

Governing Documents

501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana (hereinafter 501c3 NTL) is governed by *Articles of Incorporation* and *Bylaws*.

Also posted is the First Version of the *Lac Noir Constitution*.

A brief history of the Lac Noir Constitution:

Prior to becoming a volunteer committee under the 501c3 NTL, the people enrolled in the Tribal Register were joined in a project for State and Federal Recognition.

The Lac Noir Constitution represented the first step in the project. Throughout the document, the reader will notice continual reference to the “Secretary of Interior” as the primary authority, i.e., “Article IV: Section 1. Subject to any and all enactments of laws of the United States of America and *upon approval of this Constitution by the Secretary of the Interior...*”

Since that date, any other version of this constitution has always referred to this Governmental authority until recent changes were made in an unauthorized constitution. This Governmental authority statement has indicated that the constitution was a “work-in-progress” towards Federal Recognition. At no point in the past has the constitution taken the place of legal requirements of State or Federal laws regarding corporation structure.

It is the intention of 501c3 NTL to continue this committee as a working model for Federal Recognition application.

It is the future intention to explore the option of a more formalized subsidiary relationship with this committee. This would involve creating a 501(c)(6) nonprofit corporation which would be able to receive grants through 501c3 NTL.