

**PHYLISS J. ANDERSON, TRIBAL CHIEF**  
**MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS**

Phyliss J. Anderson, a native of the Red Water community, serves her people as Tribal Chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. Chief Anderson was officially sworn in as the first woman chief in Choctaw history during an inauguration ceremony on October 4, 2011.

Chief Anderson, fluent in the Choctaw language, has more than 30 years of experience in tribal government. In 2003, she was elected to serve as a tribal council representative for the Red Water community. While on Council, she served in the position of Secretary-Treasurer for the Tribe. Over the years, she has shown a strong commitment to financial responsibility, operating an accountable and transparent government, and building the quality of life on the reservation.

Chief Anderson has been featured in numerous national publications as a rising leader in the Southeast and in Indian Country. She has been honored and recognized with various awards and accolades including the Mississippi Commission on the Status on Women "Woman of the Year" award in the Political/State and Local Government category, Mississippi Business Journal's Top 50 Leading Business Women, the Mississippi Trailblazer "Sam Haskell Spirit of America" and "Inspire" award, The Meridian Star's Citizen of the Year, and honorary membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, education sorority. On December 2, 2011, less than two months after her inauguration, Chief Anderson had the distinct honor to introduce U.S. President Barack Obama at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tribal Nations Conference in Washington, D.C.

Chief Anderson draws on a wide variety of experience. She is a graduate of East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi. She has served on a number of governing boards and committees for multi-million dollar enterprises including those in the tribal manufacturing, tribal government contracting, and the gaming and hospitality industry.

Chief Anderson currently serves as the Chairman of the Choctaw Resort Development Enterprise board. Her experience also includes board and committee representation for Tribal Tax Commissioner, Choctaw Resort Development Enterprise, Chahta Enterprise, Choctaw Development Enterprise, First American Printing and Direct Mail Enterprise, Choctaw Shopping Center Enterprise, Leake County Development Association, Leake County Foundation, Mississippi United Methodist Conference, United Methodist Church – Choctaw Mission, John Memorial United Methodist Church - Finance Chair, Choctaw Business Loans Review Committee. Tribal Government Services 401k Fiduciary Committee and Tribal Council Committees - Children and Youth, Education, Recreation, Culture, Government Affairs, Lobbying, Public Relations and Politics, and Human Resources.

Chief Anderson is married to Ricky Anderson, Sr. and is the mother of three, stepmother of four and grandmother of eleven.