



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

## **(Temporarily Amending the Tribe's Travel Policy on Account of COVID-19)**

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**WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("Constitution") provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power "[t]o represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decision not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution"; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe made an Emergency Declaration on March 12, 2020 in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, which activated the Tribe's Emergency Operation Center ("EOC"); and

**WHEREAS,** On August 5, 2020, the Council ratified the COVID-19 Alert System and Phased Reopening Plan as recommended and presented by the EOC; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe's Travel Policy was adopted on October 25, 2006 pursuant to Tribal Resolution 10-2006-263; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe continues to progress in its Phased Reopening Plan, departments continue to resume their work duties which may include travel outside the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("Reservation") for official business as outlined in their scope of work; and

**WHEREAS,** The EOC, this day, recommends temporarily amending the Tribe's Travel Policy, as provided for in the draft travel policy guidelines (attached and incorporated herein); and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that, in the interest of protecting the health and safety of all Tribal members and employees, it hereby approves the attached temporary amendment of the WMAT Travel Policy during the Tribe's COVID-19 incident.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves this temporary amendment until the COVID-19 Incident concludes or upon recommendation of the EOC or 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.

**Resolution No. 09-2020-211**

**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 **SEPTEMBER 3, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **SEVEN** for, **ZERO** against, and **TWO** 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).

 9/8/2020  
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman      Date

 9/8/2020  
Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary      Date

White Mountain Apache Tribe  
Public Health Emergency Preparedness  
Emergency Operations Center

Pandemic Response

Policy Title: Tribal Employee and Resident Travel

Policy Date: 08/31/2020

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POLICY STATEMENT

- The White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) made an Emergency Declaration on March 12, 2020 in response to the worldwide Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic. This declaration activated the Emergency Operations Center (the “EOC”) whose main priorities are the mitigation and prevention of COVID-19 on the reservation. The Tribe, in its effort, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 implements the following travel guidelines for Tribal Employees and Tribal Residents.

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Policy Guidelines

Employees of the Tribe are subject to the following travel restrictions until further notice:

1. All non-essential travel is prohibited.
2. Meetings and other trainings should be done virtually or telephonically.

Essential travel for Employees is subject to the following:

1. Travel must be done as part of the employee’s department scope of work.
2. Travel should only be taken if other accommodations are not feasible, including virtually or telephonically.
3. When a departmental/Tribal vehicle is used as part of the travel, the Tribe’s COVID-19 Tribal Vehicle Policy must be adhered to.
4. Employees are subject to the Tribe’s Personnel Policy as it relates to infectious diseases/pandemic and all other local guidance and restrictions relevant to the employee’s travel destination.
5. Employees returning to work after traveling off the reservation will receive instructions from their supervisor and/or organization policy.
6. When the returning employee returns from their travel outside of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Reservation”), they must monitor their symptoms for 14 days and seek medical attention as needed.
7. All travel by means of airplane, trains, buses, and other modes of transportation, other than Tribal vehicles and/or personal owned vehicles is subject to a review and approval by the Tribal Treasurer in consultation with local health authorities.

Residents of the Reservation are subject to the following levels of travel restrictions:

Level One: All travel is restricted unless for purposes of obtaining essential services and/or business.

Level Two: All travel off-Reservation is allowed but residents must monitor their symptoms for three days.

Level Three: All travel is allowed with no restrictions.