A Resolution of the Inter-Tribal Council endorsing and supporting the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ), National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Violence Against Indian Women National Baseline Study

Resolution No. 15-24

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the Tribal Governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing over 500,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC desires to increase its understanding of effective system response to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence for American Indian and Alaska Native women throughout the U.S. The ITC understands that the National Baseline Study (NBS) is aimed at estimating an accurate national rate of violence against Indian women (VAIW) living in tribal communities. Prevalence data will not be available for individual Tribes; rather data obtained from the NBS will be used collectively to estimate a national rate; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC understands that NIJ is mandated to conduct the study as stipulated in Title IX, Section 904(a) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, Pub. Law No. 109-162 (codified at 42 U.S.C. § 3796gg-10 note), as amended by Section 907 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, Pub. Law No. 113-4; and,

WHEREAS, the ITC understands the need for culturally respectful research to address violence against Indian women and supports NIJ’s efforts, working through its contracted researchers to implement the NBS; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes proclaims its support and endorsement of the USDOJ, VAIW NBS and encourages the ITC member Tribe’s to participate in the study, if so requested by the NIJ and its contracted researchers.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized
Tribes meeting in Shawnee, Oklahoma on this 10th day of July, 2015, by a vote of for 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

George Tiger, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation