



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Navajo Nation's FY2022 Comprehensive Budget fully funds the Department of Criminal Investigations plus an additional \$1 million

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Navajo Nation's fiscal year 2022 Comprehensive Budget was signed into law on Monday, which included full funding for the Navajo Nation Department of Criminal Investigations totaling over \$10 million from General Funds and External Funds combined. In addition, the approval of the Comprehensive Budget included carryover funding from FY2021 that is estimated to be over \$1 million as of Tuesday.

"We appreciate the work and support of the 24th Navajo Nation Council and the Division of Public Safety to develop and advocate for the Department of Criminal Investigations. With the budget that was signed into law on Monday, the Department of Criminal Investigations will receive the \$10 million and an estimated \$1 million in carryover funds from FY2021 – this represents an increase in their overall funding for the upcoming fiscal year. We fully support the Department of Criminal Investigations and we understand the importance of their work for our people. We are open to working together with the Council to address any additional funding needs whether it be through a supplemental funding request or another source," said President Nez.

The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President is also advocating at the federal level with members of Congress and the Biden-Harris Administration to secure more federal funding for public safety for the Navajo Nation.

"Federal advocacy has led to steady increases in funding for Criminal Investigations over the years. We are fully engaged with congressional members and federal agencies to support increased funding in the federal budget bill that is being debated in Congress right now. As I stated before, we are committed to continuing on the path of working together to address any remaining issues and concerns," added President Nez.

The FY2022 Comprehensive Budget was approved by the 24th Navajo Nation Council by a vote of 18-3 on Sept. 10, and will go into effect on Oct. 1. The three branch chiefs allocated approximately \$177 million in General Funds for the branches of government.

Along with the signing of the Comprehensive Budget on Monday, the Office of the President and Vice President issued a press release stating that the line-item veto authority was used for \$881,000 for the Department of Criminal Investigations because the department is set to receive

approximately \$1 million in additional carryover funding in the upcoming fiscal year. Again, President Nez stated that he will work with the Council to address any additional funding needs.

President Nez also approved full funding for the Office of the Prosecutor, and carryover funding from the previous fiscal year that will provide an additional minimum amount of \$320,000.

“The needs are great in our communities across the Navajo Nation. We thank the Council for approving a budget that will help to continue addressing many of those needs. As leaders, we need to remain committed to working together, talking the issues out, and creating solutions that truly address the issues,” stated Vice President Myron Lizer.

The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks the 24th Navajo Nation Council for their support of the FY2022 Comprehensive Budget and looks forward to continue working together to resolve concerns and other funding needs.

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