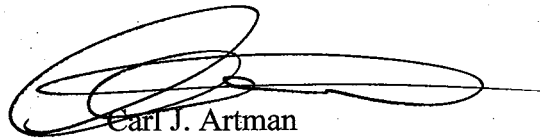


I contacted the Tribe following our March 14, 2008 meeting to confirm my understanding of the Tribe's compliance with the May 14, 2007 Court order. The documents the Tribe produced indicate that the Tribe makes a distinction between enrolled Cherokee Freedmen descendants and those Freedmen descendants with the potential to enroll as citizens. The Tribe interprets the Court's May 14, 2007 order and the circumstances surrounding the litigation to allow the Tribe to place new citizenship applications into a queue that will be processed pending resolution of current litigation on the matter.

The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has before it a case that will help determine the status and rights of the Freeman. The Department will await the final outcome of this case prior to taking any further action with regards to the Freedmen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Carl J. Artman
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosures