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## Slate Decides No Increase In Punishment On Serious Crimes

Anglen, one of the Chief's political slate who voted identical with Frailey on the above issues, is currently in litigation within the JAT where a question will soon be decided if he is Shawnee or if he is Cherokee by-blood as required by the 1975 Constitution. If Anglen is found to be not by-blood and illegally seated for the past five years, every issue that has been decided by one vote could be in question. Anglen has been the center of controversy since he applied for the empty seat the last term after Dorothy McIntosh's death. Questions are still unclear how Anglen could have been seated when records show he was not residing within the district at the time.

Anglen is also currently under investigation by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to determine if he may have committed fraud against the federal government when he swore to the Election Commission and Council, that he lived in a house in Sperry, OK he listed as his residence while at the same time submitting it to the Cherokee Housing Authority as his Mother's residence, which later received almost \$40,000 of federal money through the tribe for a total a remodel. Anglen was at the time an employee in Community Development, which was the same department that approved the remodel expenditure. Anglen did not resign as an employee until the final week Council voted on the appointment. However the law requires that any employee must first resign before seeking political office.

The Crimes Against Public Justice Act of 2006 to increase punishment on serious crimes was killed by a lack of support the same day suit was filed against Chief Chad Smith, Cherokee Nation Enterprises and other unnamed officials of the Cherokee Nation, alleging misappropriation of \$750,000 in tribal money when Smith cut the largest check in Cherokee Nation history for a single expense after a referendum was filed that constitutionally stopped the expenditure some say to get those funds away from any over sight by Council.

## For Your Information

**Breaking news from Jay, Oklahoma**  
We contacted the school and they informed us that Chad Smith's son had not been re-hired because he failed to get his teaching certification. When we asked about the charges concerning the teenage girl the school said the district attorney was investigating the allegations. The rumors about Smith's son started floating around after the christmas break according to sources. Allegedly, it was common knowledge among the coaching staff that Smith had some sort of contact with the teenage girl. If the district attorney is really investigating then they should start questioning the teachers and coaching staffs of Jay High School. Reports are the DA office does not know anything about it. More to come.

Goto [www.cherokeeoobserver.org](http://www.cherokeeoobserver.org) and [www.cornsilks.com](http://www.cornsilks.com) to read the current or archived articles to Cherokee issues.

The proposed budget authority for the Indian Health Service, an agency in the Department of Health and Human Services, for fiscal year (FY) 2008 is \$3.3 billion. This is a \$212 million, or approximately 7 percent, increase over the FY 2007 Continuing Resolution amount.

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## You Got To Be Kidding! Chief Chad Smith has nominated Troy Poteete for Justice.

Chief Chad Smith has nominated Troy Poteete to fill Justice Stacy's Leeds seat on the Cherokee Supreme Court. Poteete has only been around 3 years as an attorney. It has been stated in the justice system, that a person should not defend self until you have had 40 to 50 trial cases. It has been alleged that Poteete has not had 40 to 50 court trials. Troy Poteete was a disaster at the Historical society, to the brink of closure and he would be a disaster on the JAT. So it is not surprising that Chad Smith would want this kind of judge to serve on our court (another puppet). This letter was sent to the then Chief Wilma Mankiller, FROM: Lee Fleming, read it and you will see why we would not want Poteete on our Supreme Court.

DATE: December 7, 1994  
TO: Wilma Mankiller, Principal Chief  
FROM: Lee Fleming  
RE: Your Telephone Request of 12/ 6/94.

Pursuant to your request, I am sending you information regarding the Cherokee National Historical Society and Mr. Troy Poteete as I have been able to assess since starting on November 7, 1993 as Interim Executive Director.

After visiting with you and letting you know that I was willing to assist the Cherokee National Historical Society, Ross Swimmer then contacted me and specifically wanted me to just maintain the Society until a new Executive Director could be found and to give Carol Hinkley assistance in some grant applications that needed to be submitted before year-end and in January.

I asked Carol to assist me in developing an interim plan, with the first priority of developing and maintaining a work environment in which people can accomplish goals efficiently and effectively. As she was developing the first drafts of this plan, I started collecting and reviewing governing and controlling documents: the Incorporation, the By-laws, policies, procedures, minutes of the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees, audit reports, annual budgets, inventories, tax returns, former plans, funding sources, job descriptions, personnel files, etc.

The administrative files and records were not centralized. Files were found in the former Executive Directors office, the secretary's office, the bookkeeper's office, the vault, etc. As I began to centralize all of these records, I became very apparent of serious problems with Troy Poteete, the former Executive Director, in the following areas:

**Job Knowledge, Skills** - Due to Troy's lack of knowledge and skills in fund raising and the non-profit sector, he has allowed certain funding sources to come into jeopardy. The State Arts Council of Oklahoma, cancelled three grants (including one which was funded for three years). Had he allowed information to flow directly to the Development Director and the accounting office, a segmentation of responsibility would have been in place. In fact, he did not effectively utilize any human resource available to him.

**Financial** - Troy allowed an accumulation of debt to accrue in the amount of approximately \$200,000 with almost 100 vendors now demanding full payment. I nearly fell over, when I requested an accounts payable listing from bookkeeping, and wondered why some of the Board of Trustees did not observe this way before it got out of hand. Additionally, receipts will show he permitted non-management-level employees to "charge" purchases around the community, including prison trustees, friends, and temporary personnel.

He made purchases, approved his own expenses, and signed

all the checks, forbidding the accounting department to have any input into the judicious use of funds. He removed invoices from the Society, and did not return them. To date, an accurate financial statement cannot be obtained without these invoices (the accounting department can, however, reconstruct and document these expenses, when instructed).

The above clearly prompted me to request from the executive support unit to come to the Society to do an internal audit for the years 1993-4. After visiting with Don Vaughn, he instructed me to request this in a memo and he would have it approved as soon as possible. This audit could have been done in time for this December 7th. meeting of the Executive Committee, however, when Don presented the memo request to the Tribal Executive Directors meeting, this past Monday, the Tribal Executive Directors felt that the Society's board of trustees should approve of the audit first. Let me now document that I intend to see this achieved (a clear definition between the old and the new before a new executive director comes on board) to ensure my own professional reputation. It's time to come clean or, at least, to set the record straight.

Additionally, the Director of Resource Development is completely unwilling to carry on in her position without a clean slate for this organization, financially, to protect her reputation as a fund raiser with an ethical and fiduciary obligation to the public. Self-Management - Due to his responsibilities as a Tribal Council Member, his personal life, and this awesome job, Troy simply could not plan or organize his own work. Due to the lack of exiting procedures, I had to personally oversee and observed Troy pack his office (which was not begun until I was brought in to the position).

I witnessed his attempt to untangle the intermingling of his personal records, his tribal council member records, and the Society's records. I clearly wanted to protect the records of the Society. Interpersonal Relationships - Clearly, Mr. Poteete pitied employee against employee. He encouraged employees to assist in his personal efforts, make them beholden to him which, at the same time, prevented any kind of team effort. He harassed individuals on the staff and did not clearly communicate with his board.

Even though Mr. Poteete has resigned his position, his presence is still being felt directly and indirectly. It is my opinion that he is still advising current employees, and other Tribal Council members, to undermine positive efforts that I have been trying to implement. He fired people without following standard personnel procedures, or the personnel policy of the Society.

Communication - Troy did not listen to his support units. In fact,

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## Tribal campaign ads in question

By TEDDY SNEEL  
Tahlequah Daily Press

The filing period for Cherokee Nation candidacy may be almost a month away, but political advertising campaigns have already begun, and some are coming under fire.

The most recent edition of the Cherokee Phoenix, the tribe's monthly publication, is riddled with advertisements of potential candidates trying to garner votes - including eight incumbent tribal councilors, one potential council candidate, Principal Chief Chad Smith, Deputy Chief Joe

"Questions have been posed to my office about some of the election ads in the most recent Cherokee Phoenix," said Hammons. "We are researching these questions and the ads before deciding what next steps should be taken."

Candidates are required to name a financial agent - a person or people - designated and authorized by a candidate to accept contributions and pay obligations related to the campaign.



Patsy Morton, of Stilwell Chair of the Election Commission, reads an excerpt from a history book during the Commission meeting where Commissioners decided the schedule for an upcoming Special Election where the question will be freedmen citizenship. Morton concluded, "Race has always been a part of the Cherokee election process."

Grayson, and Stacy Leeds, former tribal justice and candidate for principal chief.

Ads from several candidates were labeled as being paid for by "Cherokees working together to continue the progress!" Those included incumbents Jack D. Baker, at-large councilor; Meredith Frailey, District 6; Jackie Bob Martin, District 2; Don Garvin, District 4; Cara Cowan-Watts, District 7; and Buel Anglen, District 8; as well as newcomer Bradley Cobb, who is running for the second District 8 council slot now occupied by Bill Johnson.

Two other council incumbents - Chuck Hoskin, District 9; and Bill John Baker, District 1 - also have ads in the paper. Baker's ad does not indicate who paid for the space, and Hoskin's was "paid for by friends of Hoskin."

Leeds' half-page ad didn't indicate payment, and Smith's and Grayson's full-page ad merely stated "paid advertisement."

Cherokee Nation election law indicates campaign contributions may only be made by people, and bars contributions by corporations, partnerships or any other legal entity. A legal entity is defined as "any associations or groups comprised of any combination of individuals or corporations that expresses interest by political activities, financial contributions or other methods of either support for or opposition to any candidate for an office in any Cherokee Nation election." Diane Hammons, attorney general for the tribe, was recently made aware of the ads, although she did not indicate which ones were under scrutiny.

In Hoskin's case, for example, "Friends of Hoskin," could be expected to be named as his financial agent for his campaign when the filing period closes.

In the cases of Baker and Leeds, no notice of payment by a group or individual indicates the candidates paid for the ad themselves. What candidates cannot do is accept money from a group that is contributing to more than one campaign, as in the case of "Cherokees working together to continue the progress," according to the tribe's election law.


Cherokee Nation Election Commissioner Jim Briggs was unable to answer questions before deadline, but agreed to look into the matter. "I do not have my copy of the election law with me, so I am not able to be specific with an answer," said Briggs via an e-mail interview. "I will research your questions; however, I am but one of five commissioners who make up the election commission."

Briggs indicated his personal opinion is not binding, and could be overruled by a majority of the election commissioners. He suggested making a formal inquiry with the Election Commission, which meets this evening at 6 at the tribal complex.

Todd Hembree, attorney for the Tribal Council, withheld comment on the subject. "I don't care to comment until Diane Hammons has had the opportunity to review the situation," said Hembree. "It should be allowed to run its appropriate course."

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**Can You Help Me!**  
I am looking for a woman by the name of Onie Ghlea Pritchett Humphry. She was born June 24, 1930 in Ellijay, GA. Her family relocated in her late teens to Kansas. She had a child in Ponca City, OK in 1949, but was separated from him at a early age. If you have any information about her please contact me at 1807 Sharonwood Lane, Rock Hill, SC 29732 or by email: [mlm\\_designs@hotmail.com](mailto:mlm_designs@hotmail.com). Any information you have would be greatly appreciative.

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**Now We're Mad!**  
**ANYONE**  
**BUT**  
**Ghad**  
**Save Our Nation**