



Muscogee (CREEK) Nation

Executive Office

DECLARING NOVEMBER 9TH, 2024 AS

“COUNCIL OAK TREE DAY” IN RECOGNITION OF THE COUNCIL OAK TREE CEREMONY

A Proclamation by the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS**, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was forcibly removed from our ancestral homelands in the southeast and relocated to Indian Territory in the 1830s;
- WHEREAS**, the Locv Pokv Tribal Town were the first Muscogee people to establish their new home in 1836 along the Arkansas River in the area that would become present day Tulsa; and
- WHEREAS**, Locv Pokv placed the embers of their sacred fire near the towering Council Oak Tree and this became the first gathering place, where they reestablished their Etlvw (tribal town), Cuko Rakko (ceremonial ground), played stickball games, and continued commerce and trade; and
- WHEREAS**, the City of Tulsa gets its name from Locv Pokv, who were also known as Locv Pokv Tvlse, referring to ‘Tvlvhasse’, meaning ‘old town’ in the Mvskoke language; and
- WHEREAS**, the Council Oak Tree is considered a sacred place to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and its importance was recognized in 1976 when it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and
- WHEREAS**, the inaugural Council Oak Tree Ceremony was held on October 26th, 1986 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Muscogee people; and
- WHEREAS**, this meeting was the first time the neighboring governments of the Tulsa City Council and the Muscogee National Council met and;
- WHEREAS**, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to hold the annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony to honor the founding of the City of Tulsa by Locv Pokv and to honor Mvskoke Ceremonial Grounds for keeping our traditions alive; and

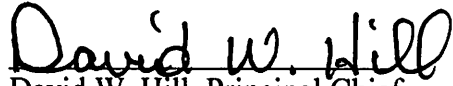
WHEREAS, the 2024 Council Oak Tree Ceremony will be held on November 9, 2024 at 11:00 am.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

I, David W. Hill by virtue of the authority vested in me as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do hereby proclaim November 9, 2024 to be “Council Oak Tree Day”. I urge every citizen to reflect as we honor our Mvskoke ancestors who survived the forced removal on the Road of Misery (Nene Estemerketv) and reestablished our tribal towns and government. At this ceremony, we recognize and honor the 16 Ceremonial Grounds and their members who continue to live and teach our traditions and language as they dedicate their time to protect the sacred fires that still burn today.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

I have hereto set my hand and seal on this 7th day of November, 2024.


David W. Hill, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

