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Family of Late Chief John Two Guns White Calf Proposes Redskins White House Summit

WASHINGTON — The family of Chief John Two Guns White Calf, the Blackfeet chief whose likeness became one of the most iconic images in American sports, is speaking up for itself — and proposing a White House summit on the restoration of the Washington Redskins name and logo, with the family's direct participation and blessing.

"There have been too many narratives, too many discussions, too many people speaking up for our family," said Morningstar, the family's press and media relations lead. "Now we are speaking up for ourselves, fighting for the recognition we deserve. This November we are coming to DC for a Redskins Summit, in partnership with Nationz2Nations and the Two Guns White Calf Estate. We've reached out to tribes all over the country to stand with us. We are advocating for a meeting with the President to see if he will help push the naming rights for the new RFK Stadium now under development."

The family has formally requested a meeting with the White House to discuss the proposal, including naming rights for the new stadium at the RFK site: the John Two Guns White Calf Memorial Stadium. No NFL stadium has ever been named for a Native American.

"I am the attorney for the family of Chief John 'Two Guns' White Calf, representing their concerns and seeking to bring the Washington Commanders and NFL leadership to the table to discuss restoring the Redskins name and logo. The family was never consulted about the name and logo's removal and considers that decision an erasure of their ancestor's history and legacy. My goal is to ensure their voices are heard and pursue a meaningful dialogue that honors Chief White Calf and gives his family a direct role in decisions affecting his legacy," said Denise Rosado, attorney for the family.

The family's proposal includes: renaming the new RFK stadium for Chief Two Guns White Calf; the return of the name and a redesigned logo that more accurately reflects the Blackfeet chief, supported by Washington fans; and a coinage reissue of the Indian Head coin bearing a closer likeness of the actual chief.

"We would like to see a positive dialogue with the Washington Commanders management to explore bringing back the Two Guns White Calf image to the NFL," said Merlin Harwood, manager of the John Two Guns White Calf Family Estate LLC. "We want to bring our family's heritage and lineage descendancy questions to a close and engage in meaningful dialogue to bring back the image of our great-grandfather's likeness — with the blessing of his direct family descendants."

Brock Conway, a legal researcher for the estate and the Chief's great-great-grandson, said the family never had a voice in the decisions made about the name: "The family never got a say in the whole name issue and were never asked by anyone as to what we thought or felt about the Redskins name." He added: "Can we

restore honorable and respectful nation-to-nation relations? Our proposal advances renaming the stadium the John Two Guns White Calf Memorial Stadium."

"We want people to stop using his image without the permission of his family. I would like to see a meaningful tribute to our grandfather, Chief Two Guns, in the naming rights for the new stadium. A Native leader having a stadium named after him would be a once-in-a-lifetime event — Indian Country united as one on this issue," said Kenneth Conway, the estate's lead.

The family will be in Washington, D.C. on November 20 for a cultural showcase honoring the Chief — singers, speakers on Blackfeet history, an educational exhibit on his life, and a press conference — presented by the Montana nonprofit Nationz2Nations in collaboration with the estate. More than one hundred tribal nations have been contacted to stand with the family.

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About Chief Two Guns White Calf: Chief of the Blackfeet Nation (d. 1934). His likeness was the basis for the Washington football team's logo from 1971 to 2020.

About the estate: The John Two Guns White Calf Family Estate LLC (Montana filing number 17291887), a Montana limited liability company, stewards the Chief's legacy, image, and likeness rights on behalf of his direct descendants.