



October 8, 2015

Dr. Stephanie S. Toothman
Associate Director, Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science
National Parks Service
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Dr. Toothman:

Thank you very much for your letter concerning SAA's willingness to work with the National NAGPRA Program, as reflected in our letter of August 18 and 31, 2015. We are gratified that SAA, along with other stakeholders, are beginning a new and constructive phase of engagement with the Program and thank you for your role in this.

As part of our commitment to working with the National NAGPRA Program on concerns about the Review Committee, the SAA has now organized a plan for systematically attending National NAGPRA Review Committee meetings, implemented by the SAA Committee on Repatriation in coordination with our Government Affairs Manager, David Lindsay. Our plan is to have at least one SAA representative attend all Review Committee meetings, so that the SAA can remain an informed and constructive partner in our dialog on the Review Committee Process.

Following the meetings, their notes will be shared with Mr. Lindsay, myself, and, when necessary, our Board of Directors and other committees. SAA will then provide Ms. O'Brien with comments on the positive developments as well as any concerns, focusing on the issues of Review Committee process that were raised in our letter of August 31, 2015.

We stand ready to talk over any such matters that Ms. O'Brien or others in the Program wish to further discuss. As previously stated, we are ready to assist in any way we can to advance the important activities taking place under the Act, and to overcome barriers to the Act's full implementation.

We look forward to working with National NAGPRA Program and its Review Committee members on our common goals of fairness, balance, and transparency.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane Gifford-Gonzalez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Diane" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name.

Diane Gifford-Gonzalez
President

Cc:

The Honorable Jonathan Jarvis
Director , National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Ms. Melanie O'Brien
Manager, National NAGPRA Program
1201 Eye Street NW, Room 846
Washington, DC 20005