



## 23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 19, 2016

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### **Law and Order Committee seeks applicants for the Judicial Conduct Commission**

**WINDOW ROCK** – Members of the Law and Order Committee met on Feb. 16, and discussed the need to reactivate the Navajo Nation’s Judicial Conduct Commission, which has been inactive for several years.

The Judicial Conduct Commission was established in 2009 to provide a fair, impartial, and expeditious forum to hear complaints and grievances against Navajo Nation justices and judges involving alleged violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct, personnel policies for justices and judges, and any other Navajo Nation laws or policies that set standards of ethics and conduct for justices and judges. The Commission makes findings and recommends sanctions, as appropriate.

Reactivating the commission will also require the commission to fill its membership, which includes a member of the general public.

LOC member Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood), said there is a need to reinstitute the commission to ensure the quality of the justice system and to protect the rights and interests of Navajo people.

The make up of the commission calls for a member of the public who is not a current member of the Navajo Nation Bar Association and not a sitting, retired or removed justice or judge of the Navajo Nation or any jurisdiction, in accordance with 7 N.N.C. § 423(A)(4).

“It is important to select a qualified individual from the public to serve in this capacity and to fulfill the duties to improve our justice system,” stated LOC chair Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau).

LOC members will work with the Judicial Branch to seek qualified candidates and will advertise the position in local newspapers.

The Law and Order Committee will accept resumes and letters of interest from interested individuals beginning Feb. 22 and will remain open until the position is filled. Applicants are asked to their resume and letter of interest to Ralph Roanhorse, Human Resources Director, Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation, P.O. Box 520, Window Rock, Arizona, 86515.

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