



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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Arizona Supreme Court to make history in Chinle by hearing arguments in two cases on Navajo Nation

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Arizona Supreme Court will hold a session on the Navajo Nation for the first time when it hears oral arguments on Wednesday in Chinle.

The Honorable Donna J. Grimsley, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in Apache County, and the Honorable Victor J. Clyde, Justice of the Peace in Chinle, announced last week that the session will begin at 1 p.m. Oct. 4 at the Chinle Community Center.

Last December, the first federal criminal trial ever held on the Navajo Nation was heard in the Shiprock District Court and was presided over by Chief Judge Martha Vazquez of Santa Fe.

On Wednesday, the Arizona Supreme Court will hear arguments in two cases: CV-06-0076-PR: George Winn vs. Plaza Healthcare and CV-06-0008-PR: Suzanne Tyman vs. Hintz Concrete, Inc.

“The Navajo Nation welcomes the Arizona Supreme Court to Navajoland,” Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., said. “This gives our people and students a chance to see how a high court functions to better understand the judicial system. This is also a historic moment for the Arizona judiciary to learn more about the Navajo Nation and its people.”

Arizona Chief Justice Ruth V. McGregor said it was important for the state’s judicial branch to know as much about all of the state’s citizens as it can.

“It is important for the judicial branch to reach out to all Arizona residents, giving them the opportunity to see the Supreme Court at work,” the Chief Justice said. “Following the oral arguments we will host an informal question and answer period, giving residents a chance to learn about courtroom proceedings and how the Arizona Court System works.”

The public is welcome but seating is limited. Visitors are asked to arrive early. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Photography will be allowed during the question and answer session only.

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– Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr.

A dress code for the Arizona Supreme Court prohibits cutoff or torn jeans, flip flops, halter tops, below-waist pants or hats.

Visitors are strongly encouraged not to bring electronic devices, cell phones, laptops, cameras, radios, CDs or other electronic equipments. Children and bags should not be brought. No food or bottled water will be allowed.

For more information about the Arizona Supreme Court, please visit www.supreme.state.as.us.

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