



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## National Park Service

[N6869; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0041859; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Intended Repatriation: Ball State University, Muncie, IN

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Ball State University intends to repatriate certain cultural items that meet the definition of sacred objects and that have a cultural affiliation with the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in this notice.

**DATES:** Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

**ADDRESSES:** Send additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to Chyan Gilaspy, Ball State University, Applied Anthropology Laboratories, 2000 W Riverside Avenue, Muncie, IN 47306, email [NAGPRA@bsu.edu](mailto:NAGPRA@bsu.edu).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA. The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the Ball State University and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the summary or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

#### Abstract of information available

A total of four cultural items have been requested for repatriation. The four sacred objects are listed as baskets. One basket was purchased from William Shrawder of Dublin, Indiana in 1938 and was listed with "Unknown" affiliation and provenance. One "Southwest Pima" basket and one "Unknown" basket with lid from "Arizona" was gifted to the institution by a private donor in 1989 and 1990, respectively. In 2018, an "Unknown Southwest" basket was bequeathed to the institution by a private donor. The institution has no records of treating the cultural items

with potentially hazardous materials, however, requested XRF testing results were positive for the presence of arsenic, lead, and/or mercury.

### **Determinations**

The Ball State University has determined that:

- The four sacred objects described in this notice are specific ceremonial objects needed by a traditional Native American religious leader for present-day adherents to practice traditional Native American religion, according to the Native American traditional knowledge of a lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization.
- There is a connection between the cultural items described in this notice and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community of the Salt River Reservation, Arizona.

### **Requests for Repatriation**

Additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under ADDRESSES. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**]. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the Ball State University must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the cultural items are considered a single request and not competing requests. The Ball State University is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice and to any other consulting parties.

**AUTHORITY:** Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3004 and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10.9.

Dated: January 9, 2026.

**Melanie O'Brien,**  
*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

