

AFFIDAVIT

Date: 7-29-2015

County: TULSA

State: OKLAHOMA

PERSONALLY came and appeared before me, the undersigned Notary, the within named ROBERT B KNIGHT, who is a resident of the County TULSA, State of OKLAHOMA, and makes his/her statement and General Affidavit upon oath and affirmation of belief and personal knowledge that the following matters, facts or things set forth are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge:

I am the President of the Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association. The Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association authorized me to forward the attached letter of support in favor of the proposed federal marketing order for pecans to The Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture. Attached is a true and correct copy of the said letter.

DATED this day: 29, of JULY, 2015.

Robert B Knight
Signature of Affiant

SWORN to subscribe before me this day: 29, of July, 2015.

*State of Oklahoma
County of Creek
Expire 5-4-19*



Diane Fenslage
NOTARY PUBLIC



OKLAHOMA PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

June 15, 2015

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 200-A
Washington, D.C. 20250

Robert B. Knight
18400 S. 129 W. Ave
Sapulpa, Ok. 74066

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

The Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association wishes to lend our support to the federal pecan market order now under consideration. Oklahoma is the leading producer of wild or 'native' pecans. These nuts are grown on some 140,000 acres in the state. Native pecans have been commercially harvested and shipped 'back east' by the various Indian tribes since the 1860's from Indian Territory and its successor; the State of Oklahoma.

In recognition of this ancient relationship between the Native Americans and pecans the USDA pecan breeding program names their pecan varieties released to the public after Indian tribes: Choctaw, Pawnee, Caddo, Kanza, and so on. Two of these releases, Kanza and Pawnee, have been propagated on more than 10,000 acres in Oklahoma in the last ten years.

Planting and caring for pecan trees is a long term commitment. It is also an important part of the culture and history of people of Oklahoma in general and the Native American tribes in particular. Several of the tribes attribute their survival in Indian Territory after their removal from the east to the native pecans they found here upon their arrival. The Chickasaws in particular, the tribe most familiar with pecans from their homes along the Mississippi, reportedly forbade the cutting of these trees that had been so important to their survival in their new home. Other tribes have similar stories.



OKLAHOMA PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

We certainly appreciate your help and believe that this pecan market order will be of benefit to all of the people of Oklahoma.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Knight".

Robert B. Knight, President

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association

Cc: The Honorable Edward M. Avalos
Office of the Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 228-W
Washington, D.C. 20250

Cc: The Honorable Anne L. Alonzo
Administrator
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
South Agriculture Building
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3069
Washington, D.C. 20250