

COLT

COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation / Oglala Sioux Tribe / Crow Tribe / Navajo Nation / Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe / Blackfeet Tribe of Montana / Rosebud Sioux Tribe / Spokane Tribe / Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe / Ute Indian Tribe

COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

RESOLUTION # 4-3-6-14

Title: Supporting And Joining the Efforts of Four Directions in Obtaining the Emails Sent and Received by Former Chief Judge Richard Cebull in his Official Capacity, to Ensure Tribal Members Appearing Before him were not Racially Profiled in his Decisions.

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) was formally established in April 2011, and is comprised of tribes with a large land base, including the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation (MHA Nation), the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Crow Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, the Blackfeet Tribe of Montana, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Ute Indian Tribe, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, the Colville Confederated Tribes, Spokane Tribe, and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. COLT is chaired by Chairman Tex Hall of the MHA Nation; and

WHEREAS, COLT was organized to provide a unified advocacy base for tribes that govern large trust land bases and that strive to ensure the most beneficial use of those lands for the tribes and individual Indian landowners; and

WHEREAS, the Great Falls Tribune first uncovered the Obama e-mail that former United States District Chief Judge Richard Cebull of the United States District Court for the District of Montana had forwarded to a group of friends in February 2012, with an introduction that said, "Hope it touches your heart like it did mine." It read:

"A little boy said to his mother, 'Mommy, how come I'm black and you're white?' His mother replied, 'Don't even go there Barack! From what I can remember about that party, you're lucky you don't bark.'"; and

WHEREAS, the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council in subsequent search of court computer tapes dating from 2008 found hundreds of disparaging e-mails sent by former Chief Judge Cebull to "personal and professional contacts and court staff."; and

WHEREAS, the report found a significant number included jokes/commentary disparaging African Americans, **Native Americans**, Latinos - especially illegal immigrants - and women, and a few were antigay; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Court system has primary authority on prosecuting Major Crimes in Indian Country throughout the United States and former Chief Judge Cebull exercised that authority over Natives Americans in the State of Montana; and

WHEREAS, tribes and tribal members throughout the State of Montana use the Federal Court system to seek interpretations of treaties and sovereignty rights when dealing with States and other entities and tribal members have sought and are seeking equality within the Federal Court system; and

WHEREAS, officers of the court and public officials that received these emails had a duty to bring them to the attention of the 9th Circuit; and

WHEREAS, COLT fully supports the Plaintiffs in the Voting Rights case Wandering Medicine et al. versus McCulloch, Custer, et al. where plaintiffs were denied justice by former Chief Judge Cebull; and

WHEREAS, COLT, along with Four Directions Inc., is concerned that decisions by former Chief Judge Cebull have been racially biased and have negatively affected Native Americans appearing before him; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, COLT supports and joins the efforts of Four Directions Inc., including filing legal action, in obtaining former United States District Chief Judge Richard Cebull's emails that were reviewed and/or used by the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council in its report; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, COLT supports Four Directions in any of its efforts to obtain grants, private funds and/or any other means they need to seek legal assistance in obtaining said emails to ensure that the civil rights, legal rights and ruling and/or decisions made by former Chief Judge Cebull regarding Native Americans were not racially biased.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, this resolution shall be the policy of COLT until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

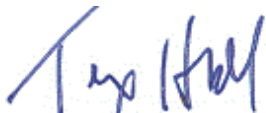
This resolution was enacted at a duly called meeting of the Coalition of Large Tribes held in Washington, D.C. on March 6, 2014, at which a quorum was present, with 6 members voting in favor, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstaining.

Dated this 6th day of March 2014.



Secretary, Coalition of Large Tribes

Attest:



Tex G. Hall, Chairman, Coalition of Large Tribes