

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Temporarily Opening Cemeteries on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation for Memorial Day)

- WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power, "To represent the Tribe and act in all manners that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistence with or contrary to this constitution,"; and
- **WHEREAS**, The Tribe declared an Emergency Declaration due to COVID-19 on March 12, 2020 and established a set of guidelines and restrictions by means of Tribal Resolutions to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 on the reservation; and
- WHEREAS, One of the measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("FAIR"), included enacting Resolutions No. 03-2020-67, which closed public places on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, The Council understands that Memorial Day is a day for Tribal members to commemorate and honor their loved ones who have passed away by paying their respect and visiting their graves; and
- WHEREAS, The Council finds that temporarily opening cemeteries on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation for Memorial Day, May 25, 2020, beginning at 6:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. to allow Tribal members to visit their loved ones' graves is in the best interest of the Tribe and its members.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby temporarily opens cemeteries on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation for Memorial Day, May 25, 2020 beginning at 6:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. to allow Tribal members to visit their loved ones' graves.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby encourages those who are ill and or at-risk, such as elderly and immune-compromised, to stay home, while also encouraging those who visit their loved ones' grave on Memoria Day to maintain social distancing measures, practice hand hygiene, and cover coughs and sneezes.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that beginning May 25, 2020 at 5:01 p.m., Resolution No. 03-2020-67 which closes public places shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

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 Chairwoman, or in her 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 22, 2020 duly adopted by a vote of 11 for, 0 against, and 0 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).

Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman

Date

Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

Date