

# 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of the Interior		2024	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee		162	
<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	11/28/2022	11/28/2024	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>		<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No	25 U.S.C. 3006(i)		
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b> Statutory (Congress Created)			
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
25 U.S.C. 3006	11/16/1990	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b> National Policy Issue Advisory Board			
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open</b>	<b>17b. Closed</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	<b>Other Activities</b>
0	0	0	0
<b>17d. Total</b>			
0			
<b>Meetings and Dates</b>			
No Meetings			

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Committee averages two in-person meetings and one or two telephonic meetings per fiscal year. All meetings are open to the public and are essential for the Review Committee to carry out its consultative, advisory, and review responsibilities. During a meeting, the Committee may make findings of fact related to the identity or cultural affiliation of cultural items, or the return of such items; facilitate the resolution of disputes relating to the return of cultural items, including convening the parties to the dispute; make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior regarding the

disposition of certain culturally unidentifiable human remains; consult with the Secretary of the Interior in the development of regulations; and report to the Congress annually on the progress made, and any barriers encountered, in the implementation of NAGPRA.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The membership reflects the interests most affected by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. As required by the Act (25 U.S.C. 3006(b)), the Review Committee is composed of seven members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior as follows: (a) three members are appointed from nominations submitted by Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, and traditional Native American religious leaders, with at least two of these members being traditional Indian religious leaders; (b) three members are appointed from nominations submitted by national museum organizations and scientific organizations; and (c) one member is appointed from a list of persons developed and consented to by all the members appointed pursuant to (a) and (b).

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

Meetings are generally held three or four times per fiscal year. Meetings are held in different locations across the country to allow for different audiences and varied participation. Presentations and public comment made at these meetings often reflect the relevant issues related to repatriation in a particular region. Regularly spaced meetings allow for the Review Committee to monitor and review the implementation of NAGPRA throughout the fiscal year.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Review Committee provides essential advice, recommendations, and oversight for the present and future implementation of NAGPRA (including the Act's reserved regulatory sections); provides a forum for public comment; consults with Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations and museums and Federal agencies on matters within the scope of the work of the Review Committee; reviews and makes findings related to the identity or cultural affiliation of cultural items, or the return of such items; and facilitates the resolution of disputes, which could not be facilitated in any other venue.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

All meetings of the Review Committee are open.

**21. Remarks**

The purpose of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee is to monitor and review the implementation of the inventory and identification processes and repatriation activities required under 25 U.S.C. 3003, 3004, and 3005. The responsibilities of the Review Committee are laid out at 25 U.S.C. 3006(c).

**Designated Federal Officer**

Melanie O'Brien Manager, National NAGPRA Program

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ayau, E Halealoha	11/22/2022	11/22/2026	Nominated by the American Anthropological Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Garcia-Lewis, Angela	11/22/2022	11/22/2026	Nominated by consensus of all members of the Review Committee	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McKeown, C. Timothy	06/04/2020	06/04/2024	Nominated by Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums; Association for the Anthropology of Policy; Council for Museum Anthropology; National Association for the Practice of Anthropology; Society for Applied Anthropology; & World Archaeological	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Minthorn, Armand	10/07/2022	10/07/2024	Nominated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Patrick, Toby	06/01/2023	06/01/2027	Nominated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tisdale, Shelby	06/04/2020	06/04/2024	Nominated by American Alliance of Museums	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
deBeaubien, Domonique	11/22/2022	11/22/2026	Nominated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 7**

### **Narrative Description**

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee serves as a major conduit to the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of the United States government for the implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and is the focal point for public participation in and

consultation regarding the implementation of the Act.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Outcome Comments**

NA

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Cost Savings Comments**

The Review Committee's dual role of representing various constituencies regarding implementation of the statute and facilitating the resolution of disputes between museums, Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations is likely to divert some parties from engaging in costly litigation. Travel to different locations allows museums, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations to save travel costs.

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

247

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

In FY 2023, the Review Committee made five recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior. The committee unanimously recommended the Secretary approve 4 disposition requests. The Committee also provided Congress with proposed updates to the statutory language of NAGPRA in their annual report.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

90%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Recommendations regarding the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains generally receive the Secretary of the Interior's concurrence.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

10%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

Recommendations regarding the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains generally receive the Secretary of the Interior's concurrence.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

The Designated Federal Officer provides regular feedback on the status of the Review Committee's recommendations through formal presentations at meetings and other notifications. The National NAGPRA Program provides an annual report on the implementation of NAGPRA through statistical information, as reported by museums, Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

Agency had not proposed legislation. In addition to support of the Review Committee, the agency also issues regulations, establishes priorities, allocates resources, and approves grants. The Review Committee does not review or award grants.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

N/A