

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

Office of the Board of Directors

California Association of Tribal Governments

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Contact: Chairman Matt Franklin (209) 274-6753, matt@ionemiwok.org

Contact: Hector Garcia (530) 493-1600, hgkaruktribe@gmail.com

California Tribes Announce the Formal Establishment of the California Association of Tribal Governments

(SACRAMENTO, CA) – California Indian tribes gathered on Tuesday September 9, 2008, at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento, California, to formally establish the California Association of Tribal Governments (“CATG”), a non-profit consortium of federally recognized Indian tribal governments in the State of California, chartered to voice the common interests of all sovereign tribal governments in the State of California, to promote mutual cooperation among tribes, and to represent their common interests with federal, state and local governments. Another historic milestone was achieved by the charter of the CATG under the tribal code of the Hoopa Valley Tribe.

The Honorable Matt Franklin, Chairman of the Lone Band of Miwok Indians, signed the articles of incorporation, which was approved by Mr. Danny Jordan, Director of the Department of Commerce, and Chairman Clifford Lyle Marshall on behalf of the Hoopa Valley Tribe. The attending tribes joined the CATG and approved its Bylaws by unanimous vote.

An interim Board of Directors was elected by member tribes from each of three California districts: for the Southern District – Manuel Hamilton, Vice Chairman of the Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians and Sharon Amero, Vice Chairperson of the Mesa Grande Band of Kumeyaay Indians; for the Central District – Waldo Walker, Chairman of the Washoe California & Nevada Tribes, and Matt Franklin, Chairman of the Lone Band of Miwok Indians; and for the Northern District – Arch Super, Chairman of the Karuk Tribe, and Shirley Laos, Vice Chairperson of the Trinidad Rancheria.

Assemblyman Rick Keene, representing the 3rd District including Lassen, Plumas, Yuba, Nevada, Sierra and portions of Butte and Placer Counties, addressed the CATG member tribes, and extended his congratulations to the members for the formation of the Association. The meeting was sponsored by the Lone Band of Miwok Indians and Analytical Environmental Services (AES) and its managing partner, Mr. David Zweig.

The next general meeting of the CATG is scheduled for January, 2009 in Sacramento, California. For more information, contact Chairman Franklin, Lone Band of Miwok Indians, at (209) 274-6753, or Hector Garcia, Karuk Tribe, at (530) 493-1600.

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Mission Statement:

"Promote an understanding of sovereignty, self-determination and the economic needs of tribal governments, in a manner that is consistent with our common bonds of culture, history, trade and association among all California tribes, and to amplify the voices of all California tribal governments so we can be heard by federal, state and local governments."

Vision Statement:

"Strengthen tribal government relations with federal, state, local and other tribal governments, defend inherent sovereign powers, protect individual Native American and tribal government reserved rights, and promote tribal economic and land resources as the basis for the well-being of sovereign tribal governments and their citizens."

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