



The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 18, 2020

**Nez-Lizer declare “Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week”**

*“EMS Strong: Ready Today. Preparing for Tomorrow.”*

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer issued a proclamation declaring May 17 – 23, 2020 as “Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week” to honor all emergency medical services teams including first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, fire fighters, police officers, emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency trauma technicians, educators and administrators, and volunteer members.

“Setting aside a week to recognize emergency medical services teams is not enough to thank our frontline warriors for everything that they do for our Navajo people, but we offer this proclamation as a small gesture to honor them. In many ways, they are the answers to our prayers and they are working miracles and saving lives especially during the COVID-19 pandemic on the Navajo Nation. All of you, along with your families are always in our prayers. They are ‘EMS Strong: Ready Today. Preparing for Tomorrow,’” stated President Nez.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, President Nez and Vice President Lizer have visited with first responders, EMS teams, health care workers and other emergency response officials to thank and encourage them to remain strong and resilient. Many shared their stories and the extraordinary steps they are taking to protect themselves and their families, many of whom are temporarily living separately from their families to lower the risks associated with the virus.

“Tremendous sacrifices are being made by all first responders and emergency medical services teams, and we don’t hear about those sacrifices publicly. Each day, they go to work not knowing exactly what they will face, but they are ready for anything. We pray for their safety, health, and well-being physically, spiritually, and mentally,” said Vice President Lizer.

National EMS Week is also recognized across the country this week. The proclamation designates May 6 – 10 as Navajo Nation Nurses Appreciation Week across the Navajo Nation.

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## THE NAVAJO NATION

# *Proclamation*

### **Recognizing May 17 – 23, 2020 As “Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week”**

**The Navajo Nation** proclaims May 17-23, 2020 as the NAVAJO NATION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK. The National campaign is endorsed by the American College of Emergency Physicians and National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians to direct attention to the importance of emergency response in saving precious lives.

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are a vital public service and are working hard to save lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. Access to quality emergency medical care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden and life-threatening illness or injury; and

**WHEREAS**, serving as the safety net of the Navajo Nation’s health care system, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, emergency medical services teams consist of First Responders, Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Dispatchers, Firefighters, Police Officers, Emergency Physicians, Emergency Nurses, Emergency Trauma Technicians, Educators, and Administrators; and

**WHEREAS**, career and volunteer members of emergency medical services teams engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills. EMS providers also educate the public about injury prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, Navajo Nation has a well-established system of EMS providers and services. We wish to celebrate the dedicated volunteers, professionals, and facilities that make Navajo Nation’s EMS system strong; and

**WHEREAS**, the families of the emergency medical services care team have endured endless sacrifice and continuous support for their loved ones while performing their duties to save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week; now

**THEREFORE**, I, Jonathan Nez, President of the Navajo Nation, and I, Myron Lizer, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim May 17-23, 2020 as Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week with the theme, ***EMS Strong: Ready Today. Preparing for Tomorrow.*** We encourage the Navajo Nation to observe this week to pay tribute to our Emergency Medical Services providers, whose selfless dedication and extraordinary efforts help save countless lives each day.

**PROCLAIMED THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2020**



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



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