

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

WHEREAS, emergency response efforts during the June 1999 "Rainbow Fire" demonstrated the need for the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Apache Agency, to designate a single person to deliver information to the public, Tribal officials and the news media on fire status, evacuations, parties involved in the response, and other matters of interest; and

WHEREAS, the designation of a person to serve as a Public Information Officer (PIO) during emergencies would help provide for a more coordinated and effective response and would help safeguard the on- and off-reservation public and others through dissemination of accurate and unified information; and

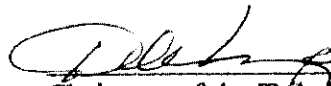
WHEREAS, a PIO would be of great benefit during non-emergency periods as well on matters such as providing the on- and off-reservation public with information and advance notice on Tribal/BIA prescribed burning projects and smoke management, providing press releases and radio/television announcements about tourism, economic developments, natural resources management, and other positive aspects of Tribal/BIA affairs; and

WHEREAS, to accomplish the above-stated purpose and objectives, a PIO would require the following qualifications: i) fluent in both English and Apache, ii) able to work cooperatively toward a common goal, iii) previous experience with news media interaction, iv) an ability to set aside political views and to maintain a neutral position relative to job duties, v) an understanding of tribal sovereignty and the need to protect and strengthen sovereignty, and vi) knowledgeable of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and issues involving the people and resources of the reservation.

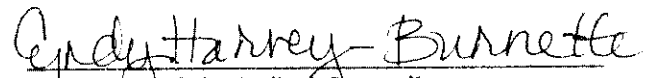
BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby endorses the development and staffing of a full-time PIO position for reasons stated in this resolution and that the Tribe, through its Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC), and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Apache Agency, will meet and discuss to the extent necessary the qualifications, training needs, duties and roles, funding and other matters pertaining to developing separate PIO's within the Tribe and BIA or a jointly-funded Tribal/BIA PIO position; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that a part- or full-time Tribal PIO would be hired through a competitive process through the Tribal Personnel Department with the TERC's recommendation for a Tribal PIO subject to Tribal Council approval and that September 15, 1999 is the target date for satisfying all aspects of this resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on July 15, 1999 duly adopted by a vote of EIGHT 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), (f), (k), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe on 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).



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council