

March 13, 2016

Delaware Tribe of Indians Tribal Members, Interested Parties, and etc.

Dear Delaware Tribal Member, Interested Parties, et all:

I am writing this letter and hoping it finds you in excellent health and spirits. I am reaching out to you personally to inform you of the petitions I filed for the recall and removal of Delaware Tribal Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith and Councilman Nathan H. Young as well as relevant evidentiary support from the Delaware Tribe of Indians Tribal Constitution & Bylaws, and the Delaware Tribe of Indians Code of Conduct / Code of Ethics. The petitions have been filed with the Tribal Council Secretary & Councilwoman Annette Ketchum.

The basics of the petitions are as follows:

1. To recall the election and removal of office for Delaware Tribal Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith and Councilman Nathan H. Young ,
2. To terminate the salaries of Delaware Tribal Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith and Councilman Nathan H. Young effective immediately;
3. To prohibit Delaware Tribal Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith and Councilman Nathan H. Young , from holding any elected or appointed position with the Delaware Tribe of Indians in the future;
4. To prohibit the Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians from reinstating their salaries, offices, any other positions, or their employment for any reason in the future,
5. And to prohibit the Delaware Tribe of Indians or any of its affiliated branches or businesses from hiring either of Delaware Tribal Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith and Councilman Nathan H. Young in any capacity in the future.

There are numerous alleged reasons listed on these petitions for recall and removal, and I wish to provide you the unbiased information and not hearsay. This letter is intended to cite the tribally approved documents, various sources, and evidence that I believe supports my allegations.

My purpose is to be the spot light that:

- enables Delaware Tribal Members to read for their self the allegations and evidence,
- empowers Delaware Tribal Members to make informed decisions on specific allegations,

- **and show alleged violations of the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution and Bylaws](#), and [Code of Conduct](#) / [Code of Ethics](#).**

Please note that this listing of allegations and/or violations of federal, tribal and/or state regulations, policies, and laws as well as evidentiary support are incomplete at the date of this publication. I reserve the right to publish additional listings of allegations and/or violations of federal, tribal and state regulations, policies, and laws. Additionally I reserve the right to publish additional evidentiary supporting documents as it is provided to me, and as research as well as time allows.

The alleged reasons and evidentiary support of the recall and removal petitions for Delaware Tribe of Indians Assistant Chief /Tribal Councilwoman Bonnie Jo Griffith and/or Councilman Nate Young are as follows:

1. **Charges on Abuse of Authority** – See all previously released documents from [K. Michelle Vernon's blog](#) as evidence to support allegations listed in the petition to recall and remove these two officials. Specifically the following documents: [022216 blog complete](#), [bjg fb stream](#), [a-and-o-policy](#), [Bonnie Jo Griffith housing email](#), [NY housing email](#), [Michelle Holley Statement on Delaware Housing Policy Change](#), [Res-2015-08](#), [Res-2015-20](#), and all posted email transmissions from Bonnie Jo Griffith and/or Nate Young. In addition, please view all the below documents.
 - a) Per the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution Section 1. Abuse of Authority Subsection Article 1 - Supreme Authority](#) - "All powers not granted to Tribal Council by this Constitution and Bylaws are reserved for the members of the Delaware Tribe." p 4
 - b) "[Ultra Vires](#)" pdf
 - c) "[Embezzlement and Fraud Definitions](#)" pdf
 - d) "[Concurrent Tribal Authority Under Public Law 83 280\(1\)](#)" pdf
 - e) "[Embezzlement and Theft 18 USC 1163](#)" pdf
 - f) "2014-28903" pdf
 - g) "[The General Crimes Act 18 USC 1152](#)" pdf
 - h) Per the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Bylaws \(follows after the Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution\)](#) **Section 1. Abuse of Authority:**
 - i. **Article 1 - Duties of Officers Section 2.** "The Assistant Chief, in the absence of the Chief, shall preside and shall have all powers, privileges and duties of the Chief. He shall have the power to vote at any meeting." p 11
 - ii. **Article 1 - Duties of Officers Section 3.** The Council Secretary shall have charge of all tribal correspondence and it shall be his duty to submit promptly to the Superintendent of the Jurisdiction and other appropriate offices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, copies of all minutes of regular and special

meetings of the Council, as well as copies of all resolutions and ordinances adopted by the Council. He shall have the power to vote at any meeting." p 11

- 1) See Office Guidelines & Procedures for Secretary
- iii. **Article II Meetings of the Tribal Council Section 7.** "Each official, elected or appointed, shall take an oath of office, prior to assuming his duties, which shall be: "I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, that I will carry out faithfully and impartially, the duties of my office to the best of my ability, that I will cooperate, promote and protect the best interests of the Delaware Tribe in accordance with this Constitution and Bylaws." p 13

i) Per the **Delaware Tribe of Indians [Code of Conduct Subsection 1.](#)**
Abuse of Authority

- i. **Article II. Principles Section 201. Conduct in conformity with applicable rules and laws Section (A)** "The actions of Elected Officials reflect their commitment to conduct all of the Tribe's activities in an honest, ethical, and professional manner in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations and with Tribal policies." p 1 of 10
- ii. **Article II. Principles Section 201. Conduct in conformity with applicable rules and laws Section (B)** "Elected Officials shall at all times conduct themselves so as to reflect credit upon the Tribal members and government, and comply with all applicable laws of the Delaware Tribe with respect to their conduct in the performance of the duties of their respective office or employment." p 1 of 10
- iii. **Article II. Section 202. Equal Representation (A)** "Elected Officials shall represent the interests of all members of the Delaware Tribe and not serve special interests inside or outside of the Tribe." p 2 of 10
- iv. **Article II. Section 203. Integrity** "Elected Officials shall not use their position and/or Tribal resources to serve their own personal, financial, or business interests. P 2 of 10
- v. **Article II. Section 205. Responsibility**
1. **(A)** "Elected Officials shall respect the laws that govern the operation of the Tribe and the treatment of Tribal members." p 2 of 10
 2. **Article II. Section 205. Responsibility (B)** "The actions of Elected Officials reflect their commitment to conduct Tribal activities in an honest, ethical and professional

manner. In carrying out their responsibilities, Elected Officials shall:" p 2 of 10

- a) (1) "Adhere to both the letter and the spirit of applicable Tribal, Federal, and State laws and regulations;" p 2 of 10
- b) (2) "Maintain high standards of business and ethical conduct in accordance with applicable federal, Tribal and state laws and regulations, including laws and regulations dealing with fraud, waste, and abuse;" p 2 of 10
- c) (3) "Be truthful and straightforward in dealing with other government agencies." p 2 of 10
- d) (4) "Maintain a workplace free of discrimination, harassment, violence and intimidation, and that is drug-free. Elected Officials shall not tolerate any form of threatening or abusive behavior." p 2 of 10

2. **Charges on Crimes of Dishonesty** - See all previously released documents from [K. Michelle Vernon's blog](#) as evidence to support allegations listed in the petition to recall and remove these two officials. Specifically the following documents: [022216 blog complete](#), [bjg fb stream](#), [a-and-o-policy](#), [Bonnie Jo Griffith housing email](#), [NY housing email](#), [Michelle Holley Statement on Delaware Housing Policy Change](#), [Res-2015-08](#), [Res-2015-20](#), and all posted email transmissions from Bonnie Jo Griffith and/or Nate Young. In addition, please view all the below documents.

a) Per the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution Crimes of dishonesty Article X - Recall / Removal from Office Section 1](#). "If any elected member of the Delaware Tribal government is convicted of a felony or crime which involves dishonesty, his office shall be considered forfeited upon 2/3 vote of the Tribal Council by resolution, or by 2/3 of votes cast by eligible voting membership." p 8

b) Per the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Code of Conduct](#)

- ii. **Article I. Title and Purpose Section 102. Purpose. A)**
"The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to set forth standards by which Elected Officials will conduct themselves in order to protect and promote Tribal integrity and to enhance the ability of the Tribe to achieve its objectives in a manner consistent with all applicable laws and regulations." p 1 of 10

- iii. **Article I. Title and Purpose Section 102. Purpose. B)**
"The Code of Conduct is intended to guide and direct all Elected Officials in dealing with situations they may encounter while in office. The Code provides assistance in making right choices when confronted with difficult decisions." p 1 of 10
- iv. **Article I. Title and Purpose Section 102. Purpose. C)**
"The Code of Conduct applies to all Elected Officials. An "Elected Official" is any person elected or appointed to replace an elected position." p 1 of 10
- v. **Article II. Principles Section 201. Conduct in conformity with applicable rules and laws Section (A)**
"The actions of Elected Officials reflect their commitment to conduct all of the Tribe's activities in an honest, ethical, and professional manner in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations and with Tribal policies." p 1 of 10
- vi. **Article II. Principles Section 201. Conduct in conformity with applicable rules and laws Section (B)**
"Elected Officials shall at all times conduct themselves so as to reflect credit upon the Tribal members and government, and comply with all applicable laws of the Delaware Tribe with respect to their conduct in the performance of the duties of their respective office or employment." p 1 of 10
- vii. **Article II. Section 202. Equal Representation (A)**
"Elected Officials shall represent the interests of all members of the Delaware Tribe and not serve special interests inside or outside of the Tribe." p 2 of 10
- viii. **Article II. Section 203. Integrity** "Elected Officials shall not use their position and/or Tribal resources to serve their own personal, financial, or business interests. P 2 of 10
- ix. **Article II. Section 205. Responsibility (A)** "Elected Officials shall respect the laws that govern the operation of the Tribe and the treatment of Tribal members." p 2 of 10
- x. **Article II. Section 205. Responsibility (B)** "The actions of Elected Officials reflect their commitment to conduct Tribal activities in an honest, ethical and professional manner. In carrying out their responsibilities, Elected Officials shall:" p 2 of 10
 - a) **(1)** "Adhere to both the letter and the spirit of applicable Tribal, Federal, and State laws and regulations; p 2 of 10

- b) (2) "Maintain high standards of business and ethical conduct in accordance with applicable federal, Tribal and state laws and regulations, including laws and regulations dealing with fraud, waste, and abuse;" p 2 of 10
- c) (3) "Be truthful and straightforward in dealing with other government agencies." p 2 of 10
- d) (4) "Maintain a workplace free of discrimination, harassment, violence and intimidation, and that is drug-free. Elected Officials shall not tolerate any form of threatening or abusive behavior." p 2 of 10

3. **Charges on Interfering with Tribal Council Members and Officer duties** –

See all previously released documents from [K. Michelle Vernon's blog](#) as evidence to support allegations listed in the petition to recall and remove these two officials. Specifically the following documents: [022216 blog complete](#), [bjg fb stream](#), [a-and-o-policy](#), [Bonnie Jo Griffith housing email](#), [NY housing email](#), [Michelle Holley Statement on Delaware Housing Policy Change](#), [Res-2015-08](#), [Res-2015-20](#), and all posted email transmissions from Bonnie Jo Griffith and/or Nate Young. In addition, please view all the below documents.

- a) Per the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution](#)
 - i. **Article III – Rights of Members**
 - (a) **Section 1.** "The rights of the members of the Delaware Tribe to hold religious beliefs, speak and write freely, and the right of the members to assemble and petition their government, shall not be disturbed." p 4
 - (b) **Section 2.** "The Tribal Council shall not deprive any person of their liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny any member the equal protection of the laws." p 4
 - ii. **Article V - Powers of the Tribal Council** "The Delaware Tribal Council shall have the following powers:" p 5
 - (a). (A) "To represent the Delaware Tribe and act in all matters that concern the general welfare of the tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this Constitution and Bylaws or the Constitution and laws of the United States of America." p 5
 - (b). (K) "To manage and control community / tribal property, enterprises, and other economic projects and programs of the Delaware Tribe, including, but not limited to, the establishment of housing and rental authorities, education programs and elderly programs, and appointment of planning, programming, and development of committees." P 5
- b) Per the [Delaware Tribe of Indians By-Laws \(follows after the Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution\)](#)
 - i. **Article II Meetings of the Tribal Council**

- (a). **Section 6** "No Council member shall vote on any matter coming before the Council in which he has a personal interest or in which he or she would be personally enriched by the outcome of the vote, unless special consent is given by a majority vote of the remaining Council members." P 13
- (b). **Section 7** "Each official, elected or appointed, shall take an oath of office, prior to assuming his duties, which shall be: "I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, that I will carry out faithfully and impartially, the duties of my office to the best of my ability, that I will cooperate, promote and protect the best interests of the Delaware Tribe in accordance with this Constitution and Bylaws." P 13
- c) Per the **Delaware Tribe of Indians Code of Conduct**
- i. **Article II. Section 205. Responsibility (A)** "Elected Officials shall respect the laws that govern the operation of the Tribe and the treatment of Tribal members." p 2 of 10
- ii. **Article II. Section 205. Responsibility (B)** "The actions of Elected Officials reflect their commitment to conduct Tribal activities in an honest, ethical and professional manner. In carrying out their responsibilities, Elected Officials shall:" p 2 of 10
- (a). **(1)** "Adhere to both the letter and the spirit of applicable Tribal, Federal, and State laws and regulations; p 2 of 10
- (b). **(2)** "Maintain high standards of business and ethical conduct in accordance with applicable federal, Tribal and state laws and regulations, including laws and regulations dealing with fraud, waste, and abuse;" p 2 of 10
- (c). **(3)** "Be truthful and straightforward in dealing with other government agencies." p 2 of 10
- (d). **(4)** "Maintain a workplace free of discrimination, harassment, violence and intimidation, and that is drug-free. Elected Officials shall not tolerate any form of threatening or abusive behavior." p 2 of 10
- 4) **Charges on Using her or his office wrongly & for personal gain** - See all previously released documents from [K. Michelle Vernon's blog](#) as evidence to support allegations listed in the petition to recall and remove these two officials. Specifically the following documents: [022216 blog complete](#), [bjg fb stream](#), [a-and-o-policy](#), [Bonnie Jo Griffith housing email](#), [NY housing email](#), [Michelle Holley Statement on Delaware Housing Policy Change](#), [Res-2015-08](#), [Res-2015-20](#), and all posted email transmissions from Bonnie Jo Griffith and/or Nate Young. In addition, please view all the below documents.
- a) Per the **Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution**
- i. **Article V - Powers of the Tribal Council Section A.** " To represent the Delaware Tribe and act in all matters that concern the **general welfare**

of the tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this Constitution and Bylaws or the Constitution and laws of the United States of America." p 5

ii. **Article V - Powers of the Tribal Council Section G.** "To negotiate permits and leases, subject to approval of the Secretary of the Interior, if required by Federal Law, for business, homesite and other purposes, and generally to provide for the proper use and development of all Tribal lands, natural resources, and other Tribal property." p 5

iii **Article V - Powers of the Tribal Council Section H.** "To appropriate tribal funds for Tribal purposes." p 6

iv. **Article V - Powers of the Tribal Council Section J.** "To enact ordinances to regulate the use of all tribal lands through zoning, taxation, or otherwise." p 6

v. **Article V - Powers of the Tribal Council Section K.** "To manage and control community/tribal property, enterprises, and other economic projects and programs of the Delaware Tribe, including, but not limited to, the establishment of housing and rental authorities, education programs and elderly programs, and appointment of planning, programming, and development committees." p 6

b) Per the **Delaware Tribe of Indians By-Laws (follows after the [Delaware Tribe of Indians Constitution](#))**

i. **Article I – Duties of Officers**

a) **Section 2.** "The Assistant Chief, in the absence of the Chief, shall preside and shall have all powers, privileges and duties of the Chief. He shall have the power to vote at any meeting." P 11

b) **Section 3.** "The Council Secretary shall have charge of all tribal correspondence and it shall be his duty to submit promptly to the Superintendent of the Jurisdiction and other inappropriate offices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, copies of all minutes of regular and special meetings of the Council, as well as copies of all resolutions and ordinances adopted by the Council. He shall have the power to vote at any meeting." P 11

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The purpose of this letter is to provide a detailed list of the allegations (as of 03/13/16) I am making to recall and remove from office Delaware Tribe of Indians Assistant Chief / Tribal Councilwoman Bonnie Jo Griffith and Councilman Nathan H Young. Please note that this listing of alleged: crimes and/or violations of federal, tribal and state regulations, policies, and laws, in addition to evidentiary support is incomplete at the time of this publishing. I reserve the right to publish additional listings of alleged: crimes and/or violations of federal, tribal and state regulations, policies, and laws, in addition to reserving the right to publish additional research, and evidentiary supporting documents as time and alleged evidence of wrong doing allows.

I wish to express my gratitude that you have chose to spend your time reading, educating, and deciding if you will sign the petitions for recall and removal of Bonnie Jo Griffith and/or Nathan H. Young. If you are interested in signing the petition be sure to sign and write your legal name as appearing on the Tribal Roll. If you are unsure of how your name appears on the rolls please contact The Delaware Tribal Enrollment Department at 918-337-6590 for further assistance. Additionally, please contact me if you need information on having the signed petitions delivered so that I might count the signatures, and file with the Tribal Council Secretary / Councilwoman Annette Ketchum.

Wanishi / Thank you.

Sincerely Delaware Tribe of Indians Member,

Karla Michelle Vernon

Karla Michelle Vernon

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Founder of Delaware Accountability (D.A.) – a Delaware (Lenape) tribal membership grassroots movement to hold accountable all Delaware Elected Officials, all Delaware Tribe of Indians employees, and all Delaware Tribe of Indians affiliated businesses.