



The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Of Michigan

TRIBAL CHIEF

7070 EAST BROADWAY

MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858

(989) 775-4000

FAX (989) 775-4131

Tribal Chief, Steven Pego
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
7070 E. Broadway Rd.
Mt Pleasant Mi. 48858

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has always taken pride in the people we are and celebrate the strong and rich culture established by our ancestors thousands of years ago. Our people have had to endure inequitable hardships for hundreds of years as other minority groups have had to while working diligently to achieve equality. We have worked collectively with others to bring about change and an opportunity to be treated with dignity and respect. The very dignity and respect we give our fellow man.

Today I find it inexcusable that there are still individuals who carry hatred and blatant disregard for other cultures and race of people. It is not surprising however that serial-offender Brooks Patterson used inflammatory language in talking about people of color. His comparison of the residents of Detroit to Native Americans who were forcibly confined to Indian reservations is shameful. It goes without saying that Mr. Patterson needs a lesson in civility, regardless of whether he was merely pandering to his base, or purposely inciting racial disharmony. It is surprising, however, and equally troubling to read that comments by the editor of the Detroit News who tacitly approved of Mr. Patterson's offensive characterizations of Indian reservations. I seriously doubt that both Mr. Patterson and Finley have ever even been to an Indian reservation.

Please join the Reverend Charles Williams II, Michigan chapter president of the National Action Network and our Tribal Council in demanding an apology from Mr. Patterson and a call out to Oakland County leaders to take appropriate action against their County Executive.

Sincerely,

Steve Pego, Tribal Chief

Cc:file fjc