

[Tribal Letterhead]

Sample Claim Letter for Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains
and Associated Funerary Objects

[DATE]

Vice Chancellor Gary Matthews
University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093

Dear Vice Chancellor Matthews,

I am contacting you on behalf of the [tribe]. The [tribe] would like to formally claim Native American [human remains and/or funerary objects] under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act's (NAGPRA) culturally unidentifiable regulations (43 C.F. R. 10.11).

The [tribe] is respectfully requesting disposition of the following human remains and associated funerary objects described in UC San Diego NAGPRA Inventory:

[Accession ____ / Site ____
Accession ____ / Site ____
Repeat as necessary]

The [site] is located on the aboriginal lands of the [tribe]. Aboriginal occupation can be based on [select one or more of the following as relevant: final judgment of the Indian Claims Commission or the United States Court of Claims, or by a treaty, Act of Congress, or Executive Order. Note: Please contact UC San Diego NAGPRA Project if you need assistance establishing the governmental authority that establishes relevant aboriginal lands.]

We look forward to working with your staff on advancing the request for disposition. We recognize that transfer of human remains and associated funerary objects cannot occur until at least thirty (30) days after publication of the Notice of Inventory Completion in the Federal Register.

Sincerely,

Tribal Chair [or designated NAGPRA Representative]

Cc: Eva Trujillo, NAGPRA Repatriation Coordinator