

Candidate Statement

Ayukii, my name is Crispen King McAllister. I am running for the Orleans District Representative position for Karuk Tribal Council. I've been a resident of the Orleans community for nearly two decades now since returning home after retirement from the military. I'm a married father of five and currently reside at Ipunvarum Village.

Having lived here and raised all of my kids here, I've had the opportunity to gain an understanding of the needs of the members and the community. I'm a former Tribal Council member 2010-2014, Retired/Disabled Veteran, tribal political activist, cultural practitioner, traditional fisherman, local business owner/employer, an active participant in Tribal ceremonies as well as Karuk culture and language revitalization efforts.

As a business owner I've experienced the benefits and struggles firsthand of working with all of the local contracting agencies. In order to create opportunities for local employment, as a Council representative I would work to establish a local jobs first goal. To see that TERO upholds their responsibilities and policies to make local job opportunities a priority for local workers. To ensure the Karuk Tribal Council and Administration chooses Local Workers for Local Jobs, through all departments, no longer outsourcing to non-local or foreign agencies when there are qualified and able workers in Karuk Country. Also, making sure to leave enough money on the table to actually perform the work defined in the contracts and employment opportunities. Encouraging all Tribal Leaders to actively engage and even incentivize where possible, the Local Workers for Local Jobs goal through all collaborative business partners and agencies in Karuk Country.

Also, I plan to see Language and Culture Revitalization efforts be prioritized by the Karuk Tribal administration; as well as to find funding to promote stable homes for Karuk Parents with young children and our Elders who are living in impoverished conditions. Promoting a family friendly work environment within the Karuk Administration and departments of the Karuk Tribe for employees and community members with young children will also be a priority.

Another goal is to provide real transparency from the Tribal Administration to the Tribal membership. Actively working to improve communications and information sharing from the Tribal Administration to the Tribal Membership and vice versa.

Culture identity, language, economic vitality, strong leadership, community focused care for elders and empowerment of stable family units, all lead to healthier communities.

These goals are what I will work on as the Orleans Council Representative.

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