



ASSOCIATION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS
Protecting Sovereignty • Preserving Culture • Educating Youth • Building Capacity
SINCE 1922

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Sarah Kastelic
E: skastelic@nicwa.org
P: (503) 222-4044, ext. 128
W: www.nicwa.org

Protect ICWA Campaign Stands with Indian Children and Families in *Brackeen v. Haaland* (formerly *Brackeen v. Bernhardt*) Cert. Petitions

(Portland, Ore., September 3, 2021)—Today, the United States, tribal defendants, and state and private plaintiffs filed petitions asking the United States Supreme Court to review the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals' decision in *Brackeen v. Haaland*, a case challenging the constitutionality of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). The Protect ICWA Campaign stands with the United States and tribal defendants who have defended ICWA and its critical protections for Indian children and families who are in state court child custody proceedings. ICWA represents the gold standard in child welfare practice and has helped tens of thousands of Indian children and families find fairness and healing in state child welfare systems for over 40 years.

###

Protect ICWA Campaign

The Protect ICWA Campaign (the Campaign) was established by four national Native organizations: the [National Indian Child Welfare Association](http://www.nicwa.org), the [National Congress of American Indians](http://www.ncai.org), the [Association on American Indian Affairs](http://www.aaia.org), and the [Native American Rights Fund](http://www.narf.org). Together, the Campaign works to serve and support Native children, youth, and families through upholding the Indian Child Welfare Act. The Campaign works to inform policy, legal, and communications strategies with the mission to uphold and protect ICWA.