



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Council members offer condolences to
the family of Navajo police officer Leander Frank**

WINDOW ROCK – Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse’Daa’Kaan, Upper Fruitland) and the 23rd Navajo Nation Council extend their heartfelt condolences to the family, loved ones, and the Chinle Police District for the loss of Navajo Nation senior police officer Leander Frank, who passed away during the line of duty on Tuesday morning.

“On behalf of the Navajo Nation Council, I send my sincerest condolences to the wife, children, family, and the Chinle Police District for the loss of Officer Frank, a protector and warrior of the Navajo Nation,” stated Speaker Bates.

On Tuesday morning, senior officer Leander Frank was on duty and in route to respond to a call on Navajo Route 63 when he was involved in a head-on vehicle collision east of Chinle, Arizona. Chinle Police District responded to the scene and Arizona Department of Public Safety was called to investigate the vehicle collision.

“Our hearts are saddened with the passing of Officer Frank. Our communities are safer because of Officer Frank’s willingness to put his life at risk to shield others from harm. We will always be grateful for his life and humbleness for making the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. He is a true definition of a Navajo warrior and he will be dearly missed,” said Law and Order Committee chair Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau).

“We express our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the family for sharing Officer Leander Frank’s life with the Navajo Nation. May the Holy People bless the family, loved ones, and the police officers of the Navajo Nation with strength and comfort. We will continue to pray for the safety of our police officers and communities,” added Speaker Bates.

Services for Officer Frank are pending.

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