



SMOKE SIGNALS

-- THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ABSENTEE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF TEXAS --

Volume: 73

absenteeseminoletribe.org

January 2024

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Principal Chief: Lee R. Young

Assistant Chief: Louis B. Watson

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mary S. Young, Secretary

Clarence G. Ward, Treasurer

Marsha Jo Butler

Richard L. Watson

PRINCIPAL CHIEF'S MESSAGE: Hensci, Seminoles Happy New Year! Wishing everyone has a happy and prosperous 2024. We look forward to an exciting and rewarding year. The tribe will be entering its 8th year of existence. The tribe was formally organized on June 18, 2016. This June we will be holding our 3rd General election of Tribal Council members. Any eligible tribal member is encouraged to seek one of the Tribal Council positions. Eligibility requirements are detailed in our Tribal Constitution, adopted June 18, 2016, amended September 14, 2018. Seven (7) Tribal Council positions: Principal Chief, Assistant Chief, and 5 Tribal Council Members will be elected. The constitution requires the Tribal Council select from council members a secretary and treasurer. Anyone desiring to bring forth their ideas and service on the Tribal Council is encouraged to run for a position on the council. Anyone desiring any additional

information on the Tribal Council, just ask all requests will promptly be handled.

Tribal Council Meeting

On January 20, 2024 the Tribal Council will meet in a Zoom Teleconference. Members are welcome to attend Tribal council meetings. The Zoom teleconference meeting instructions follow:

Tribal Council Meeting January 20, 2024

Zoom Meeting

Time: 10:00 AM

Meeting agenda discussion to include – 2024 activities and election.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87310929399?pwd=yuVHqULyvcEyjBJc4JO8QDFf4Z1R4C.1>

Meeting ID: 873 1092 9399

Passcode: 999334

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNING BODY

Section 1. The governing body of the Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas shall be the Tribal Council which shall consist of Seven (7) members. The Tribal Council shall consist of an elected Principal Chief, elected Assistant Chief and five (5) Council members elected at large by secret ballot of the qualified voters of the Tribe.

Section 4. The executive authority of the Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas shall be vested in a Principal Chief and shall be known as the Principal Chief of the Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas. The Principal Chief shall be elected by majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters of the Tribe, for a term of four (4) years. The initial four (4) year term shall commence following ratification of the Constitution and Bylaws, and election.

Section 5. Any member of the Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas who is at least 25 years of age may be eligible for the office of Principal Chief and Assistant Chief. No person who has been convicted of a felony by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be considered eligible for these offices until either pardoned or five years have passed since released from confinement.

ARTICLE V - TRIBAL COUNCIL

Section 1. The legislative authority of the Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas shall be known as the Tribal Council and shall consist of five (5) Council members of the Tribe meeting the qualifications set forth in Article V, Section 2 of this constitution and bylaws, elected at large by secret ballot of qualified voters.

Section 2. Any member of the Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas who is at least 18 years of age is qualified to sit on the Council when duly elected pursuant to this constitution and bylaws. No person who has been convicted of a felony by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be considered eligible for any position on the Council or any appointment by that body until either pardoned or five (5) years have passed since release from confinement. In the event any question should arise regarding the qualifications of any candidate for office or appointee, the decision of the Tribal Council shall be final.

January Birthdays

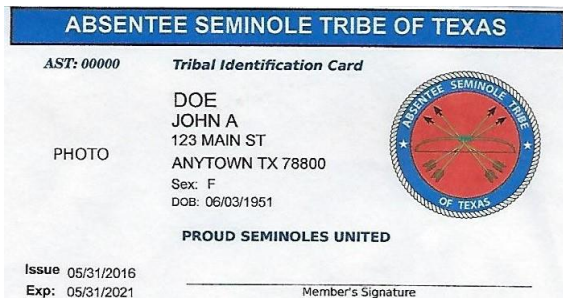
Lana Jean Blanks - Jan 2
Dehvon A. Davies - Jan 4
Aaron Cory Harris - Jan 5
Chloe D. Williams - Jan 7
Lee R. Young - Jan 8
Patricia B. Bonnet - Jan 15
Denise Watson-Cross - Jan 17
Anissa Faye Best - Jan 11

Mary S. Young - Jan 20
Shawn R. Powell - Jan 21
Larvell Blanks – Jan 28
Michael Lee Aguilera - Jan 29
Jeffrey W. Blanks - Jan 30

Associate
Manuel L. Pena - Jan 9



TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS: Tribal Identification Cards are available for \$25, valid for 5 years. The Tribal Identification Cards, are an official means to identify tribal members. Tribal Identification Cards do not replace any official government issued identification, they provide a means for members to proudly display their tribal enrollment.



TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARD RENEWAL

Tribal Identification Cards are beginning to expire – we will mail expiration notices. Everyone encouraged to check the expiration date on their Tribal Identification Cards. Renewal only requires submission of payment of \$25, payable to Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you change residence, get a new telephone number, new email address, or any other changes in contact information. Forward your new information to our office.

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/AbsenteeSeminoleTribeTexas/>

FB users visit and “Like” our FB page

**Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas
P. O. Box 1932
McKinney, TX 75070-8162**

E-Mail - info@AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org

Website: <https://AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org>