



The Navajo Nation Council — Office of the Speaker

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Navajo President's spokesman accuses, assumes violations of Council action, conduct of staff from Office of the Speaker

The Council conducted the executive session, because of the seriousness of the information presented, which is not ready for public dissemination.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Navajo Nation President's spokesman responded to a press release late last evening from the Office of the Speaker with accusations of false reporting and making many assumptions about the improper and unprofessional conduct of staff from the Speaker's Office.

George Hardeen, communications director for the Office of the President, claims the Speaker's Office issued inaccurate news in violation of Council's own executive session rules, but fails to mention the information was provided after the Council concluded their executive session and openly discussed possible actions. Staff from the President's Office, including Hardeen, were present to hear the exact same information that was reported in a press release from the Office of the Speaker.

The Office of the President has continually assumed many things in an effort to criticize and paint a negative image of the Navajo Nation Council and the Speaker of the Navajo Nation. This is a classic example of "desperate times call for desperate measures," as the spokesman and staff from the President's Office have resorted to negative means to protect the interests of their office, even going so far as to accuse Speaker Morgan's spokesman of reporting false information and posting unrelated information on a social webpage.

"This just comes to show how desperate they have become, and it is absolutely ridiculous and childish," said Joshua Lavar Butler, communications director for the Office of the Speaker. "Let us focus on the real issues and not take petty personal attacks on staff members—speak to the reports and to the facts."

The Office of the President and Vice President are using Council's actions yesterday as negative propoganda to push their two petition initiatives. The Navajo people need to understand the reports are based entirely on facts.

The investigations of OnSat and BCDS were initiated at the beginning of the Shirley administration. The investigations were heavily researched by independent entities and the allegations are supported by strong evidence showing impropriety.

"Let the facts speak for themselves," Butler said. "The Navajo public can decide for themselves, do not insult their intelligence. The bottom line, these investigations are supported by strong facts and they will be presented to the Navajo public in due time."

The Council conducted the executive session, because of the seriousness of the information presented, which is not ready for public dissemination. The three reports contain sensitive information and further investigations into the wrongdoing of certain elected officials and employees of the Navajo Nation will likely continue.

"The Fall Session will continue as scheduled and the investigations into the alleged wrongdoings of the three cases will continue," Butler added. "I will continue reporting accurate information, regardless of outside attempts to discredit the work I do on behalf of the Council, the Speaker and the Navajo people."

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