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Navajo President Buu Nygren collaborates with federal, state, tribal officials to address community concerns over alleged ICE actions

'Navajo citizens have had negative, sometimes traumatizing, experiences' - President Nygren

Helpful Phone Numbers for

Immigration Concerns

WINDOW. ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren today addressed the Navajo Nation on

tribal radio station KTNN regarding concerns brought to him by Navajo citizens about U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

He said his office has received reports that Navajos have had "negative, and sometimes traumatizing, experiences with federal agents targeting undocumented immigrants in the Southwest."

The Office of the President is in contact

with the Department of Homeland Security, ICE, Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs, New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, state offices, and U.S. Senate and House representatives, he said.

"The advice we've received is valuable, and we are better prepared to address this issue head on," the

President said. "We are designating Operation Rainbow Bridge to field calls for my office on this issue."

He advised Navajos to carry state-issued identification, such as a driver's license, other picture identification, or their Certificate of Indian blood, known as a CIB.

"It's best to be prepared," he said. "Having your state ID is crucial, and if you possess a CIB, it can provide an additional layer of reassurance."

FROM THE OFFICE OF NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT

855-435-7672

INFO@OPERATIONRAINBOWBRIDGE.COM

*PLEASE NOTE: THIS THE CURRENT OPERATION RAINBOW BRIDGE TIP LINE.

U.S.

REPRESENTATIVE TERESA
LEGER
FERNANDEZ

202-225-6190

928-871-7436

NAVAJO NATION

HUMAN RIGHTS

People with concerns or questions can call 855-435-7672 or 855-HELP-ORB.

Or visit Operationrainbowbridge.com. Its email address is info@operationrainbowbridge.com

President Nygren's statement:

'Remain calm and assured. We will assist any and all Navajo citizens'

Recent reports of negative interactions with federal immigration agents have raised concerns that have prompted fear and anxiety among our community members.

My office has received multiple reports from Navajo citizens that they have had negative, and sometimes traumatizing, experiences with federal agents targeting undocumented immigrants in the Southwest.

Our office has diligently followed up on leads we receive, and my division directors are working diligently to set up a hotline where tips and complaints may be directed. We are also working on securing the availability of trained counselors who can speak with Navajo citizens suffering the emotional and mental impacts of negative encounters with federal immigration agents.

My administration has spoken to tribal leaders of other Southwest tribal nations near the border who are more familiar with this issue. My office has been in contact with the Department of Homeland Security, the US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, state and federal Senate and House representatives, and the office of the governors for Arizona and New Mexico. The advice we've received is valuable, and we are better prepared to address this issue head on. We are designating Operation Rainbow Bridge to field calls for my office on this issue.

It's best to be prepared, and we are advising Navajo citizens to carry state-issued identification, such as a driver's license or other picture identification if available. Having your state ID is crucial, and if you possess a CIB (Certificate of Indian Blood), it can provide an additional layer of reassurance. If you do run into issues with federal immigration officials, reach out to our office through operation rainbow bridge.

We encourage individuals to remain calm and assured that our collaborative efforts with local, state, and federal law enforcement are ongoing to ensure community safety.

Our office remains dedicated to provide accurate information and to assist any and all Navajo citizens who get caught up in immigration issues.

- Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren