



**BEN SHELLY** PRESIDENT  
**REX LEE JIM** VICE PRESIDENT

**CONTACT:** Laphillda Tso  
Navajo Nation President and Vice President  
Office: (928) 871-7884  
Blackberry: (928) 637-5507

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 20, 2011**

 [facebook.com/president.benshelly](https://facebook.com/president.benshelly)

## **Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly orders flags to be flown at Half-staff in honor of the late Senior Police Officer Tony Becenti, Jr.**

**WINDOW ROCK, ARIZ.** — Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly has ordered Navajo Nation flags to be flown at half-staff from October 20 through October 23 in honor of Senior Police Officer Tony Becenti, Jr., Badge #3112. Officer Becenti passed away on October 19, 2011.

“Myself, Vice President Jim, and Mrs. Shelly extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Officer Tony Becenti,” said President Shelly. “He was a mentor to many at the Crownpoint District. We honor his work, his life, and his service to the Navajo people.”

During his tenure with the Navajo Nation Police Department, he served as a training instructor and previously served as a substation officer at the Tohajiilee police substation. Officer Becenti joined the Crownpoint Police District department as a police officer on March 28, 1994.

“As public servants, we take an oath to serve the Navajo people and uphold the laws of the Navajo Nation,” said President Shelly. “Officer Becenti served the Navajo Nation with dignity and honor. He will be missed by his colleagues with the police force and the many he protected within Eastern Agency.”

He was born on May 6, 1968 in Crownpoint, NM to Lucy and Tony Becenti, Sr. of Mullholand Wells, N.M. He graduated from Crownpoint High School in 1986.

Officer Becenti is survived by two daughters, Shelby and Shealynn Becenti, and parents, Lucy and Tony Becenti, Sr. He is also survived by six sisters and one brother.

For additional information, please contact Matilda Smith at (505) 786-7191. Officer Gladys Antone is assigned as the liaison person for the Crownpoint District and can be reached at (505) 786-2050.

###