



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS:

Jared Touchin, Communications Director
(928) 274-4275

Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer
(928) 274-2758

nnopvp.communications@gmail.com

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Nez-Lizer congratulate Arlando Teller and Wahleah Johns for their recent appointments to serve under the Biden-Harris Administration

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulate Arlando Teller and Wahleah Johns, both members of the Navajo Nation, for their recent appointments to serve under the Biden Harris Administration.

Wahleah Johns, will serve as the head of the Office of Indian Energy, under the U.S. Department of Energy, to assist tribes with energy development, capacity building, energy cost reduction, and electrification of tribal lands and homes. She previously served as the Executive Director of Native Renewables helping families to achieve energy independence by bringing solar power to off the grid homes for Navajo and Hopi families. Johns is originally from Tonizhoni, Ariz.

Arlando Teller, originally from Chinle, Ariz., resigned as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives for District 7 on Jan. 31, to accept the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs under the U.S. Department of Transportation. Prior to being elected, Teller served as the Deputy Executive Director for the Navajo Nation Division of Transportation.

“Words cannot express how proud we are of these two young Navajo professionals, who have dedicated themselves to serving our Navajo people and are now moving onto the federal level to help empower all tribal nations. In my conversations with the Biden-Harris Administration, I’ve advocated for the appointment of our Navajo people to high-level positions to help advance the issues of all tribes at the federal level. First Lady Phefelia Nez and I congratulate them and their families and we look forward to working with each of them on transportation infrastructure and energy development,” said President Nez, who also thanked former Rep. Teller for his years of service as a state legislator representing many Navajo communities at the state level.

Recently, President Nez spoke with U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary nominee Pete Buttigieg, regarding road improvements and infrastructure needs on the Navajo Nation. Working with Navajo Nation Division of Transportation Executive Director Garret Silversmith, the Office of the President and Vice President is in the process of submitting road and transportation priorities to Secretary nominee Buttigieg.

“Second Lady Dottie Lizer and I are excited to see our Navajo professionals exceling and establishing themselves at the federal level. We congratulate Arlando Teller and Wahleah Johns

for helping to lead the way for Indian Country and for our Navajo people. We have many road and transportation and energy needs that I look forward to working together on to advance our priorities to help our Navajo communities,” said Vice President Lizer.

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