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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Judiciary Chairperson Kee Allen Begay Jr. Will Leave His Position as Delegate on June 29, 2007

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Council delegate and Judiciary Committee Chairperson Kee Allen Begay Jr. (Many Farms/Round Rock) submitted his written resignation as a member of the 21st Navajo Nation Council late Monday evening, May 21, to Lawrence T. Morgan, Navajo Nation Council Speaker.

“It’s in the best interest of myself to move forward with my life,” Begay said. “My time as a leader is coming to an end. I know I’ve disappointed my supporters, Many Farms and Round Rock community members and young people.”

Begay who was serving his second term as a delegate said he apologizes to his family members, the Many Farms and Round Rock community and numerous supporters for disappointing them with his intention to officially resign as a council delegate on June 29, 2007.

“I have informed the community of Many Farms in writing during (the) last chapter meeting, May 14, 2007, that I will be leaving my position as Navajo Nation Council Delegate,” Begay said in a written statement submitted to the Office of the Speaker.

Begay said that he’s requesting from the Office of the Speaker for “ample time that I work with both communities during the transition should the community support my decision.”

“It’s not that I want to be in the spotlight,” Begay said. “But I want to depart. I’ve given this a lot of thought for the last several months.”

Begay said that he leaves his position with a sense of accomplishment as he contributed to the enhancement of the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch with projects such as the \$2.6 million funding for the planned Dilkon District Court, and working towards improving the Navajo Nation Supreme Court facilities. He added that he and his colleagues helped to work get the recent sale tax to rise one percent on July 1, 2007. Part of that sales tax money will go to the improvement of the Judicial Branch.

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Begay noted that his accomplishments at the chapter-level include securing \$480,000 for the Many Farms community's two Bureau of Indian Affairs roads, No. 8084 and No. 8086. He also said he secured \$1 million for the Many Farms Irrigation Project.

Begay said that his official announcement to resign was at the May 14, 2007, and he will do his best to answer to the Many Farms and Round Rock communities about his resignation.

"I want to end my term as best as I can," he added.

Currently, Begay is on travel to Washington, D.C., and he will return from his travels on Friday, May 25, 2007.