

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Establishes a Burial Assistance Fund from the Benefits derived from the Ronald G. Ferguson Trust.)

- **WHEREAS**, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has long since provided burial assistance to the families of deceased indigent tribal members in order to assist with funeral expenses, which was administered by the WMAT Department of Social Services in concert with the Bureau of Indian Affairs burial assistance program; and
- WHEREAS, the fund that the WMAT Social Services Department utilized to provide burial assistance has depleted, thereby halting any assistance to tribal members; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe recognizes the need to continue to provide burial assistance to tribal members and thus desires to create a burial assistance fund out of the benefits received from the Ronald G. Ferguson Trust (*See* Resolution No. 04-2017-64); and
- **WHEREAS**, the proceeds derived from the Ronald G. Ferguson Trust are limited and cannot fully cover all funeral expenses; nonetheless, the Tribal Council desires to alleviate some of the financial burden placed on the families of deceased tribal members; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council, in order to appropriately distribute the burial funds referenced hereto, shall devise a process, system, and/or policy that will guide the distribution of disbursements authorized per this Resolution.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby establishes a burial assistance fund from the benefits claimed from the Ronald G. Ferguson Trust.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes that burial assistance, in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per deceased tribal member, be dispersed to a representative of the deceased's family in order to assist with funeral expenses in accordance with the process, system, and/or policy set forth by the Tribal Council.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

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 April 5, 2017 duly adopted by a vote of TEN for, ZERO against, and ZERO abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Date Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary Date