



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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CONTACT: GEORGE HARDEEN
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
OFFICE – 928-871-7917
CELL – 928-309-8532
pressoffice@opvp.org

Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr., pleased to re-appoint Navajo Chief Justice Herb Yazzie as permanent chief justice

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., has written to the Honorable Navajo Nation Supreme Court Chief Justice Herb Yazzie to inform him of his re-appointment as permanent chief justice.

“It is a pleasure and honor to appoint you to serve as Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation Supreme Court,” the President wrote on Sept. 5. “Your permanent appointment shall become effective upon confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.”

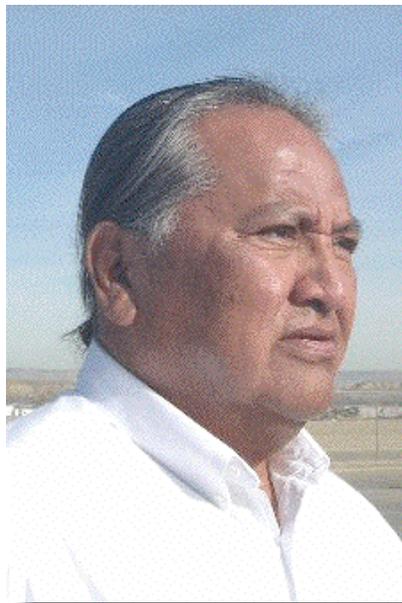
The President said the confirmation of Chief Justice Yazzie could occur during the fall session of the Council.

The Chief Justice is the second Navajo lawyer to serve in the top positions of all three branches of Navajo government after the late Navajo Nation Chief Justice Claudeen Bates-Arthur.

Chief Justice Yazzie served as Navajo Nation Attorney General and Navajo Nation Council Chief Legislative Counsel. Chief Justice Yazzie was initially confirmed as Navajo Nation Chief Justice by the Navajo Nation Council on April 21, 2005.

“It is evident from your past performance as probationary Chief Justice that you possess the knowledge and skills

necessary to serve as our permanent Chief Justice,” the President wrote. “I am confident that you will continue to perform your duties with integrity and impartiality.”



*Navajo Nation Supreme Court
Chief Justice Herb Yazzie*

The Chief Justice is from Dennehotso, Ariz. He is Tábaq̄hí clan, born for Kinłichí'nií, Tó'áhaní (maternal grandparents) and Tódich'í'nií (paternal grandparents).

Chief Justice Yazzie has always worked with the Diné in public service. He served as attorney for DNA People's Legal Services and was legal counsel for the Kayenta Township. He was a school board member of the school at his community and later a member of the Executive Board of the Navajo Area School Board Association. He also worked as an attorney for the Yavapai-Apache Nation. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

He is a 1975 graduate of Arizona State University College of Law. He has been a Utah State Bar member since 1976 and is a member of the Navajo Nation Bar Association.

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