



THE SUPREME COURT OF THE LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Justice Mark Brooks
Justice Kelvin Jacobs

Justice Tona Jacobs
Justice Eric Freeman
Justice Paul Locklear

Malachi Hammonds,)
)
 PETITIONER,)
)
 v.)
)
 Lumbee Tribal Council,)
)
 RESPONDENT,)
)
)
)

Case No.: 2024-002
Ruling

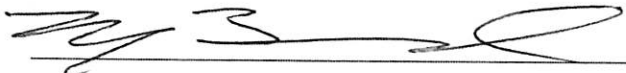
IN THIS MATTER, a Petition was filed on April 29th, 2024, alleging violation(s) of Lumbee Tribal Ordinance CLLO-2023-1221-01, in that the Petitioner had previously requested recordings of Constitution and Ordinance Committee meetings and such request was denied by the committee chair. On Tuesday, May 28th, the Court, upon its own motion, requested the Respondent to submit an answer to the Petitioner's allegations, to review whether there was in fact a material dispute between the parties. The Respondent, by and through its attorney, submitted an answer in which it asserted that the requested recordings and/or materials had been provided to the Petitioner, admittedly after the filing of his petition, and asked that the petition be denied for mootness. On Thursday, June 13th, the Court received the Petitioner's formal

response to the Respondent's answer, in which he acknowledged receipt of the recordings requested in his petition, while also expressing several additional concerns regarding the Respondent. The Court believes that the Petitioner's claims are meritorious, as proven by the Respondent's undisputed efforts to comply with the Petitioner's request but are nevertheless moot in that the relief sought has been achieved.

THEREFORE, having reviewed the Petitioner's request, the Respondent's assertion that the Petitioner's request has been met, and the Petitioner's formal acknowledgement, the Court determines a hearing is NOT warranted in this matter. **DISMISSED**

Per the decision and on behalf of the Court in Conference.

Signed this the 17th Day of June, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Brooks', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Brooks, Chief Justice