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Barbara Spain
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
+1 508.645.9265
Barbara@wampanoagtribe.net

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PRESS STATEMENT

Aquinnah, MA: On Monday, January 8, 2018, the United States Supreme Court denied a petition to hear a case regarding Tribal rights against the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Following is a statement from the Chairwoman of the Tribe:

"We'd like to thank our fantastic legal team for their extraordinary work and commitment to helping us throughout this challenging litigation.

We'd also like to thank our federal partners in the Department of the Interior-Indian Affairs and Solicitor's Office, the National Indian Gaming Commission and the US Department of Justice for their support and explanations of our Tribe's rights under federal law.

Now that this issue is finally resolved, we'd like to put the legal battles behind us, and focus on working with the town and Commonwealth; to weigh our options and determine the best pathway forward for us to provide the necessary services of health care, Elders' and children's services, education, housing and employment opportunities for all of our Tribal Members.

We are grateful to all of our supporters both Tribal Members and Non-Tribal Members alike. It was a great and historic day for the Aquinnah Wampanoag People!"

Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

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