23rd Navajo Nation Council
Office of the Speaker

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MEDIA CONTACTS
Jared Touchin (928) 221-9253
Jolene Holgate (928) 380-4174
Crystalyne Curley (928) 286-7918
nnlb.communications@gmail.com

Utah Tribal Leaders commend Delegate Davis Filfred's advocacy regarding Utah tribal issues

WENDOVER, N.V. – Council Delegate Davis Filfred (Mexican Water, Aneth, Teecnospos, Tółikan, Red Mesa) and Council Delegate Herman Daniels, Jr. (Shonto, Naa'tsis'áán, Oljato, Ts'ah Bii Kin) participated in discussions related to health care, violence against American Indian woman, foster care, transportation, and other concerns that effect Utah tribes at the Utah Tribal Leaders quarterly meeting held on Thursday and Friday in Wendover, Nevada, which was hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Goshute Reservation.

The Utah Tribal Leaders is comprised of eight elected tribal leaders representing the eight tribal nations in the state of Utah. The UTL's purpose is to push efforts and to advocate for the needs of the Native Americans residing in the state of Utah.

On the first day of the meeting, Delegate Filfred and Delegate Daniels, provided reports that included updates on Navajo Nation initiatives related to the seven Utah Navajo communities including Mexican Water, Aneth, Teecnospos, Red Mesa, Naa'tsis'Áán, Oljato, and Dennehotso.

In his report, Delegate Filfred, who serves as the chair of the UTL, reviewed the results of the 2018 Navajo Nation general elections, allocation of the Utah Navajo Revitalization Fund to Navajo Utah chapters, renovation project of Teecnospos Chapter, grand opening of the Mexican Water Chapter senior center, proposed site of the new Bluff Elementary School, and other initiatives.

"There has been exciting progression of the Utah Navajo chapters within the last quarter. I hope that the new 24th Navajo Nation Council and the Office of the President and Vice President would continue the initiatives on behalf of the Navajo Nation and Utah tribes. Also, the Utah general election has presented new opportunities and changes for the Utah tribes and I hope that the eight tribes would work collectively to address them," said Delegate Filfred.

Delegate Daniels expressed his appreciation to Delegate Filfred for successfully serving as the Utah Tribal Leaders chairman and for his strong advocacy on behalf of the Utah tribes.

"Delegate Filfred has been very vocal on all the eight Utah tribe's concerns and issues. He presented great advocacy on behalf of public safety, veterans, education, community infrastructure, and the Bears Ears National Monument. He worked closely with local, state, and federal leadership to push initiatives forward," said Delegate Daniels.

PHOTO: Council Delegate Davis Filfred and the Utah tribal leaders during the Utah Tribal Leaders meeting on Nov. 15, 2018 in Wendover, Nevada.

During the two-day UTL meeting, the tribal leaders also received reports from the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, Utah Department of Heritage and Arts, Utah Department of Health, Utah Department of Transportation, Utah Department of Public Safety, Utah Foster Care Association, American Indian Services, Utah Office for Victims of Crime, Utah State University, Native American Church of Salt Lake, and Pioneer Park Committee.

The next Utah Tribal Leaders meeting is scheduled for Feb. 4, 2019 in Salt Lake City.

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