

Lumbee Tribe's Leon Jacobs Elected NCAI Area Vice President

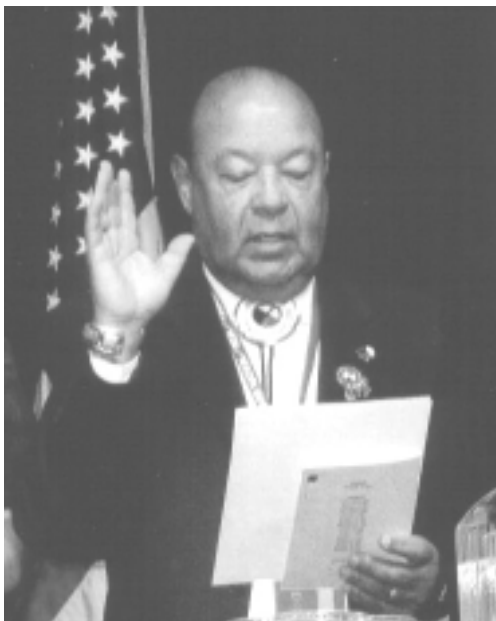
By Wanda Locklear

TULSA, Okla.- Leon Jacobs, Lumbee Tribal Administrator and Director of Housing, has been elected Area Vice President of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) at the organization's 62nd Annual Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Jacobs will represent all tribes within the southeastern part of the United States, including Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.

Jacobs will serve a two-year term and be part of the administration of newly elected President Joe Garcia. Garcia, a community advocate and a member of the San Juan Pueblo Tribe of New Mexico, serves as a school board chairman and President of TSAY, a tribally owned business.

"We must protect our culture, our people and our language," said Garcia. "One person, one tribe cannot do it as it takes a multitude of power, of organizations, a multitude of spirit and the Indian mind to get us to the next level. We cannot turn over decisions to Congress, the President or state legislatures. We have to do it ourselves; we have to do our part as one nation—the Indian nation. I am committed to lead in this great effort."

Jacobs has served as Lumbee tribal administrator and director of housing since January 2004. Prior to joining the Lumbee Tribe, Jacobs was tribal manager for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe in Connecticut. Jacobs brings more than 30



Lumbee Tribal Administrator
Leon Jacobs sworn in as NCAI Area
Vice President

years of experience to this position, including stints as a tribal administrator and Director of Native American Programs for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Jacobs is excited about his new role as area vice president. "I look forward to a good experience, and see it as a way to help all Indian people, especially the Lumbee Tribe. The Lumbee Tribe has a very positive relationship with NCAI and is proud to be a member. We look forward to a productive term in office."

Other NCAI election results: Jefferson Keel, Lt. Governor of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, was elected First Vice-President; Juana Majel-Dixon, the Pauma Band of Mission Indians of California was re-elected as Recording Secretary; and W. Ron Allen, Chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe of Washington was re-elected Treasurer.

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians (www.ncai.org) is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of more than 250 tribal governments, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

For more information contact Wanda Locklear at wlocklear@lumbee Tribe.com or (910) 521-7861.

Lumbee Tribe Partners with First Bank

Pembroke- The recent partnership established between the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina and First Bank will provide new opportunities to Lumbee Tribal Programs. This partnership has created an official Lumbee Tribal Affinity Credit Card and Debit Card for tribal member and friends.

The profits generated from this venture will support Lumbee Tribal Youth Services and the Boys and Girls Club of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. Tribal Youth Services offer FREE weekly culture classes located in Prospect, Fairmont and Cumberland County, along with an array of other programs including the Tobacco Cessation Program. The Youth Services Program focuses on cultural awareness, team building and leadership skills, providing an Annual Lumbee Youth Leadership Conference.



The Boys and Girls Club provides educational and recreational programs. The programs centers core area of focus is education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness, recreation and culture. The Boys and Girls Club currently has one club unit in operation in Pembroke, and a newly chartered club scheduled to open in Hoke County this spring.

Lumbee Youth, with First Banks help, will have the opportunity to grow as person, while building character and personality, changing their lives forever. First Bank has become part of the team, promoting our theme of "Continuous Improvements."

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