

To all Native Americans, particularly to the tribes associated with Effigy Mounds National Monument, and to the National Park Service, and all Americans:

I deeply regret and I am unilaterally sorry for the events surrounding the misappropriation of Native American human remains by me. I apologize wholeheartedly.

While I inappropriately stored these human remains in my garage, in garbage bags inside cardboard boxes without temperature, humidity, or other environmental controls, for years, please understand that I did nothing else to deliberately harm them.

These human remains came primarily from the collections of Effigy Mounds National Monument. Despite being employed to protect the Monument and having a responsibility to guard these remains, I knowingly removed these items from the Monument and hid them for over twenty years. By doing so I delayed the repatriation and internment of these people.

I did what I did in a mistaken effort to avoid the obligations imposed by NAGPRA. I am now profoundly sorry for doing so. I apologize also to my many Native American friends with whom I went to school, played with, competed in sports with, attended school events with from day 1 through college and graduate school. Please remember me as you know me and not for what I have done.

Regards to all of you, Go with God,


Thomas A. Munson