

RedStone Arsenal

Ribbon Cutting

In January 2016, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians donated \$1,000,000 to help relocate Gate 9 at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville. The security access gate needed to be moved three quarters of a mile to alleviate traffic jams and improve unsafe driving conditions caused by the more than twenty thousand people using the gate daily.

Redstone Arsenal sits close to both PCI Aviation, a tribally-owned 8A company that provides services to the defense industry, and Townplace Suites at Redstone, a Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) investment property.

On August 16th, an official ribbon cutting was held for the relocated Gate 9 at Redstone. In attendance was Governor Kay Ivey, many high-level state and local government and defense representatives, and a delegation from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Attending on behalf of the Tribe were Tribal Council Members Robert McGhee, Eddie L. Tullis, Dewitt Carter and Keith Martin. Also in attendance were James T. Martin, President/CEO, CIEDA; Mal McGhee, President, PCI Aviation; Westley L. Woodruff, President/CEO, Muskogee Technology and Billy Hunt, President, PCI Support Services.

"We are proud to have been part of a project that will benefit the State, especially the people in Madison County that moved and widened Gate 9 for travelers to have better access to the Army base. It was great to be at this event and to see the finished project, which will serve so many people," stated Robert McGhee, Vice Chair, Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

"We are pleased to have expanded the Tribe's interest in Huntsville and the surrounding area and look forward to future opportunities," said CIEDA President/CEO James T. Martin.

"The exposure that the Tribe has gained from these types of partnerships has aided in the marketing of PCI Aviation. Everyone in the Huntsville area is quickly learning about the Poarch Creek Indians and their mission," stated Mal McGhee.

"This was a first-rate event and the result of many partnerships coming together. It is exciting to see the broadening of the Tribe's endeavors around the State," said Billy Hunt.

Governor Ivey was among the speakers at the invitation only ribbon cutting. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians was recognized and thanked for their commitment to the effort to move Gate 9, and a monument is soon to be erected signifying the support Redstone Arsenal received from the Tribe. This event was just one stop on Governor Ivey's Listen, Learn, Help and Lead Tour, where she is working to learn the needs of the community and its businesses by visiting citizens in their respective environments.

After the ribbon cutting ceremonies, Muskogee Technology President/CEO Westley L. Woodruff, CPP was among those who toured the facilities at Science and Engineering Services (SES).

"Muskogee Technology is enthusiastically pursuing opportunities to advance relationships with industry leading defense manufacturing companies, and it is always beneficial to see the operations of a dynamic defense contractor like SES," stated Woodruff.



Pictured Pictured (L-R)
Joe Rich, Dewitt Carter,
Governor Kay Ivey, Eddie L. Tullis,
Robert McGhee and Mal McGhee