

NEWS ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2006

NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT JOE SHIRLEY, JR., FIRST LADY VIKKI SHIRLEY SCHEDULE JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12 ON CHILD ABUSE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION, DUI

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., and First Lady Vikki Shirley have scheduled a joint press conference in the President's office for 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 12.

The President and First Lady wish to:

- Bring attention to April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month and Alcohol Awareness Month on the Navajo Nation and across the country.
- Declare their support of the Intergovernmental Traffic Offense Data Act of 2006 sponsored by Upper Fruitland Council Delegate LoRenzo Bates in the spring session of the Navajo Nation Council, which begins Monday. This legislation would allow Navajo Public Safety officials to share driving records, including DUI offenses, with state law enforcement departments.
- Announce the beginning of the Navajo Nation Police Academy domestic violence training program. The Navajo Department of Law Enforcement has acknowledged that hundreds, possibly thousands, of Navajo women have been hurt by its misunderstanding and neglect of the widespread problem on the Navajo Nation over the years. It is now understood that police officers are victims and predators of domestic violence, and this required training will address the problem.

The training will educate police officers to investigate domestic violence as well as stalking, cyberstalking, strangulation, child abuse, sexual assaults & rape.

Joining the President and First Lady will be Division of Public Safety Division Director Samson Cowboy, and members of the Navajo Domestic Violence Task Force; Sgt. Raymond Joe, Chinle District Officer Gregory Tsosie, Dilkon District Officer Samantha Yazzie, and ADABI Domestic Violence Lorena Halwood, coordinator.

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