



MIAMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION GUIDELINES

The list presented below represents both philosophical and policy rules that have evolved over the past ten plus years of NAGPRA consultation with a variety of museums, universities and government institutions. Given the diversity of the types of institutions we consult with, our rules have become a consistent, universal statement that is easily applied to every institution that we consult with. This statement is intended to support the Consultation Manual that outlines in greater detail how the Miami Tribe prefers to engage in consultation for the return of our ancestors.

- 1) Our ancestors deserve and expect the same level of respect and reverence as a relative recently departed.
- 2) Tribal sovereignty is as valid under NAGPRA as with any other government to government relationship or consultation.
- 3) NAGPRA Regulations are not a limiting document, they are only the minimum requirements.
- 4) All institutions that receive federal funding will be responsible for fulfilling their NAGPRA responsibilities.
- 5) Consultation will occur between institutions and tribes. Third party contractors are not invited to consult with tribes.
- 6) Consultation progresses at the pace and direction of the consulting Tribes.
- 7) When scheduling consultation, always provide a calendar invitation with the meeting link (if video) in the invitation.
- 8) In-person meeting is the preferred method of consultation as schedules allow.
- 9) One IN-person consultation is more productive than 2 video conferences.
- 10) Do not request consultation without an itemized inventory.
- 11) An itemized inventory is vital for affiliation determination and is required for consultation.

- 12) Tribes will determine affiliation. Institutional determinations of affiliation prior to the start of consultation will be rejected.
- 13) Field notes, reports and other available data are required to add context to affiliation determination.
- 14) Site visits are a necessary component for affiliation determination and consultation.
- 15) ALL excavated items from a mound are to be considered associated funerary objects.
- 16) ALL unassociated funerary objects are funerary by definition and will be re-buried.
- 17) When in doubt, an object is funerary in nature unless proven otherwise.
- 18) All funerary objects separated from the ancestors will be reunited as quickly as possible.
- 19) Shared collections between two or more institutions will be reunited in one location prior to taking possession for burial.
- 20) Reburial in order of priority is: In-Situ, within the closest proximity of exhumation or within the same state.
- 21) Unaffiliated ancestors will be repatriated by the Miami if other homelands tribes' decline.