



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Appointing Chase Velasquez as an Associate Justice to the Tribe's Court of Appeals)

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe"), *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, The White Mountain Apache Tribe's Judicial Code, Chapter 2, Section 2.9A states that the Tribal Council is responsible for selecting Justices to serve on the Tribe's highest court, the WMAT Court of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, The WMAT Rules of Appellate Procedure ("Rules") govern all appeals filed within the White Mountain Apache Tribal Court system, but due to a long time vacancy on the Court of Appeals, a backlog of cases exists and must be immediately addressed in order to satisfy the Code's requirement that cases may be appealed to the Tribe's highest court for review; and

WHEREAS, The Tribe has a long-standing precedence of seating law trained individuals, sitting judges and attorneys, to the Tribe's highest court in order to ensure that the demands of justice are served for the Tribe, its members, businesses, organizations, and their agents in matters of controversy before the Appellate Court; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Council finds it in the best interest of the Tribe and its members to empanel the Court of Appeals by appointing Chase Velasquez named herein to serve as an Associate Justice, respectively.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby appoints Chase Velasquez to serve a four-year term as an Associate Justice of the White Mountain Apache Tribal Court of Appeals, effective immediately.

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.

Resolution No. 02-2023-48

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 **FEBRUARY 16, 2023** duly adopted by a vote of **SEVEN** 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 ratified on November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Kasy Velasquez 3-24-23
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman Date

Janeysa Johnson 3/28/2023
Janeysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary Date