



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Issuing a Moratorium on the Tribe's COVID-19 Alert System)

- 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,** On November 23, 2020, the Council enacted Resolution No. 11-2020-290 “Revising the Tribe’s COVID-19 Alert System” in accordance with recommendations from the Emergency Operations Center (“EOC”) to improve the responsiveness capabilities of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** The EOC continues to review and evaluate current trends while maintaining frequent consultation with Indian Health Services (“IHS”) and Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health as they make recommendations to the Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** The availability of the COVID-19 vaccine has brought new hope to the Tribe as IHS has already vaccinated over 1,000 individuals and continues to vaccinate in accordance with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control’s Phased Allocation of the COVID-19 Vaccine; and
- WHEREAS,** Based upon the data provided and the published efficacy rate of 95%, the Council encourages all Tribal members to be vaccinated once the vaccine is available for distribution by IHS to the general population; and
- WHEREAS,** The distribution of the vaccine promises better days and the likelihood of less stringent precautionary measures on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** Today, the EOC made recommendations for an updated 2021 COVID-19 Alert System that takes into account the positive effects of the vaccine within the communities and the current trends, and has an estimated release date of January 6, 2021 for the 2021 COVID-19 Alert System; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribal Council finds it in the best interest of the Tribe and its members to issue a moratorium on Resolution No. 11-2020-290 in order to allow sufficient time for Tribal members to prepare between the current lockdown and the new 2021 COVID-19 Alert System.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby issues a moratorium on Resolution No 11-2020-290 “Revising the Tribe’s COVID-19 Alert System”, effective

Resolution No. 12-2020-314

upon the completion of the current 72-Hour Lockdown on Saturday, January 2, 2020 at 8:00 P.M. until the new 2021 COVID-19 Alert System is adopted.

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 **DECEMBER 31, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **NINE** 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).



Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman

Date



Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

01-01-2021

Date