

RESOLUTION OF THE  
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE  
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

WHEREAS, Rueben Kessay, Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement Officer has brought to the attention of the Tribal Council, a problem involving the temporary storage by Indian Health Service of dead bodies; and that the Indian Health Service refuses to store dead bodies in the hospital morgue, and

WHEREAS, Rueben Kessay also advised the Tribal Council that the Indian Health Service has refused to send a doctor and ambulance to determine whether or not a person is deceased and to transport said dead body to the hospital for temporary storage pending disposition of the body, and

WHEREAS, this refusal by the Indian Health Service has resulted in bodies being left for several hours in public and is a cause of deep concern for families and tribal members, and

WHEREAS, the refusal of the Indian Health Service to send an ambulance to transport dead bodies to the hospital for temporary storage has necessitated mortuaries in Show Low to come for the bodies which often results in up to a three-day delay, and

WHEREAS, some families of deceased tribal members do not have the income or finances for a mortuary.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that a committee comprised of Carla Baha Alchesay, the new appointed Unit Director for Indian Health Service Hospital; Reno Johnson, Chief of Police; Rueben Kessay and a representative from the Tribal Health Authority meet and discuss a plan in which to resolve this dilemma and to agree to a plan for the temporary storage of bodies in the Indian Health Service Hospital.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said committee shall meet within twenty (20) working days and report back its findings and plan of action at the next Regular Tribal Council Meeting in September, 1981.

RECEIVED

AUG 13 1981

FORT APACHE INDIAN  
AGENCY  
WHITERIVER, ARIZ.

The foregoing resolution was on August 6, 1981 duly adopted by a vote of 7 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (i) of the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

  
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Acting Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council