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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 28, 2018

Hopi LCR Trial

Last Week of Past and Present Trial

The last witness in the past and present trial, Dr. Peter Whiteley, testified on Monday, November 26, 2018. All other witnesses were concluded on November 9, 2018, but the Court held the Hopi case open to take Dr. Whiteley's testimony. He was unable to testify earlier in the case due to medical reasons.

Dr. Whiteley is an Anthropologist and the curator at the American Natural History Museum in New York. His doctoral dissertation was on the tribe, and he has visited and published many articles on the Hopi Tribe. He served as an expert witness in the 1934 boundary act case, the Hopi priority proceeding case, and now this trial. Dr. Whiteley has a long working history with the Hopi Tribe.

Dr. Whiteley authored two reports that came into evidence in this case. The first was on Hopi religion, custom and traditions, philosophy and water. His report covered the religious beliefs of the Hopi Tribe, along with its ceremonies and relationships to water.

Dr. Whiteley's second report was an ethno-history of the tribe from the 1846 to the present. Again, the history was directed toward the creation of the reservation and water use.

With the conclusion of Dr. Whiteley's testimony, the "past and present" evidentiary trial is concluded unless the Court orders the taking of additional testimony. Closing arguments are scheduled for December 17, 2018 and December 18, 2019. The federal government and Hopi argue on December 17th,

and the objectors argue on December 18th. Hopi members are encouraged to attend the closing argument which will take place in the East Court Building, Courtroom 613, 101 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona 85012.