

Joyce Stanfield Perry

**Non- Federally Recognized Tribal Representative, Juaneno Band of Mission Indians
Acjachemen Nation - Belardes**

Systemwide

Qualified:

Ms. Stanfield Perry, a Non-Federally Recognized tribal member of the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes, has over twenty years of experience in tribal cultural resources protection, monitoring, and consultations with state, federal, city, and county governments. Additionally for the last five years Ms. Stanfield Perry has specifically focused on repatriation efforts in addition to supporting her tribe with AB 52 and SB 18 responses. Mr. Stanfield provided guidance to CSU Fullerton on the repatriation and respectful treatment of their collections.

Tribal Resolution Provided

References contacted:

Dr. Lisa Woodward Chairman Belardes, and Megan Lonski recommend the candidate.

**Systemwide NAGPRA Implementation & Oversight Committee
Nominations Cover Sheet**

Committee Type: ☐ Both ☐ Systemwide Committee ☐ Campus Committee

Nominee Name: _____

Preferred Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Position Sought: Tribal Nominee CSU Nominee

Alt. Campus: _____

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation

Name of Tribe: _____

Name of Campus: _____

☐ Federally Recognized Tribe

☐ CA Indian Tribe

☐ CSU Administrator

☐ CSU Faculty

Staff

☐ NAGPRA Coordinator

Tribal Members (Check all that apply):

☐ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer work

☐ Repatriation of human remains and cultural items pursuant to CalNAGPRA/ NAGPRA

☐ Cultural resources protection under Tribal, state, and federal law

☐ Consultation with state and federal entities and agencies

☐ An Elder, Spiritual Leader

☐ A minimum of five years' experience

CSU Staff/Faculty Members (Check all that apply):

☐ Archaeology

☐ Anthropology

☐ Environmental Studies

☐ Ethnic Studies

☐ History (with a focus in California)

☐ Law

☐ Native American Studies

☐ Social Science

☐ Sociology

☐ A minimum of five years' experience working in field of study

Circle One: Complete Application (Includes Attachments)

☐ Short Bio, A Resume or CV

☐ Tribal Resolution/Letter (as applicable)

☐ Three References

Incomplete Applications

☐ Missing Attachments

☐ Needs Follow Up Call

☐ Other Explanation: _____

CSU or NAHC Reviewer: _____

Date: _____

CSU or NAHC Reviewer: _____

Date: _____

NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FORM

The California State University (CSU) is committed to fully implementing the spirit as well as the legal requirements of both the Federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (CalNAGPRA), which were enacted to acknowledge the fundamental human right of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians to their ancestral Human Remains and Cultural Items.

On behalf of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), the CSU is soliciting and accepting applications for the Systemwide and Campus Committees. The purpose of the committees is to provide oversight and guidance for the development and implementation of Systemwide and Campus CalNAGPRA and federal NAGPRA compliance, which includes NAGPRA policy development. All applications, incomplete or complete, will be forwarded to the NAHC for consideration. Nominee candidates will be interviewed by the NAHC for potential Commission nomination and appointment by the CSU Chancellor or chancellor's designee. The CSU is referencing the requirements as outlined in Assembly Bill 389 Section 8028.7 and Section 8028.71 to guide the committee selection and policy development processes.

If you are interested in serving or nominating a candidate please review the criteria below, complete the following application materials, and submit completed materials with 1) a short biography or resume demonstrating that the nominee meets the criteria below; 2) a letter of support from Tribe, Tribal resolution or a letter of interest with this form; and 3) a list of at least three references, with name, telephone number, and email address for each.

Committee Term: 3-year renewable staggering term

Tribal Nominees: Support letters or Tribal resolutions for Tribal nominees should be from Tribal governments, Tribal community organizations or Institutional leadership organizations, include the strengths of the candidate, as well as any information that might be relevant.

CSU Nominees: Support letters or resume for CSU nominees should include professional experience demonstrating the ability to work in collaboration with Native American Tribes successfully on issues related to repatriation or museum collection management.

Please note, the CSU and NAHC will keep completed application on file for committee positions that may become available in the future.

The CSU and NAHC will continue to receive and solicit Campus NAGPRA Oversight Committee nominations on an ongoing basis. Submit the following nomination materials to nagpra@calstate.edu.

QUALIFICATIONS

Tribal Nominees

A voting member of a California Indian tribe shall be an elder, spiritual leader, tribal leader, or tribal member, as designated by the governing body of the individual's tribe, with a minimum of five years' prior experience in any of the following:

- Repatriation of human remains and cultural items pursuant to federal NAGPRA;
- Cultural resources protection under Tribal, state, and federal law; or
- Consultation with state and federal entities and agencies.

Preference shall be given to members of a California Indian Tribe. If no members of a California Indian Tribe meeting the qualifications of 8028.71 subdivision (c) paragraph (1) are available, members of other Tribes may serve.

CSU Nominees

CSU Nominees must be affiliated with or employed by the California State University and have the following:

- A graduate degree in any of the following: Archaeology, Anthropology, Native American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Law, Sociology, Social Sciences, Environmental Studies, or History, with a focus in California
 - If there are no candidates satisfying this clause, candidates that have degrees and direct professional experience in fields relevant to repatriation or tribal cultural resources matters shall be deemed to meet the requirements of the clause; and
- A minimum of five years' experience working in his or her field of study.

Preference shall be given to members who have demonstrated, through their professional experience, the ability to work in collaboration with Native American tribes successfully on issues related to repatriation or museum collection management.

In the event that candidates from the California State University are not available or do not meet the above criteria, the California State University representative positions may be filled by retired emeriti of the California State University who meet the above criteria.

Note: At least two CSU nominees to the Systemwide one CSU nominee to the Campus Committee(s) must be affiliated with an American Indian or Native American Studies program

You are encouraged to submit a nomination/self-nomination if the nominee meets a majority of the requirements, even if you are unsure as to whether they meet a specific requirement.

COMMITTEE(S) SOUGHT

Please indicate the Committee(s) to which the nominee is seeking appointment. If nominating for a campus committee(s), list the campus(es) where the nominee is interested in serving, in order of preference. Check all that apply. If a nominee selects both the CSU Systemwide Committee and Campus Committee, their application will be considered for both Committees and they may be appointed to either, however at this time Committee members will only serve on one Committee at a time, unless the pool of candidates does not allow.

☐ CSU Systemwide Committee (*if only Systemwide please skip to Nominator Information below*)

☐ Campus Committee (*please fill out Section A below*)



A. If the Nominee would like to serve on a Campus Committee, please fill out the following additional information.

Campus Committee (*Preferred Campus*): _____

Alternative campus(es) Nominee will consider (*candidates are encouraged to complete this section, if possible*):

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Nominator Information (if applicable)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Nominee Information

Name: _____ Title: _____

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Position Sought: ☐ Tribal Nominee ☐ CSU Nominee

Please attach:

- (i) A short biography and, if desired, a resume or CV;
- (ii) A tribal resolution or letter of support from Tribe (if applicable), and
- (iii) A list of at least three references, with name, telephone number, and email addresses for each.

Submit completed nomination materials to nagpra@calstate.edu.

Incomplete materials will not be considered.

Joyce Stanfield Perry



Joyce Stanfield Perry is of Acjachemen, Luiseno and Kumeyaay descent. Joyce is a mother, a Tutu, a wife and an auntie. Joyce's work in her community spans over 30 years. She is an Acjachemen tribal scholar, founder and President of Payomkawichum Kaamalam, an American Indian non-profit organization founded in 2000, Founder of the Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy (2020), Cultural Resource Director for the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation- Belardes since 2000, and former Board Member of the Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum/Acjachemen Cultural Center.

As an American Indian consultant for archaeological projects, she has negotiated with landowners for repatriation and reburial of ancestors and their belongings. She has been instrumental in developing and educating Native and non-Native personnel in forming policies for cultural and historical preservation. Joyce was a member of the Laguna Canyon Foundation Interpretive Exhibit Design Team for the James and Rosemary Nix Nature Center, member of the Putideum Park Project, Portola Springs Community Center Acjachemen Room Project, and has been active in the Acjachemen Language Revitalization Movement.

Joyce Stanfield Perry

Joyce Stanfield Perry

4955 Paseo Segovia
Irvine, Ca 92603

(949) 293-8544
kaamalam@gmail.com

Intro

I serve my community as a tribal scholar, educator, and cultural resource advocate with over 30 years of experience in the perpetuation of Acjacheme culture and protection of our ancestors and homelands.

Experience

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation- Belardes

Cultural Resource Director

2000-Present

Management of Cultural resources, Cultural Properties, and Sacred lands for the Tribe. Repatriation work through NAGRPA and CalNAGPRA

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation- Belardes

Tribal Manager

1999-2020

Execution of tribal laws, policies and management of all tribal business.

The Westerners First People of Earth Mother, Payomkawichum

Kaamalam

Founder/ President

2000-Present

Cultural advocacy and cultural Resource management for the Acjachemen people through an American Indian non-profit organization. As American Indian consultants for archaeological projects, we have reviewed and written reports, negotiated with landowners for repatriation and reburial of our ancestors and their belongings, and helped to form policies for cultural and historical preservation. Our educational programs and outreach perpetuate the culture of Southern California Native People

Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy

Founder/ Executive Director

2020-2023

Founder and Executive Director of a 501c3 Non-Profit partnership between Acjachemen and Tongva descendants that is committed to acquiring, protecting, and preserving our shared ancestral homelands. Facilitated the first land return in Orange County to descendants of the Acjachemen and Tongva.

Joyce Stanfield Perry

References, CSU NAGPRA Committee Nomination

Dr. Lisa Woodward

Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians/ Archivist

lwoodward@pechanga-nsn.gov

Megan Lonski

California State University Fullerton/ CalNAGPRA Repatriation Coordinator

mlonski@fullerton.edu

Matias Belardes

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation- Belares/ Chairman

Matt.Belardes@ocpw.ocgov.com



Juaneño Band of Mission Indians

Acjachemen Nation

December 5th, 2023

California Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
via email:

RE: JBMIAN- Belardes Resolution of Support for the Nomination fo J. Stanfield Perry to the UC/CSU NAGPRA Committee

I am writing on behalf of the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation- Belardes (JBMIAN-Belardes), in support of the nomination of Joyce Stanfield Perry to the UC/CSU Systemwide NAGPRA Committee.

Joyce Stanfield Perry has been instrumental in uplifting Acjachemen culture and has been a tremendous asset to our community in regard to protection of our ancestors, cultural resources, and sacred sites. She has over 30 years of experience in cultural resource management and NAGPRA and CalNAGPRA repatriation work.

Additionally, she has founded the non-profit organization, The Westerners First People of Earth Mother Payomkawichum Kaamalam, which works to educate and perpetuate the culture of Southern California Native people, and works on behalf of JBMIAN-Belardes on repatriation issues and cultural resource management. She is also the founder of the Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy, a non-profit organization which is a partnership between Acjachemen and Tongva people dedicated to the protection of shared sacred sites within our homeland. Ms. Stanfield Perry would be an asset as a member of the UC/CSU System Wide Repatriation Committee.

Sincerely,

Matias Belardes, Chairman

Mark Mendez, Vice Chairman

Christina Gollette De Gonzalez, Councilwoman

Dustin Murphey, Councilman



GABRIELEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS - KIZH NATION

Historically known as The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
recognized by the State of California as the aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles basin

July 29, 2025

CSU Systemwide and Campus Repatriation
California Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Subject: Formal Objection to the Inclusion of Joyce Stanfield Perry in CSU's CalNAGPRA Process and Oversight Roles

Dear Honorable NAHC Commissioners,

As the duly elected Tribal Chairman of the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, I am writing to formally object to the involvement or recognition of Joyce Stanfield Perry in any CSU-led CalNAGPRA repatriation processes or advisory roles, including any campus committees or oversight bodies concerning Native American ancestral remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or tribal cultural resources.

This objection is based on the following serious and substantiated concerns:

1. Lack of California Indian Ancestry

Ms. Perry has no documented lineal descent from any California Indian tribe. Independent genealogical research confirms that she is not a California Native, yet she continues to publicly and institutionally misrepresent herself as such. Her claims are misleading, unsupported by any verifiable tribal or genealogical documentation, and directly undermine the integrity of the CalNAGPRA process.

2. Disrespect for Ancestral Burials and Tribal Territories

Ms. Perry has repeatedly demonstrated disregard for the cultural and spiritual sanctity of ancestral burials and sacred sites. She has shown blatant disrespect for sexual (lineal) territorial boundaries, contributing to conflict between tribes with documented ancestral ties to specific geographic areas. This includes the Gabrieleno territory of Long Beach and Irvine, which Ms. Perry falsely claims as her own without any acknowledgment or respect for the actual lineal descendants. Her intrusion into these areas, and her efforts to claim cultural authority where none exists, has caused cultural harm and confusion within repatriation and monitoring processes.

Andrew Salas, Chairman
Albert Perez, treasurer I

Nadine Salas, Vice-Chairman
Martha Gonzalez Lemos, treasurer II

Dr. Christina Swindall Martinez, secretary
Richard Gradias, Chairman of the council of Elders

PO Box 393 Covina, CA 91723

www.gabrielenoindians.org

admin@gabrielenoindians.org

3. Conflict of Interest and Misuse of NAGPRA/CalNAGPRA

Ms. Perry operates a cultural resource business under the name *The Westerners: The First People of Earth Mother (Payomkawichum Kaamalam)*—a California nonprofit which has profited from monitoring, consulting, and repatriation activities while employing non-Native individuals and profiting off the desecration and removal of Native ancestors. She has also incorporated the *Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy* to acquire land such as the Goodell Parcel on Bolsa Chica Mesa, and has used federally recognized tribes to facilitate repatriation claims for ancestors she is not lineally connected to—effectively enabling the cultural appropriation and theft of ancestors. In one case, she used this tactic to override a legitimate CalNAGPRA claim filed by our tribe.

She is now reportedly involved in planning a “mock village” in Irvine—again, an area historically and ancestrally tied to the Gabrieleno people, not to Ms. Perry or her claimed affiliations.

4. Past Legal Conflict with CSU

Ms. Perry has filed lawsuits against CSU institutions, including California State University, Long Beach, on multiple occasions. This demonstrates not only a history of conflict and self-interest but further calls into question her objectivity and appropriateness for any CSU-affiliated role, especially those involving sensitive cultural and spiritual responsibilities.

It is deeply inappropriate for California State University—or any of its campuses—to endorse, appoint, or rely upon an individual who:

- Has no lineal descent from California Indian tribes,
- Disrespects the sovereignty and heritage of legitimate descendant tribes,
- Exploits repatriation laws for personal and financial gain,
- Has created lasting harm and conflict among tribal communities.

We urge CSU to exercise due diligence and ensure that individuals entrusted with the care, oversight, or consultation of ancestral remains and sacred resources are thoroughly vetted, verifiably Native, and aligned with the values of truth, cultural respect, and tribal sovereignty.

As one NAHC Commissioner stated during a 2022 meeting:

“We don’t want anyone besides real Native American Indians handing out our ancestral remains and resources.” CSU has a responsibility to honor this principle.

Best regards,



Chairman Andrew Salas
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians–Kizh Nation

Andrew Salas, Chairman
Albert Perez, treasurer I

Nadine Salas, Vice-Chairman
Martha Gonzalez Lemos, treasurer II

Dr. Christina Swindall Martinez, secretary
Richard Gradias, Chairman of the council of Elders

PO Box 393 Covina, CA 91723

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admin@gabrielenoindians.org



Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation

July 30, 2025

To: Honorable Commissioners

California Native American Heritage Commission

Re: Formal Opposition to the Nomination of Joyce Stanfield Perry to the CalNAGPRA CSU Systemwide/Campus Repatriation and Oversight Committee

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I write to you in my official capacity as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Most Likely Descendant (MLD) for the **Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation (84A)**, and as an Acjachemen scholar and cultural practitioner. This correspondence serves as our formal and unequivocal opposition to the nomination of **Ms. Joyce Stanfield Perry** to the **CalNAGPRA CSU Systemwide/Campus Repatriation and Oversight Committee**.

It is both disheartening and deeply concerning that our Tribe is compelled, once again, to respond to a nomination involving Ms. Perry—particularly in light of the previously tabled nomination to the University of California Systemwide/Campus Repatriation and Oversight Committee, which was accompanied by extensive documentation challenging her eligibility and identity.

I. Lack of Verified Lineal Descent

The primary basis for our opposition is that **Ms. Perry is not a documented lineal descendant of any California Indian Tribe**, including the Acjachemen or the Luiseño, despite her ongoing public representations to the contrary. Our Tribe has compiled and submitted extensive genealogical evidence establishing that Ms. Perry does not descend from any known or recognized Acjachemen ancestor. Despite this, Ms. Perry continues to assert a false Indigenous identity, thereby misappropriating tribal heritage and misrepresenting her standing within the Native American community.

II. Documented Misconduct and Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Perry has a history of actions that are antithetical to the principles of cultural stewardship, objectivity, and tribal consultation that are essential for participation in a repatriation oversight role. Among the most egregious:

- She has been involved in the **desecration of sacred sites**;
- She has filed **multiple lawsuits against California State University Long Beach**—a pattern of adversarial conduct inconsistent with collaborative repatriation efforts;
- She is the founder of **The Westerners: The First People of Earth Mother (Payomkawichum Kaamalam)**, a nonprofit corporation that has reportedly **profited from site desecration, the unlawful removal of Native American ancestors, and the employment of non-Native monitors on sacred sites**;
- She was instrumental in filing incorporation documents for the “**Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy**”, through which she sought to take title to the Goodell Parcel (Upper Bolsa Chica Mesa), a culturally significant site—despite having no verified ancestral claim.

Furthermore, Ms. Perry has allegedly used a **federally recognized tribe as a proxy to file NAGPRA claims** and gain access to ancestral remains that our Tribe had formally claimed under CalNAGPRA. She is now working in partnership with the City of Irvine to develop a so-called “Mock Village,” while **knowingly lacking tribal affiliation and documented Indigenous descent**.

III. Misrepresentation of Scholarly Credentials

Ms. Perry refers to herself as an “Acjachemen Tribal scholar,” yet holds **no formal academic degree** and does not meet traditional or tribal standards for the transmission of Indigenous knowledge. Possession of traditional knowledge requires not only cultural immersion but also recognized standing within a tribal community. Ms. Perry has never been approved for membership in our Tribe and has failed to meet the evidentiary standards for proving lineal descent.

IV. Incompatibility with Committee Mandates

The CalNAGPRA CSU Systemwide Repatriation and Oversight Committee is charged with the sensitive and culturally critical task of overseeing the disposition of ancestral remains, funerary objects, sacred items, and objects of cultural patrimony. Individuals appointed to this body must be held to the highest standard of integrity, cultural accountability, and lineal legitimacy.

Nominees should be thoroughly vetted to ensure they are lineal descendants of a California Indian tribe and are affiliated with a legitimate tribal government comprised of similarly vetted individuals. Ms. Perry does not meet these basic, yet essential, qualifications.

V. Conclusion

To quote former NAHC Commissioner Dave Singleton, during a 2022 public meeting:

“We don’t want anyone besides real Native American Indians handing out our ancestral remains and resources.”

Though simply stated, this sentiment embodies a core principle of tribal sovereignty, dignity, and cultural self-determination. Allowing individuals without verified descent or tribal standing to participate in the repatriation of our ancestors and sacred objects not only dishonors those ancestors but also undermines the entire CalNAGPRA process.

For the reasons outlined above, we respectfully urge the Commission to reject the nomination of Joyce Stanfield Perry and to implement more rigorous standards for verifying Indigenous identity in future appointments to oversight positions.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Lucero

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Most Likely Descendant

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation (84A)

THPO@jbmian.com

From: [Wes Lobo](#)
To: NAHC@NAHC; Mario.Pallari@nhc.ca.gov; Carr.Michelle@NAHC; Pagaling.Reginald@NAHC
Subject: Opposed to Perry Nomination
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 3:47:16 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from weslobo@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Re: Opposition to the Nomination of Joyce Stanfield Perry to the CalNAGPRA CSU Repatriation and Oversight Committee

Dear Commissioners,

As an enrolled member and lineal descendant of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation, I am writing to formally and unequivocally oppose the nomination of **Joyce Stanfield Perry** to the CalNAGPRA CSU Systemwide Repatriation and Oversight Committee.

It is frustrating and deeply disheartening that our Tribe must once again confront this issue. The previous nomination of Ms. Perry to the UC Systemwide Repatriation Committee was rightly tabled following extensive testimony and documentation refuting her claims to Acjachemen identity. That documentation remains unchallenged—and unrefuted.

I. No Verified Lineal Descent

The heart of this objection is simple: Ms. Perry is not a lineal descendant of the Acjachemen or any other California Indian tribe. Our Tribe has thoroughly reviewed and submitted genealogical records disproving her claims. Despite this, Ms. Perry continues to represent herself as Acjachemen and Luiseño, a serious and offensive act of identity misappropriation. These false claims not only harm the integrity of Native identity—they risk allowing non-Native individuals to speak on behalf of our ancestors and determine the fate of our cultural patrimony.

See report here

II. History of Misconduct and Conflict

Ms. Perry's public record demonstrates behavior that is wholly incompatible with the responsibility and trust required of a repatriation oversight role:

- She has participated in and profited from the disturbance of sacred sites.
- She has pursued litigation against CSU Long Beach—actions in direct conflict with the mission of respectful repatriation.
- She founded The Westerners: The First People of Earth Mother, a nonprofit that has employed non-Native monitors and interfered in sacred site protection efforts.
- She attempted to take title to sacred Acjachemen land at the Upper Bolsa Chica Mesa through an illegitimate entity ("Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy") without tribal authority or ancestral claim.

Additionally, Ms. Perry has reportedly used a federally recognized tribe to circumvent CalNAGPRA by filing repatriation claims that rightfully belonged to our Tribe. She is also currently collaborating with the City of Irvine to build a so-called “Mock Village”—a project that trivializes our living culture and bypasses actual tribal input.

III. False Claims of Scholarly Status

Ms. Perry frequently presents herself as a “Tribal Scholar,” yet she holds no formal academic credentials and has never been entrusted with cultural knowledge by our Tribe. Scholarly status, particularly in Indigenous contexts, is not self-appointed. It requires recognition and accountability to a living tribal community. Ms. Perry has never met these standards.

IV. Mismatch with CalNAGPRA’s Purpose

The CSU Systemwide Repatriation and Oversight Committee must be composed of individuals with unimpeachable cultural and genealogical credibility. This is not a symbolic appointment. It directly impacts how our ancestors are treated and how our sacred items are protected. Individuals without legitimate tribal connection or standing should not be allowed to make decisions on behalf of our people.

V. Closing Statement

To allow Ms. Perry to serve in this capacity would not only dishonor the ancestors—it would betray the purpose of CalNAGPRA and the trust placed in this process by California tribes.

I urge you to reject her nomination and to implement stronger vetting practices moving forward. Our ancestors—and their descendants—deserve nothing less.

Respectfully,

Wesley L. Lobo

Enrolled Tribal Member, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation

34290 Tanisha Court, Wildomar, CA 92595

Mobile#: (951) 387-1867

WesLobo@Gmail.com



Virus-free www.avg.com

Tiana Rios

Enrolled Tribal Member

Acjachemen Nation – Juaneño Band of Mission Indians

tiana@stephenrioslaw.com

July 30, 2025

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the nomination of Joyce Stanfield Perry to the CalNAGPRA CSU Systemwide Repatriation and Oversight Committee.

As an enrolled tribal member of the Acjachemen Nation, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, I am deeply concerned about the potential appointment of an individual who does not represent our people, heritage, or traditions. Ms. Perry is not Acjachemen, and her appointment would misrepresent the tribal affiliations and voices of our community. The selection of committee members must be grounded in authentic tribal identity, lived experience, and trust within Native communities — especially when they will be tasked with overseeing the repatriation of ancestral remains and sacred objects.

Our ancestors' legacies, cultural belongings, and ceremonial items must be stewarded by individuals who are genuinely connected to their respective Tribal Nations. The integrity of CalNAGPRA's mission depends on it.

In addition to lacking Acjachemen affiliation, Ms. Perry's public record raises serious concerns about her fitness for this position. She has reportedly engaged in conduct that undermines the mission of respectful repatriation, including:

- Participating in and profiting from the disturbance of sacred sites
- Initiating litigation against CSU Long Beach
- Founding organizations that have interfered in cultural protection, often employing non-Native monitors
- Attempting to claim title to sacred Acjachemen land without tribal authority or heritage
- Filing repatriation claims through external tribal affiliations that bypass our Tribe's rightful participation
- Supporting projects that misrepresent and commercialize Acjachemen culture without legitimate tribal input

These actions reflect a pattern of behavior inconsistent with the integrity, collaboration, and cultural stewardship required of CalNAGPRA committee members.

I urge the nomination committee to reconsider this appointment and ensure that this position is filled by someone with a verifiable and recognized tribal affiliation, and who has the trust and respect of those they claim to represent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tiana Rios

Acjachemen Nation – Juaneño Band of Mission Indians

Ph: (949) 702-2214

To: The Honorable Commissioners California Native American Heritage Commission

Dear Commissioners,

I write to you in my official capacity as **Tribal Secretary** of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation (84A), and as a lineal descendant, elected leader, and cultural representative of our people. I submit this letter to express our formal and resolute **opposition** to the nomination of **Joyce Stanfield Perry** to the CalNAGPRA CSU Systemwide Repatriation and Oversight Committee.

This is not the first time our Tribe has had to speak out against Ms. Perry's self-appointment to Indigenous spaces of authority. It is a painful but necessary responsibility to challenge such appointments when they pose a direct threat to the integrity of tribal governance, cultural stewardship, and the sacred duty of repatriation.

I. No Verified Indigenous Lineage

Ms. Perry has no documented lineal descent from the Acjachemen people or any California Indian tribe. She is not a member of our Tribe, nor has she ever satisfied the evidentiary standards required for enrollment. Our genealogical investigation—conducted by our official Tribal Genealogist and submitted to multiple state and institutional bodies—confirms that she does **not** descend from any known Acjachemen ancestor. Her continued public claims of Indigenous identity are **false** and amount to identity misappropriation. (Attached genealogical findings)

II. Documented Exploitation and Conflict of Interest

Ms. Perry's history includes actions that violate the core principles of cultural responsibility, collaboration, and tribal self-determination. These include:

- Her involvement in sacred site desecration and the employment of non-Native monitors on culturally sensitive lands;
- The incorporation of the "Acjachemen Tongva Land Conservancy" to take possession of the Goodell Parcel (Upper Bolsa Chica Mesa) without legitimate claim or community consent;
- Multiple lawsuits filed against CSU Long Beach, contradicting the spirit of cooperation required for effective repatriation;
- Her founding of a nonprofit—**The Westerners: The First People of Earth Mother**—that has reportedly profited from site disturbance and ancestor displacement;

- Her misuse of a federally recognized tribe as a proxy to access ancestral remains and CalNAGPRA claims that rightfully belong to our Nation.

III. False Scholarly Representation

Ms. Perry frequently refers to herself as a “Tribal Scholar” and “Acjachemen Knowledge Holder.” She holds no academic degrees in this field, nor does she possess traditional knowledge conferred by tribal elders or ceremonial leaders. Indigenous knowledge is earned through generations of connection, cultural accountability, and recognition by one’s community. Ms. Perry has no such standing.

IV. Incompatibility with the Sacred Mandate of Repatriation

The CalNAGPRA CSU Repatriation Committee holds a sacred and sensitive role: the return of our ancestors and sacred items to their rightful homes. This role must be held by individuals with **verifiable tribal descent, legitimate affiliation**, and a demonstrated history of **respectful engagement** with tribal communities. Ms. Perry meets none of these qualifications.

V. Our Position

To allow Ms. Perry’s nomination to advance is to place our cultural future—and our ancestors—in the hands of someone with no legal, ancestral, or community authority. As Commissioner Dave Singleton rightly stated in 2022:

“We don’t want anyone besides real Native American Indians handing out our ancestral remains and resources.”

We stand by that principle. And we ask you to do the same.

VI. Request for Immediate Rejection

On behalf of our elected council, our tribal citizens, and our ancestors whose protection is paramount, I respectfully request that the Native American Heritage Commission **reject the nomination of Joyce Stanfield Perry** and take further steps to verify the tribal descent of all future nominees to this Committee.

We are prepared to provide any additional documentation required and are submitting the official genealogy report disproving Ms. Perry’s lineage alongside this letter. We also invite you to a conversation regarding this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter of deep importance to our people and to the future of CalNAGPRA’s integrity.

Respectfully,

Shannon Wingfield

Tribal Secretary

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation