



## Navajo Police Officers Day recognized, honored by Law and Order Committee

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**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — The Law and Order Committee (LOC) of the 24th Navajo Nation Council recognized Navajo Police Officers Day and honored those current serving and those lost in the line of duty. Navajo Police Officers Day is observed the second Friday of May as a Navajo Nation-wide holiday.

“The Navajo Nation has always had a shortage of police officers but, with this pandemic, we are starting to see how the shortage affects our lives. I wish I could say this virus slowed down crimes but it hasn’t. Our officers are at the forefront fighting this virus and continue still to combat crime. The boots on the ground should be celebrated today for their hard work and dedication for keeping our Nation safe,” said Law and Order Committee Chairwoman Eugenia Charles-Newton.

“We thank all of our Navajo police Officers wearing the badge for their time and dedication of service to the Navajo Nation and to the Navajo People. We also need to remember our fallen police officers who gave their lives in the line of duty protecting the Navajo Nation. I also want to thank the families of our police officers and those fallen. We have you in our minds and hearts. Thank you for allowing them to serve our great Navajo Nation,” said LOC Vice Chair Otto Tso.

Navajo Nation Council [Resolution No. CO-64-17](#) declared the second Friday in May as “Navajo Police Officer Day.” The action established a Navajo Nation holiday for all to commemorate Navajo Nation police officers and to remember fallen officers.

“Our Navajo BLUE line is the bravery of keeping our Navajo Nation strong, god bless all our Navajo public safety personnel,” said Council Delegate Vince James.

“To me, and to a lot of our people out there, everyday is Navajo Nation Police Officers Day. Our police officers all gave some, and some of them gave all. May God bless them and their families for their dedication to our Nation,” said Council Delegate Eugene Tso.

The [Officer Down Memorial Page](#), which tracks the fallen officers across the country, lists the 15 Navajo Police Officers that were lost in the line of duty. Their names are:

Houston James Largo (2017), LeAnder Frank (2016), Alex K. Yazzie (2015), Ernest Jesus Montoya Sr. (2014), Darrell Cervandez Curley (2011), Winsonfred A. Filfred (1999), Esther Todecheene (1998), Samuel Anthony Redhouse (1997), Hoskie Allen Gene (1996), Andy Begay (1987), Roy Lee Stanley (1987), Loren Whitehat (1979), Burton Begay (1975), Gordon C. James (1960), and Hoska Thompson (1949).

“Through the Navajo Nation Council’s resolution, we give tribute to our heroes that are serving the Navajo people 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We ask our people to say ‘thank you’ to our protectors, and to take some time today to learn about and remember those lost in the line of duty,” said Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie.

The Navajo Police Department and enforcement agencies will be enforcing public health orders establishing a curfew to protect against the spread of COVID-19. Navajo Police will be enforcing this coming weekend’s 57-hour curfew starting today at 8:00 PM and ending Monday at 5:00 AM.

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