



Florida Trail Association, Inc.
Building, Maintaining, Promoting, and Protecting
The Florida Trail

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Toll Free (877) HIKE-FLA

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fta@floridatrail.org
www.floridatrail.org

Dear Long Distance Hiker:

Enclosed please find the General Release and Covenant Not To Sue Form that the Seminole Indian Tribe requires hikers to sign before crossing the Reservation.

Since we've gotten a lot of questions from prospective hikers regarding the procedure for gaining permission to cross the Big Cypress Seminole Reservation (and complaints to us from the Reservation), please follow these steps.

- 1) Complete and sign the Release in front of two witnesses. The witnesses are required to sign also. Be sure to get the signatures notarized if you are a legal resident of the State of Florida.
- 2) Make a copy of the release for yourself. The Reservation will NOT notify you in any way unless you are denied passage.
- 3) Mail the original release to this address:
SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
Attn: Real Estate Services, Room #104
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL 33024-2198
- 4) Figure out approximately what date (within a few days time span) you will be on the Reservation and notify the FTA office at least two weeks in advance. If your hike starts at Loop Rd or Oasis Ranger Station, plan on 3-4 days to get to the Reservation. You can call us toll-free at 877-HIKE-FLA, email us at fta@floridatrail.org or fax us at 352-378-4550.
- 5) Carry the copy of your release with you while on the Reservation.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Diane Strong
Diane Strong
Administrative Assistant

GENERAL RELEASE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

I, _____, the undersigned, hereinafter Releasor, being a member of the Florida Trail Association, which has been issued a permit by the Seminole Tribe of Florida for the purpose of the Association's members hiking on and over the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, will attend and participate in a hike, hereinafter Event, to be conducted through the Tribe's Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, hereinafter Premises, and in consideration of being permitted to attend and/or participate in said Event do hereby voluntarily assume the risks and consequences of attending and participating in the Event in said Premises. The Releasor hereby knowingly, freely, and voluntarily releases, waives, acquits, and discharges the United States of America, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., and any of their Tribal Council members, Tribal members, officers, directors, employees, agents, shareholders, and volunteers together with their heirs, personal representatives, successors, assigns, all referred to as Releasees, from liability to me, my representatives, assigns, heirs, and next-of-kin for all loss or damage, and any claims therefor brought by, or on behalf of, me on account of injury to my person or property, or resulting in my death.

Releasor agrees to indemnify the Releasees and each of them from any loss, liability damage or cost Releasees may incur due to presence of Releasor in or on the Premises and during participation in the Event whether caused by the negligence of Releasees or otherwise, or by persons who may be on the Premises lawfully or otherwise.

Releasor assumes full responsibility for and risk of bodily injury, death, or property damage due to negligence of Releasees, or otherwise, while Releasor is in or on the Premises and while participating in said Event.

Releasor agrees on behalf of himself/herself and his/her successors and assigns not to institute any action or suit at law or at equity against the Releasees, nor to assist in the institution or prosecution of any claim, demand, action or cause of action for damages, costs, loss of services, expenses, or compensation by any other person or entity, and to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees from any and all claims brought by, or on behalf of himself/herself.

Releasor agrees that this Release, Waiver, and Indemnity Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the United States and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. If any portion of this Agreement is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, not withstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Releasor, being of lawful age, in consideration of being permitted to attend and participate in the Event on the Premises does for himself/herself, his/her heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns hereby release and forever discharge said Releasees, their heirs, administrators, and executors of and from any and every claim, demand, action or right of action, of whatsoever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, arising from or by any reason of any bodily injury or personal injuries, known or unknown, death and/or property damages resulting or to result from any accident which may occur as a result of attendance and participation in said Event conducted on the Premises by the Florida Trail Association whether or not by negligence.

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Releasor further states that he/she has carefully read the above Release, that Releasor knows the contents of the Release and understands it and agrees to be bound by its terms and signs this Release as his/her own free act.

This Release contains the entire agreement between the parties to this Agreement, and the terms of this Release are contractual and not a mere recital.

This Agreement is executed on _____, 20____, by _____, referred to as Releasor, County of _____, State of Florida. Phone No. (____) _____.

SIGNATURE OF RELEASOR:

WITNESSES:

Signature _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____