



The 21st Navajo Nation Council
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Councilwoman Hope MacDonald LoneTree joins President Obama for signing of Tribal Law & Order Act

"The Tribal Law and Order Act will empower tribal nations to make communities safer" – Hope MacDonald LoneTree

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On July 29, Councilwoman Hope MacDonald LoneTree (ToNaneesDizi/Coalmine Canyon) attended U.S. President Barack Obama's signing of the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010, which contains significant provisions for increased tribal law enforcement and coordination between tribal governments and federal entities.

MacDonald LoneTree, who is a Public Safety Committee member, was among several tribal leaders, federal officials, human rights advocates, and tribal law enforcement officers in attendance.

"I thank President Obama for his steadfast support of public safety in Indian Country," MacDonald LoneTree said. "The Tribal Law and Order Act will help strengthen our tribal justice system and relationships with our federal partners."

"President Obama and his administration have provided support for public safety improvements in Indian Country, and we look forward to seeing the provisions implemented," added MacDonald-LoneTree. "This signing of this legislation has been the culmination of years of work."

The Tribal Law and Order Act takes a comprehensive approach to address shortfalls by establishing accountability measures for federal agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting reservation crime, and by providing tribes with additional tools to combat crime locally. The Act provides law enforcement officials and tribes increased evidence sharing and federal declination data recording, access to national criminal history records, improved tribal court sentencing authority, and enables deputization of either federal or tribal agents as required. The Act was signed into law as part of the Indian Arts and Crafts Amendment Act of 2010.

MacDonald LoneTree's commitment to public safety is also evident in her home community of Tuba City, where the community will be celebrating the groundbreaking of a new jail facility. The opening of the facility will not only help safeguard the community from violent offenders, but will also provide for much needed jobs.

"My community is looking forward to the groundbreaking of the new facility in Tuba City," said LoneTree. "Our new facilities will ensure that we can incarcerate violent offenders who are terrorizing our communities. The Tribal Law and Order Act along with our new facilities are important tools to help victims see justice."

For more information on the Tribal Law and Order Act, please visit www.whitehouse.gov.



Councilwoman Hope MacDonald LoneTree (ToNaneesDizi/Coalmine Canyon) and Rep. Ben Lujan (D-NM) at the Tribal Law and Order Act signing ceremony at the Whitehouse. (Photo courtesy of Hope MacDonald LoneTree)