

INTRODUCTION

I AM RICHARD SLATS, GRANDSON OF THE LATE JOE AND MARY FRIDAY; GRANDSON TO THE LATE MARY SLATS. I AM THE SON OF GREGORY SLATS SR. THE LATE MONICA SLATS. *I'm a Cupik. Nuyaralek.*

I'VE BEEN WORKING AS A TRIBAL COURTS DEVELOPER SINCE 1993. I'VE WORKED WITH THE CHEVAK TRIBAL COURTS AND NOW WORKING WITH THE Orutsararmiut Native Council'S TRIBAL COURTS. I AM ALSO A CHILDREN'S ADVOCATE.

WITH OUR WORK WE PRACTICE PERSONAL JURISDICTION OVER 2430 TRIBAL MEMBERS. WE PRACTICE JURISDICTION OVER OUR TRIBAL MEMBER JUVENILES AND INTERVENE AND PRACTICE JURISDICTION OVER OUR TRIBAL MEMBER CHILDREN. WE HAVE OUR JUDICIAL, JUVENILE AND CHILDREN'S CODES WHICH WERE ENACTED IN APRIL 2004.

WE HAVE EIGHT STANDING JUDGES; FIVE OF WHICH ARE ELDERS WHICH ARE ELDERS IN KEEPING WITHIN OUR TRADITION OF LOOKING TO THEM FOR GUIDANCE AND WISDOM. OUR TRIBAL JUDGES ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS, WE HAVE A STAFF OF THREE; ME THE ADMINISTRATOR, OUR COURT CLERK AND OUR TRIBAL LAW RESEARCHER.

WE HAVE OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; TRIBAL OPERATIONS DIRECTOR; SOCIAL SERVICES in PLACE WITH THEIR ICWA SPECIALIST; ACCOUNTING; EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING; CHILD CARE SPECIALISTS; GENERAL ASSISTANCE; REALTY; TRIBAL HOUSING; and NATURAL RESOURCES.

Strong
SS

WE HAVE HAD JUVENILE MATTERS REFERRED TO US BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE. WE HAVE HAD A CHILD IN NEED OF AID TRANSFERRED TO US BECAUSE THE STATE'S OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES SAW THEIR WAY CLEAR TO HAVE THIS CASE TRANSFERRED TO US. WE ARE CURRENTLY HANDLING TRADITIONAL ADOPTION MATTERS. WE WISH TO BEGIN MANAGING MINOR MISDEMEANOR CASES FOR OUR JUVENILE TRIBAL MEMBERS IN THE FUTURE.

SHOES; SINCE I CAN'T BRING IN THE PEOPLE DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY ISSUES I WOULD LIKE TO DO A SHOW AND TELL TO SHOW YOU THAT WE WORK WITH ACTUAL AND REAL PEOPLE "THE YUPIKS" OF ONC.

THESE SHOES BELONG TO A COUPLE THAT HAVE SOBERED UP AND HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THEIR TREATMENT PROGRAM; THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PARTIES TO THIS CASE MATTER DID NOT OBJECT TO GETTING THIS CASE TRANSFERRED TO THE ONC TRIBAL COURTS. THE CHILD IN NEED OF AID CASE WAS TRANSFERRED TO ONC

TRIBAL COURT ON DEC. 13, 2004. THESE SHOES BELONG TO A COUPLE OF OUR ONC CHILDREN one that is 7 years old/ one that is 6 years old. THAT HAVE SINCE BEEN REUNITED TO THE AFOREMENTIONED COUPLE.

THESE SHOES BELONG TO A 13 YEAR OLD TRIBAL MEMBER WHO WAS CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL TRESPASS IN THE FIRST DEGREE; AND THEFT IV. THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO US BY THE DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE. WE ADJUDICATED AND DISPOSITIONED THIS MATTER AND THIS CASE WAS DISMISSED ON 4TH DAY OF January 2005.

THESE SHOES BELONG TO A TRIBAL MEMBER CHILD that is 14 years old THAT WE WILL BE ADOPTING TOMORROW EVENING.

THESE ARE THE SHOES OF ANOTHER TRIBAL MEMBER CHILD 2 years old THAT WE WILL BE ADOPTING TOMORROW EVENING.

TRIBES SHOULD HAVE THE OPTION OF APPLYING FOR THE DOJ FUNDS DIRECTLY. IF THEY ARE FORCED TO REGIONALIZE THEY WILL LOSE OUT ON THEIR SELF RELIANCE. ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL, DUE TO DIVERSITY; WHAT MIGHT WORK WONDERS IN ONE COMMUNITY MAY NOT WORK IN ANOTHER.

TRIBAL COURTS ARE FRONT LINE ADJUDICATING AND DISPOSITIONING CHILDREN'S MATTERS BECAUSE THEY KNOW THEIR PEOPLE. THEY ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY AND WELFARE FOR THE MOST PART BECAUSE THEY KNOW WHO THEIR PEOPLE ARE.

IF I WERE STILL IN CHEVAK, AND SOMEONE BOUGHT A PETITION IN A REGIONAL COURT AGAINST ME, NOT ONLY WOULD I BE AT A DISADANTAGE I WOULD BE SPENDING EXTRA TO APPEAR IN PERSON. IF WE WERE TO UNIFY LAWS THE TRIBES WOULD HAVE TO DO AWAY WITH THEIR OWN LAWS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PRACTICING FOR YEARS.

Tribal -
(TRIBAL COURTS SHOULDN'T HAVE TO BE TREATED ANY DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER TRIBE ACROSS AMERICA.)

- Everytime we make headway - take steps forward we end up taking 2 steps back.
- Regional mtg. } statewide mtg. } \$ Tribes spend alot of \$ which could be used to *operat* tribal ct.

→ Child abuse - Tribal Ct's & DCWA workers again are front line. They work together.
→ SAM - Perps get 2 1/2 yrs. → goes home - only wonder what goes on in the mind of the victims

* - were not going away - were here to stay - to practice jurisdiction ^{over tribal members} are

* - Our rights are inherent, we don't need to ask anyone or another sovereign for them. ^{I've learned that it's better to ask for forgiveness, than to ask for forgiveness!}

* It took the highest Court in the land to decide that my backyard doesn't exist. This is where my dad hunts & fish his father & his father before his. What I was ~~admitting~~ to earlier about taking steps forward & taking 2 steps back.

* Guyana, thanks for coming out.

→ Tribal Ct. funding should remain the same - Tribes should have the option of apply for funds directly from DOJ & not be force to a regional Ct. System - Tribes should enact their own laws. - They should adjudicate & disposition all cases civil & minor misdemeanor matters that come before them. They should practice jurisdiction over all of their children's matters.

→ T.C.'s should protect our children thru. T.C.

Charge pedophiles to the least extent possible (ms)