

**CONFIRMATION OF HONOR GUARD COMMANDER BRUCE JESSIE, SGT. MAJ. OF THE ARMY,  
RET., TO SERVE ON THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ON TRIBAL AND INDIAN AFFAIRS**

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**IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION**

**JAMES DRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**TO CONFIRM** the nomination of Choctaw tribal member and Choctaw Nation Honor Guard Commander Bruce Jessie, Sgt. Maj. of the Army, Retired, for appointment on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs seeks nominations to their Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs;

**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 Honor Guard Commander Bruce Jessie, Sgt. Maj. of the Army, Retired, for appointment to the VA Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs to represent the Nation, our Choctaw Veterans and other Native Americans who have served our country in military service;

**WHEREAS**, Sergeant Major Jessie's years of dedicated service to our country, experience and expertise make him a great fit for this role, as well as his ongoing commitment to serving the Nation and our veterans;

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council of the Nation supports efforts to build and grow our relationship with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Native veterans across the United States and Indian Country;

**WHEREAS**, Sergeant Major Jessie is highly qualified and equipped to serve on this committee due to his commitment to serving our tribal members and his years of exemplary in the U.S. Army. Sergeant Major Bruce E. Jessie held various leadership roles during his time in service to our country, including Section Chief, Fire Control Noncommissioned Officer, Operations Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Drill Sergeant, Drill Sergeant Leader, First Sergeant, Corps Artillery Operations Sergeant Major, and Fires Combat Development Sergeant Major. SGM Jessie's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and the Drill Sergeant Identification Badge; and

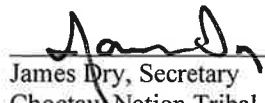
**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to support the nomination of Bruce Jessie, Honor Guard Commander to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.


**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Resolution be cited as confirmation of the nomination of Bruce Jessie, Sgt. Maj. of the Army, Retired, for appointment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

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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 eleven (11) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at a meeting of the Tribal Council in Tuskahoma, OK on August 9, 2025. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CR- 11 - 25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of eleven (11) members, zero (0 ) negative votes, and zero (0 ) abstaining.*

  
James Dry, Secretary  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
Thomas Williston, Speaker  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 8-12-25

**Purpose/Need of Council Resolution:** The purpose of this Resolution is to support the nomination of Sergeant Major Bruce Jessie for appointment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs as a representative of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. This committee continues to fill a seat at the table for the Nation for a national committee, as Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr. previously served on this committee and has served his maximum terms. It fulfills strategic goals in the subheading of the legislative agenda of getting Choctaws appointed to political positions, under the heading of Protect and Promote Choctaw Sovereignty and Culture.

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**Agency:** Assistant Chief's Office, Government Affairs

**Budget:** N/A

**Match Required:** N/A

**Request by:** Sara Jane Smallwood Cocke, Government Affairs