



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Week of May 2 – 8, 2021 recognized as
“Navajo Nation Correctional Officers Week”**

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Sunday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer proclaimed the week of May 2 – 8, 2021, as “Navajo Nation Correctional Officers Week” to honor the contributions and sacrifices of all correctional officers and personnel who serve under the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety across the Navajo Nation.

“The administration acknowledges the difficult job we ask our correctional officers to perform. They are in locked facilities for a large part of their day to safely secure inmates. Their job has become increasingly complex and demanding, involving custodial, supervisory, rehabilitation, and counseling roles. The officers continue to play those roles in an ever-more stressful environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said President Nez. He also acknowledged and thanked the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch for their continued efforts to help our Navajo people through the peacemaking process and other resources to restore peace and harmony among our people and communities.

The proclamation states, “correctional officers and correctional employees are frontline warriors and dedicated professionals who sacrifice to manage a diverse group of individuals, some of whom are violent, mentally ill, and exhibit high-risk behaviors.”

“Our Nation’s correctional officers and employees ensure the citizens are protected from people who the Navajo criminal justice system has determined are not safe to be in our communities. The important and difficult role correctional officers fulfill is not always recognized by the general public. Please join us in thanking and praying for these brave men and women for their exceptional service,” said Vice President Lizer.

“National Correctional Officers and Employees Week” is also recognized across the country this week, as designated by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in 1984. The proclamation designates May 2 – 8 as “Navajo Nation Correctional Officers Week.”

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING MAY 2 - 8, 2021 AS

“NAVAJO NATION CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK”

WE, the Navajo People, honor and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of all correctional officers and personnel who serve under the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety facilities across the Navajo Nation. Correctional Officers and supporting staff go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our Navajo People are protected and our communities are made safer.

WHEREAS, U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed Proclamation 5187 in 1984, designating the first full week in May as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and correctional employees are committed to working together to maintain custody, security, and ensuring the safety of the facility employees and detainees; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that correctional officers and correctional employees are frontline warriors and dedicated professionals who sacrifice to manage a diverse group of individuals, some of whom are violent, mentally ill, high risk behaviors and dangerous; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers and correctional employees are integral to ensuring the citizens of the Navajo Nation are protected from people who the Navajo criminal justice system has determined are not safe to be at large in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation honors all correctional officers and correctional employees who continue to persevere and report for duty to protect the health and safety of detainees, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ, President of the Navajo Nation, and **I, MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim May 2 – 8, 2021 as “Navajo Nation Correctional Officers Week” throughout the Navajo Nation.

PROCLAIMED THIS 2nd DAY OF MAY 2021

Handwritten signature of Jonathan Nez in black ink.

Jonathan Nez, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

Handwritten signature of Myron Lizer in black ink.

Myron Lizer, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION