FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Window Rock District Court grants authority to Special Prosecutor to advance ZenniHome and Native Community Capital investigations

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — On Friday, a Window Rock District Court Judge issued a court order granting authority for an appointed special prosecutor to pursue and advance investigations into the Nygren Administration's handling of ARPA funds related to Indigenous Design Studio + Architects, Zenni-Home and Native Community Capital.

In August, the court appointed Kyle Nayback, Esq., as the special prosecutor to investigate possible unethical and illegal conduct tied to the Executive Branch's contracting activities.

The order issued on Friday allows the court appointed special prosecutor to oversee the investigations and to prosecute individuals based on the findings of the investigations.

"The court's ruling ensures that the special prosecutor has the legal authority it needs to fully investigate potential wrongdoing and to hold parties accountable," said Chief Legislative Counsel Michelle Espino. "We owe it to our citizens to ensure that the Nation's financial and community interests are protected at all times."

According to reports from the Office of the Controller, $24 million was drawn down to construct 80 homes for Navajo families, but only 18 homes were constructed through ZenniHome. The status of the remaining housing materials, assets, and funds are not currently accounted for based on information provided by the Office of the Controller.

In September 2023, the Office of the President and Vice President announced an agreement with a non-profit corporation known as Native Community Capital, to administer $55 million in grant funding to provide financial assistance to Navajo homeowners to assist with mortgage payments and home repair assistance. This allocation of funding also came under question during the preliminary investigation stage.

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