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## Navajo President Shelly Releases Statement for Veterans Day

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly released the following statement for Veterans Day 2012.

“Our veterans are among the most cherished people among our Navajo people. For generations, our warriors have protected our way of life as Diné. From our notable warriors and chiefs like Narbona and Manuelito, to our distinguished Navajo Code Talkers of World War II, to our modern warriors serving in Afghanistan, we are forever indebted to you for protecting your people.

This Veterans Day, the First Lady, Vice President Rex Lee Jim and myself honor our veterans and I ask our Navajo people to join us in paying tribute to all our veterans who served in the armed forces and especially to our Navajo veterans who have continuously served to protect our country and our people.

Ahe’hee’ to each and every veteran for your service and sacrifice to protect us, which allows us to live with the freedom we have. We especially remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to serve their people, your duty to your people will be forever remembered and cherished each and every day.

All our service men and women have brought great pride to our Navajo people. Your deeds will never be forgotten and your legacy will continued to be remembered as our active duty service men and women return home.

To our mothers, fathers, wives, children and relatives of our service men and women, you too have made sacrifices and we thank you.

Let us honor all our veterans today and everyday. We have a great way of life and we owe our veterans great appreciation for ensuring our freedoms to live our lives according to the teachings of our grandparents. May the Gods continue to bless our veterans, their families and the Navajo Nation. Ahe’hee’ . “