





			<b>#11</b>	
4/23/2021	21-0011	Rusty Henson Cherokee Citizen	Request for all/any policies regarding CCO organizations, particularly those policies concerning board member eligibility/or restrictions, specifically which policy addresses attached restrictions for CCO organizations.	In response to the request, the information contained in the following email, ("EXHIBIT A"), from the Cherokee Nation Community and Cultural Outreach Department answers and fulfills the request: EXHIBIT A - From: Kevin Stretch Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2021 7:53 AM To: Gwen Terrapin Subject: FOIA Response Siyo Gwen, Please send the entire body of email below to Mr. Henson: On February 8, 2021, I emailed all active CCO-participating community organizations concerning a policy dealing with tribal elections and politics. In that email I stated boards who include "CN tribal candidate(s) will not be allowed funding throughout the duration of the campaign, nor continue funding if that individual remains on the board upon election." This has been the policy at CCO long before I became Director, and, though I had never seen the actual written policy there was a general understanding among employees that was standard procedure. We never questioned it because it seemed fair and reasonable, and provide a level of protection to the organizations against political favoritism deemed illegal in the Federal 501(c)(3) directive. Follow this link to review the restrictions, <a href="https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/the-restriction-of-political-campaign-intervention-by-section-501c3-tax-exempt-organizations">https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/the-restriction-of-political-campaign-intervention-by-section-501c3-tax-exempt-organizations</a> . The federal document specifies that individuals can engage in political activity as long as they aren't representing themselves as organization officials engaging on behalf of their organization. When CCO emails a large number of organizations and concerned individuals, such as the case here, the addressee appears to be CCO or a CCO staff member. The email addresses of the organizations and individuals is in the BCC: (Blind Carbon Copy) line, to allow anonymity to those who don't wish their email addresses to be revealed. Again, this is standard practice, although we aren't perfect. So, when you receive an email from CCO and you don't see your 'TO:' address it's because we're sending out a mass email. I hope this clarifies things a little.
	21-0011		<b>#11 - CONTINUED:</b>	<b>RESPONSE CONTINUED:</b>
				Below was the email I referenced above: From: Kevin Stretch <kevin-stretch@cherokee.org> Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 3:59 PM To: CommunityCulturalOutreach Cc: Chuck Hoskin Jr; Bryan Warner; Tina Glory-Jordan Subject: CCO Policy and Tribal Elections Siyo nigada, As a reminder of Cherokee Nation Community & Cultural Outreach policies regarding tribal elections: Cherokee community organizations' focus is on the maintaining non-political gathering place and event centers for all Cherokees and local residence to feel welcome, and for transparency and fairness. In order to preserve that emphasis CCO-participating community organizations whose board includes CN tribal candidate(s) will not be allowed funding throughout the duration of the campaign, nor continue funding if that individual remains on the board upon election. Irrespective of a Cherokee Nation-participating Organization's 501(c)(3) status, all organizations are encouraged to use the following guidance from the Internal Revenue Service as a best practice: From IRS.gov "Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501(c)(3) organizations are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office. Contributions to political campaign funds or public statements of position (verbal or written) made on behalf of the organization in favor of or in opposition to any candidate for public office clearly violate the prohibition against political campaign activity. Violating this prohibition may result in denial or revocation of tax- exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes. Certain activities or expenditures may not be prohibited depending on the facts and circumstances. For example, certain voter education activities (including presenting public forums and publishing voter education guides) conducted in a non-partisan manner do not constitute prohibited political campaign activity. In addition, other activities intended to encourage people to participate in the electoral process, such as voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives, would not be prohibited political campaign activity if conducted in a non-partisan manner. On the other hand, voter education or registration activities with evidence of bias that (a) would favor one candidate over another; (b) oppose a candidate in some manner; or (c) have the effect of favoring a candidate or group of candidates, will constitute prohibited participation or intervention." Nothing herein restrains an individual member or officer of a Cherokee Nation-participating organization, acting in their individual capacity, from engaging in political activity of any kind. However, community organization members, and particularly officers, should be mindful of not purposefully or inadvertently using their position within the organization to engage in political activity. CCO remains dedicated to the organizations who are essential to the success of community assistance and support. (Thank you), Kevin Stretch, Director Cherokee Nation Community and Cultural Outreach m(918)525-2436 The response was sent via email.
			<b>#12</b>	
5/13/2021	21-0012	Deborah Reed Cherokee Citizen	Request for the official transcript of the hearing held before the election commission on or around April 18, 2019 regarding Wanda Hatfield.	In response to the request, the following information from the Cherokee Nation Election Commission (CNEC) answers and fulfills the request: The transcript can be made available to you from the Election Commission. The cost to reproduce the transcript would be \$57.55. 136 pages at \$0.25/page, \$15 research fee and estimated \$8.55 mailing cost. You may pay by check or money order made payable to the Cherokee Nation Election Commission or CNEC. You may also contact the original court reporter, Ms. Shelley Ottwell, 918-441-0071, for reproduction of the transcript; however, her reproduction will not contain the exhibits. The response was sent via email.
			<b>#13</b>	
6/15/2021	21-0013	Derek Geasland Cherokee Citizen	Request for the Attorney General's Office investigation report, submitted to the Election Commission, concerning Lisa Cookson and potential election fraud in the 2021 District 2 General Election.	In response to the request, Exhibit(s) A & B from the Cherokee Nation Attorney General's Office answered and fulfilled the request. The response was sent via email.

<u>#14</u>				
7/15/2021	21-0014	Carlos Herrera Investigator, Federal Defender District of NM	Request for any and all documents; reports; supplemental reports; audio and video recordings; photographs; CADs recording and printouts; and any other materail produced by the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service and Deputy Preston Oosahwee for an incident involving Aram Catron, on or about 1/26/2018 at about 1:00pm that resulted in a fatal accident at the intersection of West and Choctaw in Tahlequah, OK. We are also requesting a copy of the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service Standard Operating Procedures. We also request any copies of case reeports and court filings by the Cherokee Nation Attorney General Office for the same mentioned case.	The information was provided to Mr. Herrera as a courtesy.
<u>#15</u>				
10/27/2021	21-0015	Jami Murphy Cherokee Citizen	Request for a copy or verification of any and all fines assessed by the Cherokee Nation Election Commission during the 2021 general and run-off elections. As a candidate, if fined, we received a certified letter indicating the fine and law violation. That letter would suffice, unless the commission has a list of candidate, violation, fine amounts.	In response to the request, information in an attached exhibit titled "2021 Election Cycle Fines" from the CN Election Commission, answered and fulfilled the request. The information was sent via email.
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF FOIA REQUESTS: 15</b>				
<b>2021 GRA REQUESTS</b>				
<i>DATE of REQUEST</i>	<i>FILE NUMBER</i>	<i>REQUESTED BY:</i>	<i>INFORMATION REQUESTED:</i>	<i>RESPONSE:</i>
<u>#1</u>				
30-Aug-21	21-1001	Wes Nofire Tribal Council Member D-3	Request for financial information for fiscal years ending in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 related to the following: 1) All financial contributions made to nonprofit 501c3, 501c4, 501c5 and 501c6 status entities by CNB and/or any of its affiliated companies; 2) Information request to provide, dates, individual amounts, organization name, organization address, purpose for donation, who gave approval.	In response to the GRA request, the documents have been produced by CNB. However, due to the proprietary and confidential nature of said documents, per the request of CNB, they are only available at the AG's Office for viewing during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm, pursuant to 19 C.N.C.A. Section 45 (E) and <i>Coates v. Baker, SC-2014-03</i> . During the review of the documents you are allowed to take notes, however, pictures cannot be taken, nor copies received per CNB's request. The information was sent via email.
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF GRA REQUESTS: -1-</b>				
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF FOIA REQUESTS: 15</b>				
<b>2021 FOIA/GRA TOTALS (as of December 31, 2021): 16</b>				