

## **Fifth Circuit Stays Flawed ICWA Ruling**

The California Tribal Families Coalition commends the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for protecting Indian children, families and tribes by staying Judge Reed O'Connor's flawed October 2018 ruling finding the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) unconstitutional.

While the decision was limited to the Northern District of Texas, the stay was issued by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and will ensure that ICWA and the Congressionally-mandated protections it has provided for 40 years remain in place until this rogue Texas decision is reversed on appeal.

This welcome news comes just days after the federal Department of Justice, with the Department of Interior and Health and Human Services, announced it will join tribes and tribal organizations to stand up for Indian children, families and tribes against the district court ruling in Texas.

### ***About the California Tribal Families Coalition.***

Comprised of tribes and tribal leaders from across the state, the California Tribal Families Coalition's mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of tribal children and families, which are inherent tribal governmental functions and are at the core of tribal sovereignty and tribal governance. For information, please visit <https://www.caltribalfamilies.org/>

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