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bacon's extensive professional experience as a prosecutor and her commitment to public safety and justice for victims make her extremely qualified for this role. During her tenure as Choctaw Nation Tribal Prosecutor, Mrs. Bacon has overseen a 2,750% increase in the Choctaw Nation's case load in the wake of the McGirt decision and has also established excellent working relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement partners to ensure public safety on the Choctaw Nation Reservation;

WHEREAS, The United States Sentencing Commission, a bipartisan, independent agency located in the judicial branch of the federal government, was created by Congress in 1984 to reduce sentencing disparities and promote transparency and proportionality in criminal sentencing. The Commission collects, analyzes, and distributes a broad array of information on federal sentencing practices. The Commission also continuously establishes and amends sentencing guidelines for the judicial branch and assists the other branches of the federal government in developing effective and efficient criminal policy;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma supports efforts to build and grow its Nation-to-Nation relationship with the United States of America, grow the Nation's relationship and partnership with the United States Sentencing Commission, and build strong relationships with law enforcement professionals of other tribal nations, states, and the federal government to meet the unique challenges and needs of Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to support the nomination of Mrs. Kara Bacon to serve on the United States Sentencing Commission Tribal Issues Advisory Group as a representative of the Nation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Resolution be cited as approval supporting the nomination of Mrs. Kara Bacon to serve on the United States Sentencing Commission Tribal Issues Advisory Group.

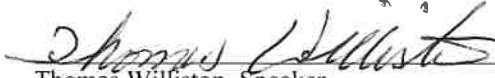
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CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on July 8, 2023. I further certify that the foregoing Council Resolution CR- 22 -23 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.



Ronald Perry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 7.12.2023

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Purpose/Need of Council Resolution: The purpose of this Resolution is to support the nomination of Kara Bacon, Tribal Prosecutor and Choctaw tribal member, to serve on the United States Sentencing Commission Tribal Issues Advisory Group to represent the Nation, Choctaw Nation Members, and Indian Country as a whole. Mrs. Bacon's extensive professional experience as a prosecutor and her commitment to public safety and justice for victims make her extremely qualified for this role. During her tenure as Choctaw Nation Tribal Prosecutor, Mrs. Bacon has overseen a 2,750% increase in the Choctaw Nation's case load in the wake of the McGirt decision and has also established excellent working relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement partners to ensure public safety on the Choctaw Nation Reservation. The United States Sentencing Commission, a bipartisan, independent agency located in the judicial branch of the federal government, was created by Congress in 1984 to reduce sentencing disparities and promote transparency and proportionality in criminal sentencing. The Commission collects, analyzes, and distributes a broad array of information on federal sentencing practices. This nomination would further the Nation's strategic goals of supporting service delivery as well as promoting and exercising sovereignty by giving the Nation a voice nationally on this national council and getting Natives appointed to federal positions.

Title of Council Resolution: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF KARA BACON TO SERVE ON THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION TRIBAL ISSUES ADVISORY GROUP

Agency: Government Relations

Budget: N/A

Match Required: N/A

Request by: Brian McClain, Executive Director Government Relations; John Hobbs, SEO Communications

KARA BACON

P.O. Box 1210
Durant, OK 74702
Ph: 580-924-8280 ext. 2150
Cell: 580-740-1882
karab@choctawnation.com

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Title: Tribal Prosecutor April 2019- Present
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

As the Tribal Prosecutor for the Choctaw Nation I oversee the daily operations of the office. I develop personnel, budgets, policies, procedures, case management and strategic planning. The Choctaw Nation Prosecutor's Office is responsible for prosecuting all criminal violations within the Choctaw Nation jurisdiction and prosecuting juvenile deprived actions on behalf of the Choctaw Nation.

Title: First Assistant District Attorney August 2015 - April 2019
District Attorney Sixth Prosecutorial District

Title: Assistant District Attorney December 2008 - December 2010
District Attorney Sixth Prosecutorial District December 2011 - August 2015

As First Assistant District Attorney, I managed the employees and dockets of District 6, which included 10 full time attorneys and 20 support staff. District Six encompasses four counties: Grady, Stephens, Caddo and Jefferson Counties. In addition to managerial duties, I carried a general felony and misdemeanor docket focusing on violent and sex crimes. Additionally, I provided counsel to our county commissioners, handled civil litigation on behalf of the county and county officers and approved all contracts for the county. Prior to becoming First Assistant, I handled dockets in both Grady and Caddo Counties handling general felonies, misdemeanors, juvenile deprived and delinquent cases, civil asset forfeiture and mental health cases. I also served as the Drug Court Prosecutor for both Grady and Caddo Counties and served on the Child Advocacy Teams for both counties.

Title: Assistant District Attorney December 2010 – December 2011
District Attorney Nineteenth Prosecutorial District

As an Assistant District Attorney in Coal County, I was the sole attorney for the county handling all felony, misdemeanor, juvenile, mental health and civil cases. I also served as the Prosecuting Attorney for the Atoka and Coal County Drug Court Teams.

Title: Legal Intern August 2018 - May 2009
Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (Part-time 15-20 hours per week)

As a legal intern I assisted in probating estates involving trust land, in the drafting and execution of wills and performed land title research. I also participated in juvenile cases as a court appointed Guardian *Ad Litem*.

EDUCATION

University of Oklahoma College of Law, *Juris Doctor* May 2010
Native American Indian Certificate for course work in Indian Law
Officer of the OU Native American Legal Student Association
Recipient of Pro Bono Service Award
Member of Phi Delta Phi Honors Society

Southeastern Oklahoma State University
Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Organizational and Strategic Communication, May 2005
Minor: English with writing emphasis
Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Honors Society, Member
Sigma Tau Delta National English Honors Society, Member

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Chairperson of the Grady County Coordinated Community Response Team, 2015- 2019
Founded "Together We Heal" Walk to End Domestic Violence in 2016, held annually, which to date has raised over \$36,000 in revenue for victims of domestic violence.

President of the Board of Directors of the Crisis Advocacy Network, 2016- 2019

Vice President of the Board of Directors of Intervention and Crisis Advocacy Network, 2015-2016

Chairperson of the Johnson O'Malley Program at Middleberg School District, 2017- 2019

Board member of Caddo Nation Head Start Program, 2011-2013

Chairperson of Caddo County Graduated Sanctions Program, 2011-2013

Board member of Caddo County and Grady County Child Advocacy Team, 2010-2019