



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Adopting Holiday Guidelines during COVID-19)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Constitution”) provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power “[t]o represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decision not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution”; and

WHEREAS, Current worldwide trends indicate the coming of another wave of COVID-19 infections. Anticipating this, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has issued Holiday Guidance to curb potential spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Monitoring of local COVID-19 clusters indicates the spread of the virus occurring in small and large family and community gatherings, which is causing alarm at the EOC and among health care professional locally; and

WHEREAS, The EOC, this day, presents for adoption by the Council, Draft Holiday Guidelines, to help the community mitigate the further spread of COVID-19 during this holiday season; and

WHEREAS, The Council has reviewed and considered the EOC’s draft Holiday Guidelines and finds that their adoption will help keep the community safe and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby formally adopts the following Holiday Guidelines for residents of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation:

1. Holiday celebratory gatherings are only allowed among individual households;
2. All current guidelines must be observed;
3. Household members coming home from off-Reservation must monitor their symptoms while home. Family members who do experience any COVID-19 related symptoms are strongly encouraged to seek medical attention on or after five days of onset of symptoms;
4. The exchange of food items between households is not encouraged; and
5. Use extreme care and caution when conducting shopping in preparation of holiday gatherings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby encourages families on the Reservation to celebrate in a safe manner, and in accordance with the Holiday Guidelines to avoid further spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Resolution No. 11-2020-289

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 any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

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 the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on **NOVEMBER 23, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **NINE** for, **ZERO** against, and **ONE** abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

	<u>12/1/2020</u>		<u>12-1-2020</u>
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman	Date	Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary	Date