



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

*A Sovereign Nation Exercising Self-Governance  
Over the Fort Apache Indian Reservation*

---

## **Resolution No. 05-2012-64**

### **(Amendments to White Mountain Apache Tribe's Celebrating Life Suicide Surveillance System)**

- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") is entrusted by the Tribe's Constitution to act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, to manage all economic affairs and enterprises of the Tribe, and to regulate subordinate organizations for economic and other purposes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council supports the efforts and assistance that Johns Hopkins has given to the White Mountain Apache Tribe to identify health problems which exist in the community and to develop appropriate interventions which seek to decrease or alleviate these problems; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council established the Suicide Task Force in 2001 and created the Suicide Task Force Intake Referral Form to manually track suicidal behaviors; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council along with the Suicide Task Force requested the assistance of Johns Hopkins in 2002 to work with the Task Force to seek funding to support, create and maintain a data surveillance system to track suicidal behaviors among the Apache people and to develop prevention/intervention measures necessary to alleviate this health concern; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council approved on February 8, 2006 the new Celebrating Life Registry Intake Form for the data base and also approved on September 26, 2006 a proposal from the Suicide Task Force and Johns Hopkins to expand and extend (implementation of the Celebrating Life follow-up form) the efforts undertaken in the Celebrating Life Program per Resolution 09-2006-333; and
- WHEREAS,** many departments and schools within the White Mountain Apache Tribes jurisdiction continue to ignore Resolution 09-2006-333 by not reporting and submitting the Celebrating Life Registry Intake Form to the Celebrating Life staff located at Johns Hopkins project office; and
- WHEREAS,** because of the severity of suicidal behaviors, for the safety and wellbeing of minors the Celebrating Life program is allowed to follow-up with minors without parent consent; and

**WHEREAS,** although much has been accomplished to prevent the number of suicidal behaviors among the Apache people, problems associated with drugs and alcohol continues to be a growing concern to the Tribal Council and community members; and

**WHEREAS,** letters from the Superintendents of both Whiteriver Unified School District and Cibecue Schools have requested assistance pertaining to alcohol and drug use among their students; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council and Health Board approved in 2010 for referrals and follow-up on all youth alcohol and drug related behaviors be added to the Celebrating Life Surveillance System on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and

**WHEREAS,** the data entailed in the Celebrating Life Surveillance System is extremely sensitive and any request to utilize data from the Surveillance system must be requested and approved by the appropriate officials; and

**WHEREAS,** quarterly data updates of the surveillance system is required for the Tribal Council, Health Board and the Indian Health Service for review and modification that may be necessary for the continue support for our tribal members.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that clarification and reaffirmation of the Celebrating Life Suicide Surveillance system is as follows:

1. The Celebrating Life Surveillance system was established and owned by the White Mountain Apache Tribe.
2. The White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Suicide Task Force requested the assistance of Johns Hopkins to seek funding to create and maintain (house) the surveillance system.
3. All persons, departments, and schools within the White Mountain Apache Tribes jurisdiction encountering any individuals expressing suicidal behaviors (ideations-thoughts/verbal, self-injurious-cutting/self-harm/youth alcohol or drug abuse, attempts, and deaths by suicide) shall report and submit the Celebrating Life Intake form to the Celebrating Life staff at Johns Hopkins.
4. For the safety and wellbeing of our youth, follow-up with minors is allowed without parent consent, especially in emergency situations.
5. Any persons and departments asking the Celebrating Life staff for data from the surveillance system must request approval from appropriate officials.
6. The registry intake data collection and follow-up were established to track the severity of suicidal behaviors, trends, and to implement prevention/intervention measures based on the data analysis.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that for the safety and wellbeing of our tribal members, the White Mountain Apache Tribe with Johns Hopkins are working collaboratively to alleviate this health concern.

**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.

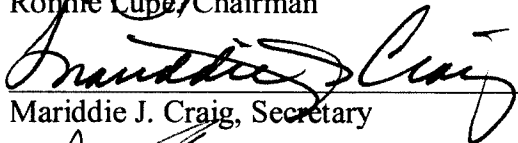
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances or Federal Laws, this Resolution shall be declared null and void and have no legal effect. This Resolution shall not be subject to Judicial Interpretation, only the Tribal Attorney, with the assistance of the Tribal Council Secretary, may opine on Tribal Council intent and the meaning of the language as used herein.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Acting Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution. In the event that the Chairman fails to delegate signatory authority to an Acting Chairman, the Vice-Chairman may sign provided that the Tribal Secretary and a Tribal Attorney attest to the veracity of the subject matter of this Resolution.

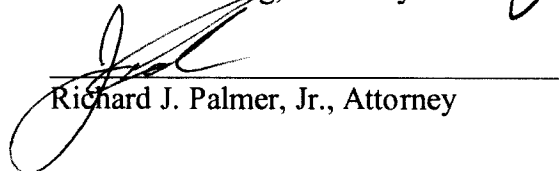
The foregoing resolution was on MAY 29, 2012 duly adopted by a vote of SEVEN for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (s), (t) and (u) of the Tribal Constitution, ratified by the Tribe September 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).

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Lupa, Chairman

6-8-12  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mariddie J. Craig, Secretary

06/07/2012  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard J. Palmer, Jr., Attorney

6/11/12  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date