



Navajo Nation Council - Office of the Speaker

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Speaker Morgan encourages Navajo Nation Chapters to respond to inclement weather conditions

Council gives directive to Navajo Nation President and Controller

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Honorable Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan (Iyanbito/Pinedale) is highly encouraging the Navajo Nation Chapters and personnel to adhere to requests from Navajo people requesting services in emergency areas of the Navajo Nation and has announced that the Council has issued a directive to the Navajo Nation President, the Controller, and the Office of Management & Budget to issue checks to Chapters for emergency funding. The directive was passed unanimously by the Navajo Nation Council.

The Navajo Nation found that inclement weather conditions on the reservation have caused an emergency situation, which required that the Navajo Nation appropriate funds to the Chapters for disaster relief services.

The Navajo Nation Council responded to this request amidst winter weather conditions throughout the reservation by approving a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$8,535,000, in which Chapters will each receive \$25,000 each to address the conditions caused by the weather conditions on the reservation.

This money is to be used for emergency services and should be applied immediately in order to help our Navajo people in those emergency areas.

Speaker Morgan noted that these appropriations are to be used for emergency funding to the Navajo people and Chapters should do everything they possibly can to assist their Chapter constituents with these funds.

“Chapter officials should be available to the Navajo people at all times. Chapter and community services should not only be rendered between the hours of eight to five, Chapter officials should be available after hours as well in order to assist our people with emergency services, especially during this time,” Speaker Morgan said.

“It is crucial to have the agencies and the Chapter operations remain available to Navajo people, even far into the evening to help those in need,” Speaker Morgan said. “There’s many residents living in outlying areas that rely heavily on the local government services, it’s important that we deliver those services to them in a quick and efficient manner.”

Speaker Morgan explained that “it is the government’s expectations to have local residents receive their services. This means that Chapter officers, Chapter coordinators, and temporary employees work to help our people during this time. They have no excuse to provide these services, since the Council appropriated these funds.”

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“We cannot afford to ignore our Navajo people during this time,” Speaker Morgan added. “If government operations cease, it will only develop chaos at the community-level.”

The Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation would like to remind all tribal employees and elected officials that they need to contribute to the concerted effort to help the Navajo people in need.

For more information, contact Joshua Lavar Butler with the Office of the Speaker at 928-871-7160.

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