



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Media Contact:
nnlb.communications@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2023

25th Navajo Nation Council commemorates the inaugural "Navajo Women Warriors Day"

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Monday, the 25th Navajo Nation Council commemorates the inaugural "Navajo Women Warriors Day" on the first day of the Spring season to recognize and honor Navajo women who serve in the military and to thank them for their commitment to the United States Armed Forces.

"Today, we take the time to honor our Navajo women warriors who sacrificed so much for our country," said Council Delegate Eugenia Charles-Newton (Shiprock), who sponsored legislation under the previous 24th Navajo Nation Council to create the day of recognition.

The legislation stemmed from a resolution passed by the Fort Defiance Agency Veterans Organization on October 12, 2017, to support Navajo Women Veterans Recognition Day, beginning the first day of Spring in March of every year.

"Today and every day, we appreciate and honor the extraordinary Diné women with words of admiration, gratitude, and praise. Women are the matriarchs of our communities and homes, and we also hold a special place throughout our history and in the many roles, we serve today. At Fort Sumner, the women warriors helped our leaders negotiate the treaty with the federal government. Today, many daughters, mothers, and sisters continue to serve and protect our country through military service. Together we can ensure they receive the recognition they deserve," said Speaker Crystalyne Curley (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood).

The resolution states that since the birth of Changing Woman, Navajo women have been held in high regard as they are responsible for the growth of the Nation, families, and teachings—the need to recognize Navajo Women Veterans' contributions toward military service in all conflicts, peacetime, and after.

"This day is a time for us all to come together and celebrate the incredible contributions that Navajo women have made throughout history. It's also a chance for us to learn about their stories and gain insight into their experiences in the military. We are forever grateful for their sacrifice and bravery," said Council Delegate Brenda Jesus (Oak Springs, St. Michaels).

The resolution also recognizes that women who have served in the military face many different obstacles and challenges compared to men serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including post-traumatic stress disorder, hypertension, depression, sexual trauma, and suicide.

The 25th Navajo Nation Council thanks all of the Navajo Nation's women warriors, including veterans and those who continue to serve in the Armed Forces. Our leaders strive to provide more support and solutions for all veterans across the Navajo Nation.

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