

February 3, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with pleasure that I give my highest endorsement of Arnold Thomas for the profession of Chaplain. I have been associated with Arnold Thomas for many years through his participation in the Traditional Circle of Indian Elders and Youth, composed of the most respected traditional Elders from nations throughout the United States and Canada. The American Indian Institute, of which I am President, is the support group for the Traditional Circle.

Arnold Thomas has distinguished himself in this spiritual group for his high moral standards and for his ability to communicate those standards to the group in convincing and effective ways. He is gifted in his relational ability with people.

His own life has been a triumph of spirit over adversity, and that quality resonates deeply with all those with whom he associates. When combined with a presence that is compelling and an ability to communicate convincingly, the combination gives him unique qualification for the position of Chaplain. Arnold is held in the highest regard and respect by his colleagues in the Traditional Circle. I am sure that same respect and regard would be felt by any group with whom he would be associated.

I am convinced that the integrity and spiritual qualities demonstrated by Arnold Thomas in his association with the Traditional Circle of Indian Elders and Youth are tangible evidence of his very special qualification to be a Chaplain. In my opinion, any group having his services would indeed be fortunate.

Again, I am pleased to offer my endorsement and convey my personal respect and appreciation for Arnold Thomas.

Sincerely,

Robert Staffanson
President
American Indian Institute