



Date: _____

BIA REQUEST FOR UNKNOWN TRIBAL AFFILIATION

Via Certified/Registered Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Region
545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700
Nashville, Tennessee 37214
Copy by Fax: (615) 564-6701

Re: _____, D.O.B.: _____ Birthplace: _____
_____, D.O.B.: _____ Birthplace: _____
_____, D.O.B.: _____ Birthplace: _____

In the Juvenile Court of _____ County, Tennessee Case Number: _____

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Indian Child Welfare Act (25 U.S.C., et seq.), I write to notify you that _____, believed to be an Indian child, is the subject of a child custody proceeding in the Juvenile Court of _____ County, Tennessee. This child is believed to be an Indian child as defined by the Indian Child Welfare Act because _____

The parent(s), however, did not report or do not know the identity or location of the tribe of reported affiliation or the exact nature of the affiliation.

The following information cannot be determined at this time:

- Verification of the child(ren)'s enrollment or eligibility for enrollment
- Verification of a parent's or grandparent's enrollment or eligibility for enrollment
- Location of a parent, grandparent, or other family members
- Other:

The child's legal status under the provisions of the Indian Child Welfare Act cannot be determined without additional information. We are requesting your assistance to ensure appropriate permanency planning pursuant to the Indian Child Welfare Act. The agency has been provided with or has obtained the following information regarding the child's lineal ancestry:

	Birth Name	Birthplace	Date of Birth	Tribal Affiliation and Enrollment Number	Address, Phone
Maternal Lineage	<i>Birth Mother</i>				
	<i>Maternal Grandmother</i>				
	<i>Maternal Grandfather</i>				
	<i>Great-Grandmother 1</i>				
	<i>Great- Grandfather 1</i>				
	<i>Great-Grandmother 2</i>				
	<i>Great- Grandfather 2</i>				
Paternal Lineage	<i>Birth Father</i>				
	<i>Paternal Grandmother</i>				
	<i>Paternal Grandfather</i>				
	<i>Great- Grandmother 1</i>				
	<i>Great- Grandfather 1</i>				
	<i>Great- Grandmother 2</i>				
	<i>Great- Grandfather 2</i>				

Other lineal relatives known to the agency include: (N/A, UNKNOWN, or Insert Other Known Lineal Relatives).

INFORMATION ON THE CHILD

- a. The child's birth certificate is: attached unavailable
- b. A copy of the Tribal registration card of the child the parent is attached.
- c. Biological father is named on birth certificate yes no
- d. Biological father has acknowledged parentage yes no
- e. There has been a judicial declaration of parentage yes no
- f. There are other alleged fathers yes no
If yes, list name(s) here:

Additional Information:

Has the child or any of the child's biological family members ever:

- a. Attended an Indian school? yes no
If yes, provide details here:
- b. Received medical treatment at an Indian health clinic or Health Service hospital? yes no
If yes, provide details here:
- c. Lived on federal trust land, on an Indian reservation, or in an Alaska Native village? yes no
If yes, provide details here:

A copy of the relevant child-custody proceeding documents or petition are attached. The next hearing in this matter is scheduled as follows:

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

LOCATION: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

TYPE OF HEARING: _____

The Court has (Briefly describe court actions, findings, and case status to date - For example, list removal date, prelim held, adjudication set, permanency plan ratified)

Under the Indian Child Welfare Act:

- The parent or Indian custodian has the right to intervene in the proceedings.
- The child's Indian tribe has the right to intervene at any time in a State court proceeding for foster care placement or termination of a parental rights.
- If the Indian parent or, if applicable, Indian custodian is unable to afford counsel based on a determination of indigency by the court, counsel will be appointed to represent the parent or Indian custodian where authorized by State law.
- The parent, Indian custodian, and Tribe have the right to be granted, upon request, a specific amount of additional time (up to 20 additional days) to prepare for the proceedings due to circumstances of the particular case.
- The parent, Indian custodian, and Tribe have the right to petition the court for transfer of the proceeding to tribal court under 25 U.S.C. 1911, absent objection by either parent, provided that such transfer is subject to declination by the tribal court.

Your assistance in assuring timely permanency for this child is very much appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if I may be of assistance to you.

Pursuant to 25 CFR § 23.111, all parties notified hereby must keep confidential the information contained in this notice, and the notice should not be handled by anyone not needing the information to exercise rights under ICWA.

Sincerely,

_____ County DCS Office Address: _____

Tel: _____ /email: _____

Enclosures:

Copy of DCS Form [CS-0727, Initial Intake, Placement Referral and Checklist](#) or [Genogram](#), if available
CC (w/encl., via certified/registered mail, return receipt requested):

_____, Mother; Address: _____

_____, Father; Address: _____

_____, Indian Custodian; Address: _____

CC (w/o encl., via electronic submission):

_____, DCS Legal Division Electronic Case File