



## INTERIOR BOARD OF INDIAN APPEALS

Leona Williams v. Pacific Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

39 IBIA 239 (02/23/2004)

Related Board cases:

39 IBIA 234

39 IBIA 240



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS  
INTERIOR BOARD OF INDIAN APPEALS  
801 NORTH QUINCY STREET  
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ARLINGTON, VA 22203

LEONA WILLIAMS,  
Appellant

v.

PACIFIC REGIONAL DIRECTOR,  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Appellee

: Order Dismissing Appeal  
:  
:  
:  
: Docket No. IBIA 03-61-A  
:  
:  
: February 23, 2004

Appellant Leona Williams sought review of a December 30, 2002, decision issued by the Pacific Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs (Regional Director), in regard to a leadership dispute within the Pinoleville Band of Pomo Indians of California (Tribe). For the reason discussed below, the Board of Indian Appeals (Board) dismisses this appeal as moot.

Subsequent to the filing of this appeal, the Tribe held a Special Election on June 21, 2003. The results of that election were challenged before the Board. Jackson v. Pacific Regional Director, Docket No. IBIA 03-141-A. The Board has today affirmed the Regional Director's decision to recognize the results of the June 21, 2003, Special Election. Jackson v. Pacific Regional Director, 39 IBIA 234.

The Board has consistently held that a subsequent valid tribal election renders moot questions about prior tribal leadership. See, e.g., Villegas v. Sacramento Area Director, 24 IBIA 150 (1993), and cases cited there. Because the Tribe's 2003 Special Election has been upheld, the Regional Director's December 2002 decision in regard to Tribal leadership is now moot.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Indian Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 C.F.R. § 4.1, this appeal from the Regional Director's December 30, 2002, decision is dismissed as moot.

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Kathryn A. Lynn  
Administrative Judge

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// original signed  
Kathleen R. Supernaw  
Acting Administrative Judge