

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2006

NAVAJO PRESIDENT JOE SHIRLEY, JR., FAMILY INVOLVED IN COLLISION  
WITH HORSE ON MOTHER'S DAY

No injuries reported, vehicle damaged, windshield broken in crash

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., and his family were involved in a motor vehicle collision with a horse at about 9:20 p.m. Sunday night as they were returning home from a Mother's Day gathering in Lukachukai. No one was injured.

According to the Navajo police report, a band of eight horses which were on the shoulder of Navajo Route 12 suddenly darted into the road in front of President Shirley's tribal Tahoe SUV vehicle. President Shirley was driving and had slowed down to about 45 m.p.h. to avoid the animals when one adult horse ran in front of the vehicle and was struck. Mrs. Shirley and their three young children were in the vehicle but no one was injured. The vehicle did not leave the roadway.

The impact caused damage the vehicle's bumper, grill, hood, right front fender and right doors. The horse that was struck rolled onto the hood and broke the windshield but was not killed. A Navajo police officer was on the scene immediately. The vehicle could not be driven.

Family relatives picked up the Shirleys at the scene and drove them to Window Rock where they arrived at about 11:30 p.m.

No citation was issued.

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