



The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 25, 2020

**Flags to be flown at half-staff in honor of former  
Navajo Police Officer and Criminal Investigator Esther Charley**

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — On Thursday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer issued a proclamation that calls for all flags on the Navajo Nation to be flown at half-staff from June 26 through June 27 in honor and memory of former Navajo Police Officer and Criminal Investigator Esther Charley who recently passed away.

“Esther Charley was a frontline warrior who dedicated her life to serving in the line of duty. She was a mother, a daughter, and a protector of our communities. As her family lays her to rest, we will pray for strength and comfort for her loved ones. We will always honor and remember her service and contributions to the Navajo Nation,” said President Nez.

Charley began her public safety career serving as a Navajo Police Officer for the Navajo Police Department and later served as a criminal investigator with the Criminal Investigations Unit. She served 26 years with the Division of Public Safety.

The proclamation states, “The Navajo Nation created the Navajo Division of Public Safety in 1959 and since that time they have watched over us 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year; with this dedication we are greatly saddened by the loss of our warrior and protector, Esther Charley, a Navajo Police Officer and Criminal Investigator who dedicated her life to serving in the line of duty with the Navajo Police Department and Criminal Investigations Unit.”

Her colleagues remembered Charley has a dedicated and hard-working employee who did not seek recognition or notoriety for her work and contributions.

“By all accounts, Esther was a very humble and committed individual when it came to the work she did for the Navajo people. I’m sure she saved countless lives as an officer and found justice for many as a criminal investigator. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this difficult time,” said Vice President Lizer.

“All flags on the Navajo Nation shall be flown at half-staff to honor the memory and service of the late Esther Charley from June 26, 2020 through June 27, 2020,” states the proclamation.

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## THE NAVAJO NATION

# *Proclamation*

### IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF NAVAJO POLICE OFFICER AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR ESTHER CHARLEY

**THE NAVAJO NATION** created the Navajo Division of Public Safety in 1959 and since that time they have watched over us 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year; with this dedication we are greatly saddened by the loss of our warrior and protector, Esther Charley, a Navajo Police Officer and Criminal Investigator who dedicated her life to serving in the line of duty with the Navajo Police Department and Criminal Investigations Unit.

**WHEREAS**, Esther Charley was a mother, a daughter, and a protector for us all; who dedicated her life to serving and protecting our Navajo communities with great honor and dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, Esther Charley served 26 years, first with the Navajo Police Department, and with the Criminal Investigations Unit at the time of her passing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Navajo Nation honors the late Esther Charley for her service to the Navajo Nation and offers its prayers and condolences to her family, friends, fellow officers, colleagues, and community.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ**, President of the Navajo Nation and **I, MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation do hereby proclaim that all flags on the Navajo Nation shall be flown at half-staff to honor the memory and service of the late Esther Charley from June 26, 2020 through June 27, 2020.

**ORDERED THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2020**

Jonathan Nez, *President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**

Myron Lizer, *Vice President*  
**THE NAVAJO NATION**