



INTERIOR BOARD OF INDIAN APPEALS

Maurice A. Williams v. Aberdeen Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

30 IBIA 97 (11/06/1996)



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
INTERIOR BOARD OF INDIAN APPEALS
4015 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

MAURICE A. WILLIAMS,	:	Order Dismissing Appeal
Appellant	:	
	:	
v.	:	Docket No. IBIA 96-51-A
	:	
ABERDEEN AREA DIRECTOR,	:	
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS	:	
Appellee	:	November 6, 1996

Appellant Maurice A. Williams sought review of a December 19, 1995, decision issued by the Aberdeen Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs (Area Director; BIA), advising appellant that BIA would not continue to pay storage costs for a Tyrannosaurus Rex fossil called "Sue," which was held in trust by the United States for appellant. Pursuant to an informal arrangement between the parties, BIA agreed to continue storage of the fossil until October 31, 1996, while appellant reached a decision as to the disposition of the fossil.

On October 23, 1996, appellant executed a consignment agreement with Sotheby's, Inc., for the sale of the fossil. The Area Director approved the consignment agreement on October 24, 1996. The Board has been advised that Sotheby's took custody of the fossil on October 31, 1996.

The Area Director has moved to dismiss this appeal as moot. The Board agrees with the Area Director that the appeal is now moot.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Indian Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 CFR 4.1, this appeal from the Aberdeen Area Director's December 19, 1995, decision is dismissed.

//original signed
Kathryn A. Lynn
Chief Administrative Judge

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Anita Vogt
Administrative Judge