



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BILL ANOATUBBY
GOVERNOR

May 15, 2007

Honorable Ellen Segal Huvelle
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
C/O Messrs. Barry M. Hartman and Brian W. Stolarz
K & L Gates
1601 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Judge Huvelle:

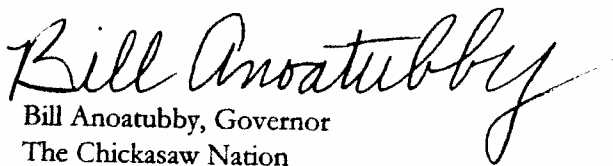
I write on behalf of Mr. J. Steven Griles. I have been acquainted with Mr. Griles for several years, when he served as deputy secretary in the U.S. Department of the Interior. I understand that Mr. Griles is to be sentenced before you on June 26, 2007, and I hope that you will allow me to urge you to consider the work that he has done on behalf of Native Americans and to grant him leniency.

The Chickasaw, Choctaw and Cherokee nations worked for nearly 30 years to seek justice for the taking of our Arkansas riverbed property by the United States. Through Mr. Griles' efforts we were finally able to reach a settlement with the federal government. He worked diligently to support our efforts with Congress and the U.S. Department of Justice to arrive at a resolution to this important matter.

In observing Mr. Griles in working with tribal governments in general, he was instrumental in assuring that tribal governments were included in decision-making that would determine how best to reorganize the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians. When he made a promise, he kept his word. He did his best to keep tribal governments and officials informed about processes and dealt fairly and honorably during negotiations and settlements. Many tribal officials appreciated his commitment and his integrity.

Your consideration of my request for leniency for Mr. J. Steven Griles will be appreciated.

Sincerely,


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation



God Bless America!