



# Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band

## Public Service Announcement

February 1, 2012

Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band (MCIFB) announces the filing of a Petition for Federal Recognition as an American Indian Tribe. Seven boxes of documented evidence were mailed on January 20, 2012 to the Office of Federal Recognition.

The MCIFB petition will be available for the general public to review at [www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/AS-IA/OFA](http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/AS-IA/OFA) in accordance with CFR rules by the Office of Federal Recognition, a Bureau of Indian Affairs Office (BIA).

This filing sets a precedent. It was prepared and submitted by Black Indians. Black Indian Citizens of the Muscogee Creek Nation have been referred to as, "just our slaves". Read the history and decide for yourself what it means to be a Black Indian from the Creek Nation of Oklahoma.

For information regarding the criteria and the process for submitting a Petition for Federal Recognition, please visit the BIA's website. The Branch of Acknowledgment and Research (BAR) has an 83 page reference guide on their website. It states the first step is to submit a letter of intent. The MCIFB submitted a certified letter of intent on May 22, 2010. The guideline (on line) states that the BAR in the office Bureau of Indian Affairs will arrange all of the following items:

Publication of a notice in the Federal Register; publication of a legal notice in a local newspaper; notification to the Governor of your State; notification to the Attorney General of your State; a letter of response to the leader of your group; **and *Establish of an administrative file in the BAR. After you file a letter of intent to petition, your group has unlimited time under the regulations in which to prepare and submit a documented petition,*** which includes the evidence and arguments showing that your group meets the requirements for acknowledgment.

Contact Information: [contactus@1866creekfreedmen.com](mailto:contactus@1866creekfreedmen.com)

**P.O. Box 6366 Moore OK, 73153  
www.1866creekfreedmen.com**



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