



**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

**(Requesting Further Assistance from the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Office of Law Enforcement for the Apprehension of the Serial Rapist)**

- WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS**, a monstrous, serial rapist has been ruthlessly attacking defenseless members of the Tribe, apparently for the past eighteen months, leaving thirteen or more victims with devastation and shattered lives; and
- WHEREAS**, each of the communities on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation now live in fear and with a heightened sense of insecurity; and
- WHEREAS**, a number of victims are minor children, male and female; and
- WHEREAS**, there are over 4,000 children attending schools on the lands of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS**, rape in Indian Country is a crime under the Major Crimes Act (18 U.S.C.) § 1153), for which the United States has jurisdiction and responsibility for enforcement; and
- WHEREAS**, at any given time, the White Mountain Apache Police Department can only dedicate ten officers to routine patrol due to limited staffing and funds; and
- WHEREAS**, two White Mountain Apache Police Department officers have been assigned to coordinate and work with BIA-OLES, but these officers are not provided full information on the investigation; and
- WHEREAS**, given the threat posed by the perpetrator, the Tribal Council finds that the amount of officers patrolling the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and the number of investigators are insufficient; and
- WHEREAS**, despite its investigative efforts, the BIA has not fully or formally briefed the Tribal Council, as the governing body of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as to the status of the investigation; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council recognizes need for tight control on information in order to protect the integrity and effectiveness of the investigation, yet without communication or coordination and in the absence of full information as to the status of the investigation, the Tribal Council cannot fully respond to constituents or to the press, nor can it assist with the planning or utilization of the Tribe's resources; and
- WHEREAS**, BIA-OLES has issued at least two press releases and has had more than four press conferences without any coordination with the Tribe as to the content of the releases or statements from the Chairman, Vice-Chairwoman or other members of the Tribal Council; and

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WHEREAS, the Tribal Council understands that the WMAPD does not have access to the names and backgrounds of BIA officers working on this case, when it should in order to better coordinate law enforcement services; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further understands that members of the community are concerned by the presence of undercover BIA officers who are out of uniform, and has heard that some BIA officers are disrespectful of Apache culture and civil rights.

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that the BIA should coordinate with the Tribe's Director of Public Safety, the Chief of WMAPD, Gwendena Real Bird (Executive Assistant to the Chairman) and Collette Altaha (Public Relations Director for the Vice-Chairwoman) in the development of a protocol for the press, that must include circulating a draft press release for review and comment from the Tribe prior to its circulation to the press; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further finds that the BIA-OLES should provide regular and consistent briefings to the Tribe's DPS, WMAPD management, Law and Order Committee, and Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further finds that the U.S. Congress should know of and understand the threat posed to the Tribe, and provide appropriate technical and financial assistance to this matter; and

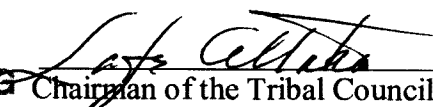
WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further finds that the BIA -OLES investigation must proceed swiftly and efficiently, in order that the perpetrator be brought to justice and incarceration.

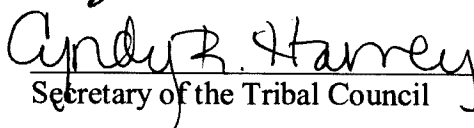
BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that:

1. The BIA Office of Law Enforcement Services is hereby requested to provide regular and consistent briefings on the status of the investigation described herein to the Tribe's DPS, WMAPD management, Law and Order Committee, and Tribal Council.
2. For the purposes of this investigation and all other similar investigations that may occur in the future, the BIA-OLES is further requested to coordinate with the Tribe's Director of Public Safety, the Chief of WMAPD, Gwendena Real Bird (Executive Assistant to the Chairman) and Collette Altaha (Public Relations Director for the Vice-Chairwoman) in the development of a protocol for the press, that must include circulating a draft press release for review and comment from the Tribe prior to its circulation to the press.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairwoman, is hereby authorized to communicate the requests made herein to appropriate BIA-OLES personnel and the Arizona delegation to the U.S. Congress, and to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on October 11, 2006, duly adopted by a vote of TEN for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (c), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

ACTING 
Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council