



## *Greenville Rancheria*

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### **RESOLUTION No. 11-2009-12**

#### **A Resolution to Support Request Leonard Peltier Be released**

**WHEREAS, The Greenville Rancheria is a federally recognized Indian Tribe pursuant to the stipulated judgment in Tillie Hardwick vs. United States, 1983; and**

**WHEREAS, The Tribe adopted the Constitution of the Greenville Rancheria (Constitution) pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 984, approved by the Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs on June 28, 1995; and**

**WHEREAS, The Tribal Council of the Greenville Rancheria (Tribal Council) is the governing body of the Tribe pursuant to Article VII Section 1 of the Constitution; and**

**WHEREAS, The Tribal Council is authorized pursuant to Article VII, Section I of the constitution to consult, negotiate, contract, or conclude agreements with Federal, State, local and tribal governments and with private persons and organizations.**

**WHEREAS, The Tribal Council is authorized pursuant to Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution is to support other indigenous people**

**WHEREAS, an innocent man, Indigenous activist Leonard Peltier has been imprisoned for over 33 years, wrongfully convicted in connection with the June 26, 1975, shooting deaths of two agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota;**

**WHEREAS, acknowledging that the United States government concedes it cannot prove Mr.**

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**Peltier's guilt or what part he "may have played" in the fire fight-and in recognition of compelling evidence that the government knowingly fabricated and suppressed evidence, coerced witnesses, and otherwise manipulated the judicial system to achieve a conviction-the National Congress of American Indians and the Assembly of first Nations have passed unanimous joint resolutions in support of freedom for Leonard Peltier; and**

**WHEREAS, Appellate Judge Gerald Heaney (who wrote the opinion denying Mr. Peltier a new trial, a decision based on a legal technicality) has twice advocated for a commutation of Mr. Peltier's sentence--in the belief that the "U.S. government must share responsibility with the Native Americans for the June 26 firefight"-so as to promote healing and fair treatment of Native Americans; and**

**WHEREAS, decades later, the FBI resists, citing "national security" interests, all requests made under the Freedom of Information Act for the release of tens of thousands of documents related to the Peltier case; and**  
**WHEREAS. The D.S, Congress has failed, to date, to investigate the federal government's role in the violence that ravaged the Pine Ridge Reservation in the 1970s; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Peltier is over 65 years old and suffers from potentially life threatening health conditions made worse by an unsafe living environment, inadequate diet, and substandard care; and**

**WHEREAS, on 13 January 2009, at U.S. Penitentiary-Canaan, Mr. Peltier was assaulted and seriously injured, bringing into question the ability of me Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to protect Mr. Peltier while in federal custody; and**

**WHEREAS, the BOP has not, to date, effected Mr. Peltier transfer from a maximum security to a medium security facility in Oxford, Wisconsin, in compliance with its guidelines on prisoner placement and in recognition of Mr. Peltier's formal application, as well as his reduced security rating and therefore eligibility for transfer; and**

**WHEREAS, alternatively~ the U.S. government has failed to respond to the formal request of a sovereign nation, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, for the transfer of Mr.**



**Peltier into its custody to serve the remainder of his sentence in his homeland, close to family and where his overall wellbeing will be assured; and**

**WHEREAS, on 21 August 2009, the U.S. Parole Commission denied parole to Leonard Peltier despite his being eligible and ignoring the facts of the case, mitigating circumstances, and the fact that Leonard Peltier has no previous convictions and has been a model prisoner instead basing its decision on the fact that Mr., Peltier continues to maintain his innocence and on the scurrilous claims of former and current government officials that are riot supported by the court record; and**

**WHEREAS, the U.S. government has ignored the calls from numerous and respectable law, religious, and political groups including Amnesty International; eight Nobel Peace Laureates (Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela among them); noted individuals such as former U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson and the late Mother 111eresa and Coretta Scott King; and 55 Members of Congress, including members of the Congressional Black Caucus-most notably Congressmen John Conyers and John Lewis for Mr. Peltier's release on humanitarian grounds and according to the standards of justice embodied in the U.S. Constitution, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greenville Rancheria Tribal Council upon signature of this Resolution hereby Calls on President Barrack Obama to immediately grant Executive Clemency to Leonard Peltier, order the release of all FBI files pertaining to the Peltier case, and support an exhaustive and independent investigation of the federal government's role in the violence on the Pine Ridge Reservation in the 19708.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is valid until rescinded by the Tribal Council.**

\* \* \* \* \* **CERTIFICATION** \* \* \* \* \*

**The Tribal Council does hereby certify that a meeting duly called, noticed, and convened on the 12th of November, 2009, where a quorum was present, does hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Greenville Rancheria by a vote 4 For, 0 Against, and 0 Abstention(s).**


**Attest:**



**Kyle Self Chairman**

**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Certification:**



**I Crystal Rios,**