



GAO

Accountability * Integrity * Reliability

United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

GAO's Review of the Smithsonian Institution's Repatriation Efforts

Source of the Work: GAO is conducting this work in response to a request from the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Committee on Natural Resources. This is a follow-on review to GAO's first repatriation issued on July 29, 2010 entitled *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act: After Almost 20 Years, Key Federal Agencies Still Have Not Fully Complied with the Act* (GAO-10-768).

Preliminary Researchable Questions:

1. To what extent has the Smithsonian Institution complied with repatriation requirements in the National Museum of the American Indian Act (NMAI Act) of 1989, as amended?
2. How has the Smithsonian Institution addressed the NMAI Act's requirement that it establish a special committee to monitor and review its repatriation efforts?
3. How many human remains and objects have been repatriated by the Smithsonian Institution?

Agencies Involved in the Review:

- Smithsonian Institution (the National Museum of the American Indian and the National Museum of Natural History)

Contact Information for Team Members with GAO's National Resources and Environment Team:

Jeff Malcolm, Assistant Director, 202.512.6536, malcolmj@gao.gov
Mark Keenan, Senior Analyst, 202.512.8691, keenanm@gao.gov
Emily Hanawalt, Senior Analyst, 202.512.7567, hanawalte@gao.gov