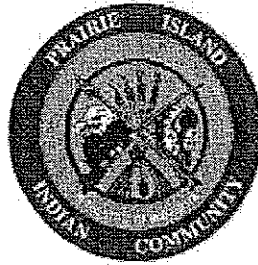


Audrey Bennett  
President

Johnny Johnson  
Secretary



Victoria Winfrey  
Vice President

Alan W. Childs II  
Treasurer

Ronald Johnson  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

August 25, 2006

Prairie Island Indian Community Members

**SUBJECT: WOLFCHILD v. UNITED STATES (U.S. Court of Federal Claims)**

Dear Community Members:

We are writing to update you on the status of the *Sheldon Peters Wolfchild, et al. v. United States* lawsuit. On August 22, 2006, the United States Court of Federal Claims issued a decision granting the plaintiffs' motion for the Court to issue summonses to the Prairie Island Indian Community and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux (Dakota) Community. The Court *denied* plaintiffs' motion for the Court to issue summonses to the Communities' members individually.

Because the Court denied plaintiffs' motion to issue summonses to the Communities' members, *individual Community Members are not required to participate in the lawsuit.*

In accordance with the Court's decision, our Community will be summoned "to appear as a party in the lawsuit to assert or defend [the Prairie Island Indian Community's] interest or interests that are subject to the proceedings before [the] Court." We are currently evaluating what our response will be and will advise you of how we respond in due course.

For the time being, however, we want to assure you that we strongly believe that our Community has no "interest or interests that are subject to the proceedings before [the] Court" to justify the Court's decision. The Court's decision to summons our Community to participate in the *Wolfchild* lawsuit is contrary to well-settled federal Indian law and long-established legal principles regarding our Community's sovereignty and immunity from suit. These are basic legal principles upon which this Community was organized and has operated under for many years, and which have been consistently recognized by federal, state and tribal governments and courts across the United States.

Prairie Island Indian Community Members  
August 25, 2006  
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Despite its decision to summons the Community, the Court's August 22, 2006 Order does confirm what we told you in our prior letters: plaintiffs "may pursue monetary damages only against the government." Because the Court of Federal Claims only has jurisdiction to consider actions for money damages against the United States, *the Court of Federal Claims does not have jurisdiction to award money damages against the Community, determine membership issues, or transfer ownership of lands.*

We hope this is helpful to you. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us or the legal department and we will try to provide answers to those questions. We will also keep you up to date on any further developments in this case.

Sincerely,

  
Audrey Bennett  
Tribal Council President

  
Victoria Winfrey  
Tribal Council Vice President

  
Johnny Johnson  
Tribal Council Secretary

  
Alan Childs II  
Tribal Council Treasurer

  
Ronald Johnson  
Tribal Council Assistant Secretary/Treasurer