CHIEF SHIRELL PARFAIT-DARDAR

CHIEF – GRAND CAILLOU/DULAC BAND OF BILOXI-CHITIMACHA-CHOCTAW
COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

- **Challenges**
  - Climate Impacts Exacerbated, Especially in Louisiana
  - Lack of Communication with Local Authorities
  - Lack of Government Assistance
  - Discrimination Due to Lack of Federal Recognition Despite Treatises
  - Complexities with State Recognition of Tribes
    - Recent Remarks by Senator Tarver
  - Governmental Barriers to Available Assistance
COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Needs / Solutions

• Improved Process for State and Federal Recognition
• Understanding that Tribes are also U.S. Citizens
• Government Accountability (Local, State, and Federal) – Understanding that the despite Tribal status, the Government’s Responsibility is to its Citizens
• Stronger Focus on Community
  • Grand Caillou/Dulac Tribe Assisted 56 Families with the Help of Non-Profit, Faith-Based Organizations, and Academia
• Improved Access and Awareness of Mitigation, Preparedness, and Recovery Funding Opportunities
• Improved Funding Flow (Direct-to-Community Partners and/or Non-Profit versus Federal-to-State-to-Local)