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November 25, 2025

***Transmitted Via Mail and Email: [hunter.ryan@bia.gov](mailto:hunter.ryan@bia.gov)***

Ryan Hunter, Acting Regional Director  
Pacific Regional Office  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento CA 95825

**Re: Appeal of Wendy Del Rosa, Alturas Indian Rancheria**

Dear Acting Regional Director:

I write on behalf of my client, Wendy Del Rosa, to once again demand that the Bureau of Indian Affairs withdraw recognition of the current Alturas Rancheria (“Tribe”) Business Committee, consisting of Philip Del Rosa, Darren Rose and Wendy Del Rosa, on the grounds that Mr. Del Rosa and Rose are embezzling **all** of the Tribe’s funds, including the Tribe’s 638 Contract Funds.

In support of my position, I have attached a copy of a recent decision of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals for your review that clearly demonstrates that Mr. Del Rosa and Rose are using tribal funds to engage in illegal activities. They can do this because the Bureau of Indian Affairs (“BIA”) appointed them as the interim government of the Tribe. It is long overdue for the BIA to withdraw the recognition of this interim government as the so-called interim recognition, a decision that has lasted over 10 years, has completely failed in the purpose for which it was originally issued.

As stated above, it has been over ten years since the BIA appointed the current government on an interim basis to “provide essential governmental services to members of the Tribe”. If that was the goal of the BIA, then you must withdraw the recognition immediately because the so-called interim government has absolutely not provided any services of any kind to members of the Tribe. Instead, Del Rosa and Rose have taken **all** tribal funds, from all sources, and lined their own pockets with the money. As I have documented, via prior letters to the BIA on numerous occasions over the years, which I incorporate herein by reference, two of the three appointed governmental

officials, Phillip Del Rosa and Darren Rose, have embezzled all the federal and Tribal funds intended to provide “essential governmental services” to the Tribal membership and divided it between themselves. Since no “essential governmental services” have ever been provided, what is the purpose of the governmental body the BIA appointed? The answer is simple; it serves no purpose other than to enrich two individuals empowered by the BIA to embezzle these funds.

I do believe the BIA was well intentioned when it made the decision to appoint the current government, on an interim basis, to ensure “essential governmental services” were provided to the members of the Tribe. However, the BIA is and has been aware for some time now that absolutely none of the federal funds granted to the Tribe and controlled by these two BIA appointed governmental officials went for any purpose other than to enrich Messrs. Del Rosa and Rose. The BIA must immediately withdraw the recognition from this interim government for failure to do so, would make the BIA complicit in this ongoing theft of federal funds.

Attorney General Bondi recently announced an indictment against a U.S. Congresswoman for allegedly using five million dollars of COVID/CARES funds for her personal use. In the announcement, AG Bondi stated, “Using disaster relief funds (COVID/CARES) for self-enrichment is a particularly selfish and cynical crime”. The facts of that case are precisely what happened with the relief funds sent to the Tribe under the care of Messrs. Del Rosa and Rose. The only difference is that Messrs. Rose and Del Rosa self-enriched themselves by over five and a half million dollars! Let me repeat that. Mr. Del Rosa and Rose have received over 5 million dollars over the last ten years and spent it solely on themselves for their own personal enrichment and gain. Phillip Del Rosa used four million dollars of the funds he has embezzled over the past several years, including COVID and CARES funds, to purchase a vacation home in Hawaii. (See attached title report) I ask you to Goggle the address on the report and tell me if this is what the BIA believes to be “essential governmental services” or an appropriate use of federal relief funds?

The BIA must stop assisting this criminal enterprise and assist the Tribal members by withdrawing the power from which Messrs. Del Rosa and Rose utilize to embezzle these funds – the BIA recognition of the two of them as the current interim government.

Furthermore, I demand that you report this misuse of federal funds, including the COVID/CARES funds, to the US Attorney for the Central District of California for investigation and prosecution. AG Bondi has made this a priority for the Administration and the BIA, as a member of the Administration with specific knowledge of the misuse of federal funds, almost identical to the recent indictment of the Congresswoman, must compel reporting this to the U.S. Attorney. It is even more essential that you assist in stopping such criminal behavior since the reason Messrs. Del Rosa and Rose can embezzle federal funds is because the BIA continues to empower them to

**Letter to**  
**November 25, 2025**  
**Re: Alturas Indian Rancheria**

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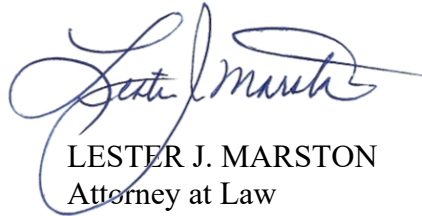
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do so. It is also truly shameful and a dereliction of public trust not to do so. You have a legal and moral obligation to bring this to an end.

Please be advised if you do not withdraw recognition immediately, I will appeal your decision or in action to the Interior Board of Indian Appeals, contact the US Attorney myself, and take this issue to the press as an example of the Trump administration aiding and abetting the embezzlement of federal funds.

Please send me an email confirming receipt of this email. I await your reply.

Yours Very Truly,



LESTER J. MARSTON  
Attorney at Law

Enclosure(s)