

CURYUNG TRIBAL COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former CTC Finance Director Federally Indicted for Financial Crimes

Dillingham, Alaska—On August 20, 2024, former Curyung Tribal Council Finance Director William Corbett was federally indicted and charged with eleven felony charges. These charges stem from a series of incidents that occurred over a several-month period while Mr. Corbett worked for the Tribe, and was secretly converting Tribal funds for personal use. Last week's indictment is the first step towards Mr. Corbett being brought to justice.

Mr. Corbett's actions are not victimless—they harm each and every Tribal member and ultimately the entire community that was deprived of the services and investments the Tribe could have made with these funds. They also jeopardize the Tribe's ability to obtain and spend government funds upon which the Tribe relies to provide vital services to its members. The repercussions of these incidents will likely be felt for years to come.

First Chief Gayla Hoseth noted, "The Curyung Tribal Council placed Mr. Corbett in a position of the utmost trust and he betrayed that trust. Mr. Corbett came before the Council monthly to report on the Tribe's Finances, when he was actually orchestrating a fraudulent scheme to steal money from the Tribe."

As a result of Mr. Corbett's actions, the Tribe has had to put longstanding projects on hold, pause the rollout of new programs, and spend resources on lawyers and investigations rather than services for Tribal members. First Chief Hoseth stated, "even if Mr. Corbett could repay all the funds he stole, the reputational harm our Tribe will suffer cannot be understated. The harm from his crimes will follow us long after these charges are resolved and long after the amounts are restored." The Tribe hopes that these federal charges will be resolved quickly so that the funds can be repaid and the Tribe can finally begin to heal from these tragic events.