



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

**( Requesting that BIA Transfer and Replace Superintendent Nona Tuchawena )**

- WHEREAS,** in January of 2010, the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council (“Council”) passed *Resolution No. 01-2010-22*, demanding the transfer or removal of Superintendent Nona Tuchawena off of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Reservation”); and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to that Resolution, the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) placed the Bureau of Indian Affairs (“BIA”) on notice that it has suffered greatly from the effects of global economic collapse, as well as financially and spiritually in the aftermath of the catastrophic Rodeo-Chediski Wildfire; and
- WHEREAS,** the BIA’s inaction and failure to communicate with the Tribal Leadership on this matter has been cited by the Tribal Council as a failure by BIA, acting in its capacity as trust agent for the Tribe, to act in good faith and take every measure necessary to further the best interests of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council once again convened for the purpose of discussing poor decisions previously rendered by the BIA, including the decision to relocate a portion of the BIA’s fire and rescue facilities to Show Low, AZ; and
- WHEREAS,** despite this concern, the response to the recent “Locust Fire” that occurred on May 6<sup>th</sup>, was tremendous by all parties involved and took extraordinary effort and teamwork in order to contain the wildfire and prevent it from spreading across the Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** although the Tribal Council does not place blame on any responders or Tribal or Bureau management for the events that led the fire to grow from 50 acres to 300 acres, the BIA’s decision to move part of their fire response facilities off-site is troubling for the Tribal Council and the White Mountain Apache Tribe would appreciate the BIA’s immediate attention to this matter; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council once again renews its demand that Superintendent Nona Tuchawena be replaced with a suitably qualified and experienced candidate; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council finds that the BIA should act swiftly to place a new Superintendent at the Fort Apache Agency with the necessary qualifications to handle a Tribe with a plethora of complex issues, including but not limited to expertise with Natural Resources, the greatest source of this Tribe’s wealth, the ability to provide technical assistance on financial policies, general administrative matters, a clear path to rise above the designated “high risk” status, and a plan that will facilitate the Tribe’s aspiration to meet its financial obligations and provide much needed services to the Tribe and its members without excessive bureaucracy; and

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**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council further finds that it is in the best interest of the Tribe for the BIA to act immediately to remedy this long-standing concern of the Tribe and ensure that the White Mountain Apache Tribe is not unnecessarily adversely impacted by this change.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests prompt action from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, as Trust Agent of the Tribe, to transfer Superintendent Nona Tuchawena off-site and replace her with a better suited and more qualified candidate to meet the needs of the White Mountain Apache people.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests a Superintendent that is highly qualified in natural resources, that has strong management and communication skills, and is in a position to offer in some capacity, the technical expertise and assistance that a large Tribe with complicated legal and financial issues may require.

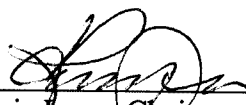
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that due to the Tribe's previous experience with failed bureaucracy at the local BIA level, the Tribe asks that the BIA's Regional Manager monitor the situation closely to ensure that the people of the Tribe are not punished for the failures of current and prior BIA administrations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests that the BIA commence action within 60 days of the passage of this Resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall govern.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on **MAY 11, 2011** 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), (b), (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).

  
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Ronnie Lupe, Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council