STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Tisha Gonzalez

I bring more than 25 years of experience in finance, accounting, fiscal administration, Tribal government, and organizational leadership, along with four years of hands-on experience serving as Chairwoman of the Manchester Band of Pomo Indians. My professional background has given me a strong financial and administrative foundation, while my experience as Chairwoman has strengthened my understanding of Tribal governance, sovereignty, federal funding, community needs, and the responsibility of leading our Tribe.

Relevant Experience:

- More than 25 years of experience in accounting, finance, fiscal administration, and organizational operations.
- Extensive knowledge of budgeting, financial reporting, audits, internal controls, cash management, payroll, accounts payable and receivable, general ledger accounting, and financial systems.
- Four years of direct Tribal executive leadership overseeing government operations, finances, grants, contracts, compliance, housing, infrastructure, community programs, and governmental relationships.
- Hands-on experience managing federal, state, and other grant awards from application and budgeting through compliance, reporting, and closeout.
- Experience administering federal funding requirements
- Experience identifying financial and operational weaknesses, strengthening internal controls, rebuilding systems, improving accountability, and bringing financial reporting and audits current.
- Experience managing multi-million-dollar budgets, grants, Tribal resources, and enterprise operations.
- Experience overseeing and developing policies, programs, and assistance intended to serve the entire Tribal membership.
- Experience advocating for Tribal interests with federal and state agencies, Tribal organizations, healthcare providers, housing authorities, funding agencies, legal counsel, financial institutions, and other partners.
- Experience overseeing infrastructure, housing, community development, and other major Tribal projects.
- Board-level governance experience in Tribal healthcare and housing.
- Executive leadership experience overseeing the financial and operational stabilization of the Tribe's gaming enterprise.
- Strong understanding of the relationship between sound financial management, responsible governance, Tribal sovereignty, and long-term self-sufficiency.
- Proven ability to step into difficult situations, identify problems, make difficult decisions, establish accountability, and move organizations forward.

My qualifications for Chairwoman are not based on one position or the last four years alone. I came into this role with years of financial and administrative experience, and serving as Chairwoman has allowed me to apply that experience directly to the needs of our Tribe. It has also taught me that strong leadership requires more than knowledge and experience. It requires accountability, accessibility, sound judgment, consistency, and the willingness to make difficult decisions when necessary.

I believe my experience has prepared me to understand both the financial responsibilities of our Tribal government and the responsibility we have to our people. If given the opportunity to continue serving as Chairwoman, I will continue using that experience to protect our resources, strengthen our government, expand opportunities for our members, and build a stronger and more self-sufficient future for our Tribe.