



Second Annual State of Indian Nations Address to be Delivered by the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)

When: Wednesday, January 21, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Where: National Press Club (First Amendment Lounge)
529 14th Street, NW, Washington DC

What: Tex G. Hall, President of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) – the nation’s oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization – will deliver the second annual NCAI address taking stock of the state of American Indian and Alaska Native nations in the U.S. The address, advanced in tandem with President Bush’s State of the Union address, will relay to the President and the general public a comprehensive, contemporary picture of the challenges and opportunities before today’s American Indian and Alaska Native nations.

The address will focus on a theme of understanding tribal governance, and will be delivered following oral arguments at the Supreme Court in *U.S. v. Lara*, a case with critically important implications for both tribal self-government and public safety in Indian country. Building upon themes laid forth in last year’s inaugural State of the Indian Nations Address, these remarks will advance concrete examples of the critical impacts of tribal governance on key areas of education, health care, infrastructure, and law enforcement, and offer solutions for addressing the core quality of life issues tribes are facing in their communities today.

Founded in 1944, NCAI advocates for more than 250 tribal governments with the federal government and Congress, promoting strong tribal-federal “government-to-government” policies and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native people and their governments. For more information about NCAI, visit www.ncai.org.