

Ayukii,

My name is Alma M. Mendoza, and I'm running for Karuk Tribal Council seat as Orleans Member at Large.

One of our strongest tools has always been our voice, and I plan to use mine to advocate for the betterment of our people all along the river. I've been grateful to call each of our communities home at different times in my life, and those experiences have helped me understand how connected we are and how important it is that every community feels seen, heard, and supported. Now that I have the opportunity to live in Orleans full-time, I'm ready to continue my passion for dedicating my time and energy to youth, families, and the community.

My greatest strength has always been advocacy in every role I've held, whether in our schools or within the Tribe. I'm deeply committed to the success of our children, the health of our homelands, and the preservation of our language and culture, and I believe these things are inseparable. As a person who attends ceremonies each year, I see first hand the positive impacts involvement has. When our children are supported, when our lands and rivers are protected, and when our language and traditions are carried forward, our people are stronger not only today, but for generations to come.

For more than 15 years, I've worked alongside Indigenous communities through counseling, mental health advocacy, youth services, and Tribal education leadership. No matter the title, the heart of my work has always been the same: showing up, listening, and doing what I can to make sure our young people feel supported, safe, and proud of who they are.

This is almost a full-circle moment, as I am especially proud to be part of the group of youth who started Karuk Youth Leadership 22 years ago, an experience that shaped me and taught me early what it means to speak up, show up, and serve. Later, while serving as Director of the Education Department, I helped co-write a \$1.2 million grant to strengthen our Education Department and provide additional support to our communities. I also worked hard to help make the Bookmobile happen because I wanted resources to actually reach our families, especially in the rural areas where access isn't always easy. Through it all I've come to understand what families are up against, and I've also seen, again and again, how much strength our people carry every day.

I won't make promises I can't keep. What I can promise is transparency, honesty, advocacy, and dedication to our people, our lands, our education, our mental health, and our language & culture. I care deeply about our people and the future we're building for our children. I would be honored to earn your support and your vote for Orleans Member at Large.

Alma M. Mendoza
Karuk Tribal Council Candidate, Orleans District

ORLEANS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Crispen King McAllister

WHO I AM

Ayukii(Hello) Karuk Tribal Membership and Community. I'm running for the Orleans Tribal Council position as a local member of the community, small business owner, land owner, and cultural practitioner. I am an active participant and supporter of ceremonies and cultural activities, a school teacher, parent and spouse, disabled/retired veteran, land steward, traditional fisherman and dugout canoe maker. As a tribal leader, advocating for **LOCAL JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE** is very important to me. Also advocating for **community focused elders care** and strengthening tribal families with young children. Additionally advocating for childcare for all Karuk communities and for Karuk language revitalization. The Tribes' Sovereignty as a Governing body of the people is the definition of an independent nation, the right to self govern, should be treated respectfully by the leadership. I do not support any abuse or misuse of Sovereignty against the Karuk people. Council representatives and staff of the Karuk Tribe are meant to serve the membership and any actions taken by the Tribal Council and Staff to contradict this role should be considered unconstitutional. If elected my plan would be to use this position to help the Tribal Membership in whatever capacity is available. **Representing All Karuk People** fairly and being a strong voice for the membership and community at any level of politics. Most importantly being a **strong voice when a leader should speak up**, not just when it's safe, convenient or self serving.

EXPERIENCE

OWNER/OPERATOR C KARUK C – 2017-PRESENT
KARUK RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – 2024-PRESENT
YREKA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE 2010-2014
EVENT ORGANIZER ANNUAL SALMON RUN – 2012-PRESENT
COLLEGE STUDENT – 2007-2010 AND 2014-2016
NAVAL HOSPITAL CORPSMAN – 2002-2006

EDUCATION

NAVAL HOSPITAL CORPSMAN SCHOOL, GREAT LAKES ILLINOIS 2002
FIELD MEDICAL SERVICE SCHOOL, CAMP PENDLETON CA 2003
LABOR AND DELIVERY OJT AT 29 PALMS NAVAL HOSPITAL CA 2003-04
EMT AND PARAMEDIC FIRST RESPONDER 29 PALMS CA 2003-04
FLEET MARINE FORCE CORPSMAN ON DEPLOYMENT IN IRAQ 2004-05
ADMINISTRATION AND RECORDS NAVAL HOSPITAL BALBOA 2005-06

GOALS

1. Bring sustainable employment opportunities back to Karuk Country. **LOCAL JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE**. Through the WKRP and other programs, local, sustainable employment opportunities are achievable so long as the jobs are offered to the locals first. As collaborative partners, the Tribe and MKWC could be providing year round opportunities for local workers.
2. **Strengthen the policies of the Karuk Tribal Administration to favor the membership.** Currently there are several policies that provide safeguards for negligence against the membership. This needs to be fixed immediately so that grievances brought forth by a Tribal Member or family of a Tribal Member are appropriately addressed and services and/or assistance that is needed will be offered without hindrance due to some personal grudge that a staff member has with the Tribal Member.
3. **To be transparent with the membership.** Asset and Resource accountability for the membership should be accessible and disclosed to any eligible Tribal Member. Additionally, Closed Session meetings have an important role in conducting business. What it should not be used for is to make secret plans or hide wrongdoings so the leadership can't be held accountable. If a member requests an open session meeting with the Council, then the Council needs to be prepared for that open session meeting, not choose to hide in closed session out of fear of being called out in public for something they did wrong. Being called out, is a part of the leadership role, especially for elected officials or appointed staff.
4. **Establish a fully funded and functioning Karuk Language department** to promote the revitalization of the Karuk language. The language is a part of self identity as a Karuk person. Like any part of the culture, whether it is ceremonies or cultural activities/projects, the leadership of the Tribe needs to actively promote these activities and find funding to ensure their success.
5. **Strengthen elders care and families with young children.** As a tribal leader the Vitality of our Elders and the Stability of our Youth are the pathways to empowering the people. There is a long list of unmet needs for the people whether they live in Karuk country or not. It is crucial that the Leadership take a proactive position versus reactive in order to address these needs.

Yootva(thank you), for this opportunity to serve the Tribal Membership as the Orleans Representative. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions. I'm rarely on social media but will respond to emails regularly.

Candidacy Statement – Talonna Marshall for Orleans Member at Large

My name is Talonna Marshall (Roll #3036), and I am announcing my candidacy for Orleans Member at Large. I am running because I am passionate about advocating for our people and strengthening our communities across the service area and beyond. I recently completed my Bachelor's degree in Social Work, and I am excited to bring that knowledge home in a way that supports our tribal members, our families, and our future generations.

I have lived in Orleans for the past six years and have spent most of my life within the service area. I know firsthand the challenges and strengths of our homelands. Orleans needs more support and resources — especially in childcare, adult care, better options for sobriety support, and community spaces where our people can feel safe, seen, and cared for. As a Native woman, a community member, and a parent, I care deeply about accountability, transparency, and making sure our council decisions reflect the real voices, needs, and experiences of our people.

If elected, I will show up with open ears, open mind, and open heart — ready to listen, to learn, and to take action. I believe in policies and procedures that serve our community, not complicate it. I want to advocate for fair access to services, including for members living outside the service area, and to work on strengthening our existing programs so they truly meet the needs of the people they're meant to help.

Orleans deserves progress that reflects our values — resources for our youth, dignity and quality care for our elders, support for those working on their sobriety, and opportunities that allow our people to stay in their homelands without sacrificing their stability or wellbeing. These are the areas I want to focus on, alongside the priorities our community brings forward.

I am eager to collaborate, to support new ideas, and to help build solutions that are culturally rooted, community-driven, and sustainable. I don't claim to have all the answers, but I promise to be present, to ask questions, and to stay accountable to those I serve.

Thank you for considering me. I would be honored to earn your support and to represent our community with respect, honesty, and dedication.

— Talonna Marshall