For Immediate Release
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President Shelly Appoints Communications Team

WINDBROOK, Ariz.- President Ben Shelly has formally established a communications team for his administration.

Earlier this week, he appointed Erny Zah to director of communications, who was serving as the public information officer. President Shelly then appointed Emerald Dahouzy as public information officer on Tuesday.

Both are part of the communications team for the Office of the President and Vice President.

“I want to make sure our message is heard by all the Navajo people. This team will be responsible for making sure this administration is well represented in various aspects of media relations,” President Shelly said.

Zah, of Sawmill, Ariz. was recently promoted to director of communications after serving as the administration's public information officer since mid-November. Before he served the Shelly-Jim administration, he was an award winning reporter for the Navajo Times newspaper in Window Rock.


Zah brings experience as a journalist who has displayed his ability to cover complex issues and relay them in an understandable written form.

He is a 2005 graduate of East Central University in Ada, Okla. and holds a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in English.

The newest addition to the administration is Emerald Dahouzy from Window Rock.
Before she became the public information officer for the administration, she was the public information officer at the Department of Diné Education.

She is a 2009 graduate of Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, Colo., where she earned a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in Human Communication.

In addition, in September 2011, Dahoyz competed in the Miss Navajo pageant and earned Best Essay and Miss Photogenic awards.

Dahoyz has traveled worldwide to help people. She has traveled to countries such as India, Nepal, Spain and Peru helping in humanitarian initiatives.

She brings a contemporary approach to multimedia formats, which will encompass a larger audience.

“I’m glad that President Shelly administration is inclusive of young professionals. We’ve been told to get educated and come back to help our people. I will can continue with helping our people by relaying important information to our constituents,” Dahoyz said.

Together, the team plans create a more accessible and transparent administration.

“The people in my administration don't work for me, they work for the people. So it’s very important that the people know what we are doing and now we have a team that can relay that information,” President Shelly said.

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