

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

375 River Street Manistee, MI 49660 (231) 723-8288

Resolution # 03-1203-402

Authorization to Release Client Funds to Make Payment on Final Invoice; Notice of Termination of Contractual Relationships

- WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng Ziibi Daáwaa Anišhinaábek* (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians) as a sovereign and Treaty-making power is confirmed in numerous treaties, from agreements with the initial colonial powers on this land, to various treaties with the United States; and
- WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Tribe) is descended from, and is the political successor to, the Grand River Ottawa Bands, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491) with the United States, as reaffirmed by federal law in P.L. 103-324, enacted in 1994; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted a new Constitution, pursuant to a vote of the membership on May 27, 1998, which Constitution became effective upon its approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on July 10, 1998; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 7(a) to provide for the public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Little River Band and its members; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe engaged Peninsula Legal Services to provide two categories of legal assistance to the Tribe Election Board and Prosecutorial legal assistance; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe has completed the payment of all invoices in regards to services provided to the Election Board, as well as challenging some of the invoiced billings; and
- WHEREAS, Prosecutor Zeller was made aware of an invoice submitted by Peninsula Legal Services for activity resulting from an criminal investigation begun during the prior term of office of Prosecutor Wolfe; and
- WHEREAS, Prosecutor Zeller has researched all payments that have been made by the Tribe in regards to Peninsula Legal Services and interviewed the prior Director of Public Safety and has determined that the invoice contains activity that was authorized by the Tribe and has not been paid to date; and

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WHEREAS, Peninsula Legal Services has refunded that portion of an existing Client Fund Account that had been maintained on the Tribe's behalf that exceeded the extent of the final invoice payment and has requested authorization of the client, the Tribe, to disburse the remaining amount in the account, which is the same as that amount due and owning as determined by Prosecutor Zeller;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby authorizes the disbursement of the remaining IOLTA client account funds held on behalf of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians by the law firm of Peninsula Legal Services as final payment of all services made on behalf of the Tribe and that all existing contract relationships between the Tribe and Peninsula Legal Services are hereby terminated.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council hereby directs the General Counsel - Legislative to send a letter, with this resolution attached, which authorizes the disbursement of the IOLTA account funds and notifies Peninsula Legal Services of the termination of existing contract relationships.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with <u>3</u> FOR, <u>2</u> AGAINST, <u>2</u> ABSTAINING, and <u>2</u> ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on December 3, 2003, at the Little River Band's Dome Room in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

anine M. Sam, Council Recorder

Stephen Parsons, Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Council Records

Tribal Ogema Tribal Court