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## Poarch Creek Indians take stand against the Alabama Political Reporter

**Poarch Creek Indian Reservation, Alabama** – May 10, 2019 - On May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 a local political blogsite called the *Alabama Political Reporter* posted completely erroneous stories written by Bill Britt and Josh Moon about the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Britt's article was entitled "Poarch Creeks subject of multiple federal probes, White House is watching" and Moon wrote, "The Feds are monitoring Alabama's lottery debate because something stinks".

Since making the decision to stop advertising on *The Alabama Political Reporter* in 2015, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and its gaming operations have been subject to a constant stream of sensationalized clickbait attacks. Prior to ending an advertising relationship with the *Alabama Political Reporter*, articles such as "Poarch Creek Indians Give Generously to Support Escambia County" (https://www.alreporter.com/2012/05/25/poarch-creek-indians-give-generously-to-support-escambiacounty/) or guest appearances by tribal officials for friendly on camera discussion sessions (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8XyluJbV6k) were routine. Prior to joining the *Alabama Political Reporter*, Moon provided articles such as "My Christmas wish: A Poarch Creek comeback" (https://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/opinion/columnists/josh-moon/2014/12/19/christmaswish-poarch-creek-comeback/20640647/) and "Josh Moon: Just give Alabama back to the Poarch Creeks" (https://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/news/local/blogs/moonblog/2016/08/25/joshmoon-just-give-alabama-back-poarch-creeks/89337098/).

Yesterday, Britt and his colleagues went beyond posting sensational, error-filled, clickbait to actively trying to sabotage the Tribe's business dealings with blatantly false reports attributed to unnamed sources. This is a step too far.

At no time did Britt contact the Tribe or PCI Gaming to confirm any of the allegations made in the two stories, nor were any of the "sources" in the story named. The reason is simply that the charges made in both stories are untrue. The Tribe is preparing a lawsuit against Britt, Moon and the *Alabama Political Reporter* and will no longer allow their baseless attacks on the Tribe's success to go unanswered.

Stephanie Bryan, Tribal Chair and CEO of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians stated, "We cannot stand by and have our Tribe and our businesses being attacked by politically motivated interests. No company in America would stand for this, and we must protect our people, our employees and our reputation for conducting our businesses with the highest degree of integrity."

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