

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

- WHEREAS, the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe hold a strong spiritual tie to the water which flows throughout their lands; and for that reason, the Tribal Council recognizes its paramount obligation to uphold and preserve the rights of the Tribe to its sacred water resources; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has, in executive session, had a briefing from the Tribal Attorney concerning his meeting with the Tribe's water rights attorney, Mr. William Veeder; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Veeder has been representing the Tribe under contract for more than 20 years on water rights and other natural resource and trust issues; and
- WHEREAS, through Mr. Veeder's exceptional efforts, the Tribe won a judgment in Court of Claims Docket 22-H, and has maintained a strong legal stance to protect its invaluable and sacred water resources; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Veeder's vision and legal perspective is respected by water rights experts throughout the country, and has made him uniquely qualified to represent the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its unparalleled water resources; and
- WHEREAS, the current contract between the Tribe and Mr. Veeder has a term of three years, expiring on June 1, 2000; however, a recent and unfortunate decline in Mr. Veeder's health has resulted in limitations on his activities under that contract; and
- WHEREAS, ongoing activities by outside parties impact the Tribe's water resources, and the pace of legal proceedings in both the Little Colorado and Gila River General Stream Adjudications has increased and is moving closer to conclusion; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Veeder has advised that his health should now permit him to proceed with his representation of the Tribe; however, the Tribal Council, following discussions this day, recognizes the enormous burdens attendant to the ensuing water rights activities; and
- WHEREAS, the Council concludes that it would not be in the best interests of either the Tribe

or Mr. Veeder for Mr. Veeder to be expected to continue his contracted responsibilities, and on that basis exercises the 60 day notice of termination pursuant to article 7 of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe has every intention of pursuing the strategies and legal position Mr. Veeder has carefully developed, and, thus, to prepare for upcoming matters and court hearings, it is necessary to reacquire custody of the Tribe's legal files, currently housed in Mr. Veeder's Washington DC office; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council requests the immediate return of these files, in advance of the 60 day period; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Veeder is at a point in his life where he can step back from his vocation and reflect upon the achievements earned during a career spanning more than 60 years; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is saddened by the conclusion of Mr. William Veeder's contracted advocacy and stewardship on behalf of the Tribe, but it also gratefully acknowledges the work he has performed in that important capacity.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby extends its deepest gratitude and respect to Mr. William H. Veeder, Attorney at Law, for his courageous and unwavering advocacy on behalf of the White Mountain Apache Tribe during more than 20 years of legal representation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that due to the unfortunate circumstances stemming from Mr. Veeder's age and delicate health, it is necessary and in the best interests of all to excuse and relieve Mr. William Veeder from his current contracted responsibilities for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and on that basis hereby issues a notice of contract termination pursuant to article 7 of the contract between William Veeder and the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it requests the immediate return of all Tribal files maintained in Mr. Veeder's Washington DC office in order that the Tribe might continue with the water rights advocacy and strategy developed by Mr. Veeder.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman, or in his absence the Vice Chairman, to execute any documents necessary to carry out the intent of this

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resolution, including the submission of a request to Mr. Veeder for a final report on contracted work and activities, as required under the contract, and to provide a copy of this resolution to Mr. Veeder and the Secretary of the Interior.

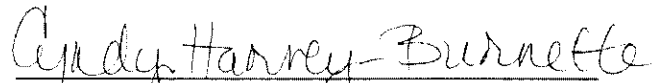
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby affirms its intent to proceed without interruption in pursuing the objectives and strategy outlined by Mr. William Veeder to protect the unique, invaluable, and sacred water resources of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

The foregoing resolution was on August 9, 1999 duly adopted by a vote of eight for and one against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (f), (h), (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).





Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council