



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing John Hopkins Center for American Indian Health to Conduct a COVID-19 Vaccine Trial on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“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 matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution”; and

WHEREAS, The Council, in partnership with Johns Hopkins University, has conducted research projects for 40 years, which aim to raise the level of health of all residents of the Reservation; and

WHEREAS, The Tribe, the Emergency Operations Center, Community Health Representative Program, the Indian Health Service, Johns Hopkins and many other agencies have worked tirelessly to address novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”), which virus has created a worldwide pandemic, infecting hundreds of thousands of people and causing tens of thousands of deaths; and

WHEREAS, On March 31, 2020, via Resolution 03-2020-72, the Council approved Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for American Indian Health to secure funding in order to address the COVID-19 virus within the Reservation and support the following activities:

- 1) Conduct surveillance for COVID-19 to characterize the clinical course, identify important risk and protective factors for disease; and determine patterns of transmission and the number of people who have been infected, recovered or carry the disease;
- 2) Identify and evaluate potential treatment and prevention strategies that may include anti-viral therapies, treatment with purified plasma from those who have recovered from the disease, and new vaccines to prevent or reduce the disease;
- 3) Develop understanding and address the mental health and stress-related effects of the pandemic on White Mountain Apache people; and

WHEREAS, Pfizer, an American multinational pharmaceutical company, has developed an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine which to date has been shown to induce a strong immune response and is currently conducting the phase 3 vaccine trial to evaluate the safety, tolerability, immunogenicity, and efficacy of the vaccine; and

WHEREAS, Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health (“John Hopkins”) , this day, is requests that the Council to conduct the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine trial in partnership with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to evaluate whether an investigational vaccine, created by Pfizer/BioNTech, is effective in preventing COVID-19 disease; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 vaccine study (the “Study”) trial activities will include:

- 1) Enrolling interested volunteers, 18-85 years of age, who are healthy (or have stable underlying health conditions) and have not tested positive for COVID-19 and have provided informed consent to participate. People who are pregnant or breastfeeding are excluded from participation;
- 2) Each participant will be administered two doses, three weeks apart;
- 3) After the two vaccination visits, there are 4 more visits for a total of **6 visits over a two-year period**. A nasal swab will be collected at two visits and a blood sample will be collected at five visits. The nasal swabs will be tested for the COVID-19 virus and the blood samples will be tested to measure the level of antibodies to COVID-19 before and after vaccination. No other testing of specimens, beyond what is specifically stated at the time of enrollment, is allowed. No genetic testing will be done.
- 4) Participants will be asked to keep a diary to monitor any potential symptoms that they may experience during their participation in the study; and

WHEREAS, The Council has carefully considered John Hokpins’ request, and finds that authorizing participation in the Study will aid in the Tribe’s fight against COVID-19 and is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes

Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health to conduct the Pfizer/BionTech COVID-19 vaccine trial with the White Mountain Apache community to evaluate the safety and efficacy of this vaccine and address this worldwide pandemic.

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 **OCTOBER 7, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **NINE** for, **ZERO** against, and **ONE** 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

Resolution No. 10-2020-239

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 10.9.2020 Doreen T. Numkena 10/8/2020
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman Date Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary Date