## Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians



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**BUSINESS COMMITTEE** 

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March 6, 2013

Mr. Salud Carbajal, Chairman Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors 105 E. Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Annexation Issues

Dear Supervisor Carbajal:

The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians ("Tribe") congratulates you on your recent appointment as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. We write you to try to attempt to re-start a government-to-government dialogue on the complex issues both of our governments face with the federal annexation process to add lands to our Reservation, also called the "fee-to-trust" process.

We ask that you re-consider the County's defacto policy of ignoring any request by the Tribe to discuss the fee-to-trust process. From the date it was first delivered on June 1, 2011 to date, there has been a complete refusal on the part of the County to commence any type of negotiations as to the Tribe's draft fee-to-trust Cooperation Agreement.

The Tribe has reached out to the County time and time again in an effort to engage on a government-to-government basis and resolve the objections of the County to our proposed fee-to-trust project for tribal housing. I remain hopeful that the County under your leadership will begin government-to-government discussions to work through the concerns it has with the fee-to-trust process.

Sincerely,

Vincent P. Armenta Tribal Chairman THE THE WAY OF THE PARTY OF THE