

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

MEDIA CONTACT: nnlb.communications@gmail.com

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Office of Legislative Counsel seeks appointment of special prosecutor in ZenniHome and IDSA matter



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — The Navajo Nation Office of Chief Legislative Counsel has formally notified the leadership of the Navajo Nation Council of plans to initiate the appointment process for a special prosecutor to investigate potential unethical or illegal conduct related to the Navajo Nation Executive Branch's contract with Indigenous Design Studio + Architects (IDSA), and reported subcontract with ZenniHome.

Following a review of documentation and information provided, the Chief Legislative Counsel determined that there are reasonable grounds to warrant further investigation, and potential prosecution, regarding the Nation Nation Executive Branch's contracting processes involving ZenniHome and IDSA.

Under 2 N.N.C. of the Navajo Nation Code, the Chief Legislative Counsel is authorized to submit an application to the Judicial Branch requesting the appointment of a special prosecutor.

If the Judicial Branch grants the appointment, a special prosecutor would investigate and, if necessary, pursue prosecution of any individuals found to have engaged in unethical or illegal conduct during the contracting process.

In addition, Legislation No. 0174-25 was introduced on Saturday, calling for formal

investigatory hearings into the handling of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that were issued by the Navajo Nation Executive Branch to a Navajo-owned company which subcontracted with ZenniHome, a home manufacturing company to build homes.