

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

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe has been advised of the abrupt conclusion of the medical study, "Diabetes in the White Mountain Apache Mothers and Infants", following a dispute between the study's Principal Medical Investigator, Dorthoy Hollingsworth, M.D., and the sponsoring agencies; and

**WHEREAS,** this study was conducted on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation under the sponsorship of the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, the National Institute of Health, and the Indian Health Service; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council has been advised of numerous actions by the Principal Medical Investigator which violated the regulations governing the study, including:

1. the unconsented taking of human blood samples for inclusion in the study;
2. repeated attempts to publish and disseminate data obtained from the study without seeking permission from the Tribe;
3. obtaining personal access to study participants through the delivery of a letter which raised inflammatory and misleading accusations about Indian Health Service personnel;
4. destruction of blood samples and other data to prevent others from completing the study; and

**WHEREAS,** the Principal Medical Investigator abused the privacy and integrity of the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, in her the drive to further her professional stature; and

**WHEREAS,** the Principal Medical Investigator's actions damaged the trust Tribal members have for the providers of medical care on the Reservation; and

**WHEREAS,** the Principal Medical Investigator's retaliatory destruction of data and samples undermined the good faith efforts of those Tribal members who voluntarily participated in the study; and

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**WHEREAS,** these actions add to an unfortunate pattern established in some previous studies which have degraded Tribal values and integrity in the pursuit of expanded scientific knowledge; and

**WHEREAS,** the primary sponsoring institution, the University of California, San Diego, has been made aware of the injury caused by the Principal Medical Investigator, and its effect on future requests to conduct scientific or medical studies on the Reservation by any institution; and

**WHEREAS,** to partially remedy the injury caused by the Chief Medical Investigator, the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego has presented a plan to the Tribal Council for closing the study; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed plan calls for a personal visit to each study participant to answer questions, offer reassurance about the integrity of health care on the Reservation, seek permission to dispose of remaining blood samples, and seek permission to use the nutrition survey responses collected during the study.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby accepts the proposal of the School of Medicine, University of California, San Diego for closure of the medical study, "Diabetes in White Mountain Apache Mother's and Infants."


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it understands the School of Medicine, University of California, San Diego seeks to repair the harm caused by these events, nevertheless, Tribal Council approval of the closure plan does not absolve or relieve the sponsoring agencies from responsibility for the actions taken by the Principal Medical Investigator.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the acts and deeds of the members of the Tribal Council necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution be, and the same are hereby ratified, confirmed and adopted as the acts and deeds of the Tribe.

The foregoing resolution was on June 08, 1995, duly adopted by a vote of ten for and zero against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

**ACTING**

  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council