



KIOWA TRIBE

P.O. Box 369 • Carnegie, Oklahoma • 73015
Phone: (580) 654-6338 • Fax: (580) 654-1788
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATURE

Legislative Order Number: KLO-CY-2026-009

IMPEACHING LAWRENCE SPOTTEDBIRD, CHAIRMAN OF THE KIOWA TRIBE

At a duly called Legislative Order Session III-(3) of the Legislature of the Kiowa Tribe held this 14th day of February, 2026, the following Order was approved.

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Tribe is a sovereign nation and has been so since time immemorial; and,

WHEREAS, the Tribe exercises full enjoyment of the inherent powers of government, including self-determination and autonomy over internal affairs encompassing Tribe citizens, lands, and resources; and,

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2017, qualified voters of the Tribe ratified the Kiowa Constitution as “the supreme law of the land”; and,

WHEREAS, the Legislature is vested with the authority to impeach and remove a Chairman for good cause pursuant to Article XII, Section 3 of the Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, the Legislature is required to provide an impeached officer with adequate notice of the charges against him or her in writing, an opportunity to address the Legislature in a public hearing, an opportunity to contest the charges, and the opportunity to prepare a defense including the presentation of witnesses or other evidence; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XV of the Constitution, all elected and appointed officials of the Tribe are required to take the following oath of office prior to assuming the duties of their office: “I, [Official], do solemnly affirm that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Kiowa Tribe against all enemies and will carry out faithfully and impartially the duties of my office to the best of my ability and will promote and protect the best interests of the Kiowa Tribe in accordance with the Constitution”; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VII, Section 4(a) of the Constitution, all Executive power of the Tribe is vested in the Chairman, who “shall execute, administer, and enforce the laws” of the Kiowa Tribe; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VII, Section 4(d) of the Constitution, the Chairman of the Tribe has ultimate responsibility to safeguard and administer the Tribe’s financial assets in accordance with Tribe law; and,

WHEREAS, in October 2025, the Legislature conducted a legislative inquiry into the actions of various executive officers, including Lawrence SpottedBird. A report of findings for that inquiry shall be issued on February 14, 2026, which details various improper actions and inactions on the part of Chairman SpottedBird; and,

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Legislature finds there is good cause for the impeachment and possible removal of Lawrence SpottedBird from the Office of Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe for the charges herein set forth; and,

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Legislature finds that, as a matter of due process, it shall adopt a set of Impeachment Rules for the Impeachment Hearing scheduled pursuant to this Order.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kiowa Tribe Legislature hereby impeaches Lawrence SpottedBird, Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe, for good cause, and that the following charges of impeachment be presented for consideration in a public hearing pursuant to Article XII, Section 3 of the Kiowa Constitution:

CHARGE 1: Failure to Safeguard Financial Assets, Corruption, Gross Incompetence, and Violation of Kiowa Law. First, Chairman Spottedbird oversaw the creation and operation of Indian City Screen Printing, which operated over its internal budget and generated less than \$11,000 in revenue while expending more than \$440,000 of Tribe monies. Second, Chairman SpottedBird failed to conduct any due diligence before commencing the enterprise and failed to develop a business plan for its operation. Third, Chairman SpottedBird engaged in nepotism by hiring at least one unqualified family member to manage the undertaking, paying them an exorbitant salary and allowing them personal use of Tribe utilities. Fourth, Chairman SpottedBird failed to account for remaining inventory of the enterprise after its closure. Fifth, Chairman SpottedBird expended Tribal funds that were not appropriated in a Tribal Budget in violation of Kiowa Law.

CHARGE 2: Failure to Safeguard Financial Assets, Malfeasance, Gross Incompetence, and Violation of Kiowa Law. In June 2023, Chairman SpottedBird promised, and ultimately provided, a \$50,000 payment of Tribal Funds to a Kiowa Citizen as a purported “business investment.” There was no written contract for the repayment of the funds or any form of profit sharing for the purported business, which had not commenced operations as of October 2025. Nor was the expenditure of the Tribal Funds appropriated in a Tribal Budget, a violation of Kiowa Law. Finally, Chairman SpottedBird could not account for how the Tribal Funds were ultimately used, speculating that the recipient used the funds for personal purposes rather than legitimate business applications.

CHARGE 3: Failure to Safeguard Financial Assets, Corruption, and Violation of Kiowa Law. Over a period of several years, Chairman SpottedBird directed the

Tribe's casino operations to expend Tribal Funds in the forms of donations and sponsorships, in violation of Kiowa Law. These donations and sponsorships were not appropriated in a Tribal Budget, a violation of Kiowa Law. Additionally, these expenditures were made in violation of the Kiowa Tribe Sponsorship Act of 2023 and the Kiowa Tribe Sponsorship Act of 2024.

- CHARGE 4: Failure to Safeguard Financial Assets, Embezzlement, and Violations of Kiowa Law. Chairman SpottedBird used Tribal Funds to pay for personal expenses. First, Chairman SpottedBird allowed his spouse to purchase personal items from Costco using the Tribe's credit card. Second, in the summer of 2024, Chairman SpottedBird used Tribal Funds to purchase personal airfare for his spouse's trip to South Korea. While the airline expenditure was allegedly reimbursed to the Tribe, both of these disbursements of Tribe funds were still expended for personal use and without authorization in law.
- CHARGE 5: Contempt and Violations of Kiowa Law. In violation of Kiowa law, Chairman SpottedBird failed to respond to a Legislative Subpoena requesting the production of credit card statements for Tribal credit cards issued and used in the name of Chairman SpottedBird.
- CHARGE 6: Failure to Safeguard Financial Assets, Malfeasance, Gross Misconduct, Failure to Protect the Tribe's Best Interests. On November 2, 2023, the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Compliance Division issued a Letter of Concern (LOC) to the Kiowa Tribe regarding the overpayment of stipends in total cumulative excess of \$300,000 to Trustees of the Kiowa Casino Operations Authority (KCOA) Board from 2017 to 2020. On February 1, 2024, Chairman SpottedBird responded with a corrective action plan that included repayment of the unlawful stipends from the Trustees of the KCOA Board. However, on June 27, 2024, Chairman SpottedBird reversed course, writing to the NIGC that the Tribe would no longer seek recovery of the unlawful stipend payments. On March 11, 2025, the NIGC responded, criticizing Chairman SpottedBird's reversal of course and stating that he had failed to provide an accounting or justification of the unlawful payments. The NIGC directed Chairman SpottedBird to either justify the overpayments or resume recovery of the overpayments. On April 10, 2025, acting through the Tribe's Attorney General, Chairman SpottedBird stated the Tribe would return to its original corrective action plan and restart efforts to recover overpayments from the former KCOA Trustees. However, Chairman SpottedBird never approached the former KCOA Trustees about recovery of the overpayments after the April 2025 letter. In fact, during the October 2025 legislative inquiry, Chairman SpottedBird stated that he believed the unlawful overpayments were justified and that he would not be seeking reimbursement of the unlawful overpayments. Because the Tribe's gaming enterprises are core to funding

Tribe operations, this matter before the NIGC must be conducted professionally and appropriately as well as without misrepresentations by Chairman SpottedBird. In October 2025, Chairman SpottedBird confirmed that the Tribe could incur a civil penalty as a consequence of the NIGC investigation, and his constant “flip-flopping” has seriously injured the interests of the Kiowa Tribe and its citizens.

CHARGE 7: Failure to Safeguard Financial Assets, Fraud, Malfeasance, Violation of Kiowa Law, and Failure to Protect the Tribe’s Best Interests. Without authorization by law, Chairman SpottedBird attempted to purchase a building located at 804 West Petree Road in Anadarko for use as a clinic and pharmacy. This facility had originally been planned to be opened in Carnegie. The Executive Branch provided no detailed budget for the prospective business, nor did it provide any other required elements mandated by Tribe law through the Economic Due Diligence Act of 2018. In fact, the Chairman had already unlawfully deposited \$14,500 of Tribal Funds in “earnest money” to Caddo County Abstract Co, Inc. Additionally, the payment in question bore the signature of former Vice-Chairman Jacob Tsofigh, who had been discharged from office by Chairman SpottedBird approximately ten months prior. When asked how many transactions had included Tsofigh’s facsimile signature since his departure from office, Chairman SpottedBird replied, “a lot.” An unsigned memorandum delivered by the Executive Branch to the Legislature indicated that “over 13,000 Checks” had been printed with Tsofigh’s signature between the affirmation of his removal by the Kiowa Court in November 2024 and July 2025. Tribal law authorizes signatory authority for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman only in their formal capacity as occupants of elected office. In December 2024 and January 2025, the Legislature amended three banking resolutions to remove Tsofigh as a signatory and reassign the power to endorse checks (in varying capacities and in conjunction with Chairman SpottedBird) to Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer William Weaver, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Summer Palmer, and General Ledger Accountant Violet Kay Langley. Despite the legal requirement to remove the former Vice-Chairman from the Tribe’s bank accounts, Chairman SpottedBird failed to do so.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kiowa Tribe Legislature hereby sets the foregoing Charges of Impeachment for formal trial before the Kiowa Tribe Legislature on March 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. If additional days are needed, proceedings shall continue on March 3, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. and March 4, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Notice of location shall be transmitted to Chairman SpottedBird by February 20, 2026. If additional days are required beyond March 4, they shall be set by the Speaker with reasonable notice given to Chairman SpottedBird. Such notice need not be in writing if set while on the record in the impeachment hearing. Chairman SpottedBird shall provide the Legislature with a list of witnesses he intends to call in his defense no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kiowa Tribe Legislature hereby orders publication on February 14, 2026, of a report of findings for the October 2025 Legislative Inquiry Hearings.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Kiowa Tribe Legislature hereby adopts the following Rules and Procedures to govern the impeachment hearing on the foregoing charges:

Rule 1. Presiding Officer. The Speaker or his designee shall preside over the impeachment hearing.

Rule 2. Quorum. A quorum of Legislators, four (4), shall be necessary to open the impeachment hearing

Rule 3. Impeachment Hearing Open to the Public.

- (a) The Impeachment Hearing shall be conducted in person at a location to be determined by the Legislature and communicated to *Chairman SpottedBird* or his counsel no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2026. Notice of the location shall be published to the Kiowa Legislature website and social media accounts.
- (b) Subject to the confidentiality provisions of this section, the impeachment hearing shall be open to the public, and recorded both on video and in audio formats.
- (c) The impeachment hearing shall be broadcast on a reasonably available digital platform, and the precise link to access the broadcast shall be part of the Notice of the Impeachment Hearing on the Legislature’s website.
- (d) Confidentiality. Unless necessary to protect confidential information, or in a matter concerning employment, the Presiding Officer shall ensure that the impeachment hearing is open to the public and guests of the Legislature. The determination of confidentiality shall be the sole and unappealable determination of the Presiding Officer who shall bear no liability for the determination of confidentiality or non-confidentiality, provided that the Legislature will maintain confidentiality of documents marked as “CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION” pursuant to provisions of the Law-Making and the Production of Documents and Testimony Act of 2017, as amended.
- (e) The Legislature shall publish, within five (5) days after the close of the impeachment hearing, all non-confidential exhibits admitted during the impeachment hearing on the Legislature’s website.

Rule 4. Presentation. The Speaker shall designate a Legislator who shall be responsible for the presentation of argument, witnesses, and evidence on behalf of the Legislature. The designee may employ the assistance of counsel in presentation of the case.

Rule 5. Representation of Counsel. The impeached officer shall have the right to employ the assistance of counsel in their defense. Such counsel shall not be an employee of the Tribe, nor may the counsel be retained or paid with Tribal funds.

Rule 6. Trial Procedure.

- (a) The legislative designee and the impeached officer shall each be given an opportunity to make a ten (10) minute opening statement before the presentation of evidence.
- (b) The legislative designee shall present evidence, through testimony and exhibits, in favor of conviction of the impeached officer.
- (c) After the legislative designee closes their presentation of evidence, the impeached officer shall be given an opportunity to present evidence, through testimony and exhibits, in their defense.
- (d) After the close of presentations of evidence by the legislative designee and the impeached officer, the Presiding Officer may allow either party the opportunity to present rebuttal evidence in their sole discretion.
- (e) After the presentation of rebuttal evidence, the legislative designee and the impeached officer shall each be given an opportunity to make a ten (10) minute closing statement before the Legislature's consideration of conviction. The impeached officer shall deliver their respective closing statement first and before the legislative designee.

Rule 7. Testimony.

- (a) All testimony shall be given under oath, and under the penalty of perjury which shall be enforceable by the Kiowa Tribe Prosecutor. The Clerk of the Legislature shall administer an oath to each witness which shall require the witness to declare, "I swear under penalty of perjury that all testimony I provide today shall be the truth, the whole truth and I shall not mislead or intentionally omit any material fact in response to any question I am asked."
- (b) Legislators may not be compelled to testify as a witness in the impeachment hearing.
- (c) Testimony from each witness shall be by default limited to 60 minutes, but the Presiding Officer may enlarge or limit that time as he sees fit and may do so at any time including after the testimony has begun
- (d) A witness may testify to a matter only if evidence is introduced to support a finding that the witness has personal knowledge of the matter. Evidence to prove personal knowledge may consist of the witness's own testimony.
- (e) The Presiding Officer shall exercise control over the manner and order of interrogating witnesses and presenting evidence so as to:
 - (1) Make the interrogation and presentation effective for the ascertainment of the truth;
 - (2) Avoid needless consumption of time; and

- (3) Protect witnesses from harassment or undue embarrassment.
- (f) Cross-examination shall be limited to the subject matter of the direct examination and matters affecting the credibility of the witness.
- (g) Leading questions should not be used on the direct examination of a witness except as may be necessary to develop the witness's testimony. Leading questions should ordinarily be permitted on cross-examination. When a party calls a hostile witness, an adverse party, or a witness identified with an adverse party, leading questions may be used on direct examination.
- (h) Generally, only the legislative designees or the impeached officer may ask questions of any witness sworn to testify. However, the Presiding Officer may, in their discretion, allow any Legislator to ask a question of a witness sworn to testify. To ask a question, a Legislator must be recognized by the Presiding Officer and be permitted by the Presiding Officer to ask a question before doing so.
- (i) The Presiding Officer may decide testimony to be irrelevant, incompetent, repetitious, or discourteous to the Legislature, other persons testifying, or any attendee, and may strike such testimony.
- (j) If a witness refuses to answer a question, the Presiding Office may designate the question not answered and seek judicial assistance to require by Court Order that the question be answered.
- (k) Persons under the age of eighteen (18) shall only testify in the presence of and with written permission from a parent or legal guardian.

Rule 8. Evidence. The Presiding Officer shall consider and rule any objection to the admission of evidence. While the presentation of evidence need not follow traditional rules of evidence, the Presiding Officer may still consider the rules of evidence of the Trial Court of the Kiowa Tribe in ruling on objections.

Rule 9. Interference with Impeachment Hearing. If any person present at an impeachment hearing obstructs the hearing or interferes with the procedure, the Presiding Officer may Order that person be removed by law enforcement or security officers, and that person shall not be permitted to return to the hearing until the Presiding Officer so Orders.

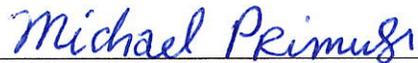
Rule 9. Continuing of Impeachment Hearing. If a hearing is not concluded in a single day, it shall be continued on such a day and time and at a location as designated by the Presiding Officer consistent with regulatory guidelines adopted by Legislative Order, as applicable. Any subpoenas for witness testimony that was scheduled for a hearing that has been continued shall be automatically revised to require attendance at the hearing when and where it is continued.

Rule 10. Deliberation and Conviction. Following closing statements, the Presiding Officer shall open consideration of conviction to debate amongst the Legislature. Each Legislator wishing to debate on the matter shall be given ten (10) minutes to make a statement. Following debate, the Presiding Officer shall call for a roll call vote of the Legislature on whether to convict the impeached officer of the impeachment charges against them.

Rule 11. Penalty. Should an impeached officer be convicted by a unanimous vote of the Legislature, the impeached officer shall immediately be removed from office and their seat declared vacant pursuant to the provisions of the Kiowa Constitution. Additionally, the impeached officer shall not be eligible to serve as an elected or appointed Official of the Tribe for a period of 4 years after the date of conviction of the impeachment.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution KL-CY-2026-009 was duly voted upon by the Legislature on February 14, 2026, at a Legislative Order Session III-(3), with a vote of (6) in favor and (0) opposed, (0) abstaining, and (1) absent, according to the authority vested in the Legislature by the Constitution of the Kiowa Tribe.


 Michael Primus
 Speaker of the Legislature

LEGISLATIVE ORDER: KLO-CY-2026-009

| LEGISLATORS | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| Kyle Ataddley District 1 | X | | | |
| Michael Primus District 2 | X | | | |
| Timothy Satepauhoodle District 3 | | | | X |
| Cole DeLaune District 4 | X | | | |
| Tiya Rosario District 5 | X | | | |
| Ben Wolf District 6 | X | | | |
| Warren Queton District 7 | X | | | |