



National Congress of American Indians | 1516 P St NW, Washington, DC 20005 | (202) 466-7767 | www.ncai.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Mark Macarro
Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Brian Weeden
Mashpee Wampanoag

RECORDING SECRETARY
Nickolaus D. Lewis
Lummi Nation

TREASURER
David Woerz
Chickasaw Nation

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Brian Ridley
Native Village of Eagle

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Joe Deere
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Ryman LeBeau
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

MIDWEST
Leonard Fineday
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
Leech Lake Band

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Leonard Forsman
Suquamish Tribe

PACIFIC
Leo Sisco
Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut
Nation

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Jennifer Finley
Confederated Salish & Kootenai
Tribes

SOUTHEAST
Reggie Tupponce
Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Reggie Wassana
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of
Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST
Raymond Aguilar
Pueblo of Santo Domingo

WESTERN
Randi Lone Eagle
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Larry Wright, Jr.
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

April 26, 2024

U.S. Parole Commission
U.S. Department of Justice
90 K Street NE, 3rd Floor Washington DC 20530

RE: Leonard Peltier Parole Hearing June 10, 2024

Parole Commissioners,

On behalf of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) I urge you to grant parole to Leonard Peltier.

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization serving the broad interests of tribal governments and communities. NCAI advocates for tribal sovereignty, tribal self-determination, equity, and most significantly in this case: *justice* for Tribal Nations and all of our citizens. NCAI's positions are driven by the *consensus* of our diverse membership, which consists of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, tribal citizens, individuals, and Native and non-Native organizations.

Since Leonard Peltier's incarceration in 1977, NCAI has adopted five resolutions related to his incarceration, which reflect the broad consensus of Indian Country and support for his release. Spanning decades, the resolutions are as follows:

- [Resolution #NV-93-144](#): Resolution to Support Executive Clemency for Leonard Peltier
- [Resolution #B-94-053](#): NCAI Staff Support for the "Walk for Justice" Human Rights Effort
- [Resolution #PHX-86-156](#): Resolution Asking for a New Trial for Leonard Peltier
- [Resolution #PDX-11-082](#): To Secure through Prudent Means an Award of Executive Clemency for Leonard Peltier
- [Resolution #ECWS-22-010](#): Urging the President of the United States to Commute the Sentence of Leonard Peltier

In addition, first in 2015 (to President Obama), and again in 2023 (to President Biden), NCAI's elected Presidents have sent letters requesting the release of



National Congress of American Indians | 1516 P St NW, Washington, DC 20005 | (202) 466-7767 | www.ncai.org

Leonard Peltier. In 2024, as we approach this critical parole hearing for Mr. Peltier, I proudly add my name to the list of NCAI Presidents supporting the release of Leonard Peltier.

For Indian Country, Mr. Peltier's incarceration remains a deeply painful symbol of the inequities of the U.S. justice system, particularly in its treatment of Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Americans have long been victims of systemic racism, particularly at the hands of law enforcement and the U.S. criminal justice system. His prolonged incarceration has inspired three generations of Native American activists and grassroots movements across the globe aiming to correct unfair and discriminatory policies towards Indigenous communities.

Once again, NCAI is joining the long list of Indigenous Peoples, humanitarian organizations, and respected leaders, nationally and internationally, who have raised their voices in a call for the release of Leonard Peltier.

We urge you to grant parole to Leonard Peltier.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Macarro', written in a cursive style.

Mark Macarro
President, National Congress of American Indians
Tribal Chairman, Pechanga Band of Indians