



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

## 25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 10, 2025**

**Stipulated agreement compels President Nygren to formally recognize  
Sean McCabe as the lawful Controller of the Navajo Nation**

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — On Wednesday, a stipulated agreement compelled Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren to formally recognize Sean McCabe as the lawful Controller of the Navajo Nation.

The agreement, entered between President Nygren and Controller McCabe, in his individual capacity, confirms what the Navajo Nation Council has maintained from the start — that Sean McCabe is the lawful Controller, despite President Nygren's illegal attempt to terminate McCabe.

Under the terms of the agreement, President Nygren must acknowledge McCabe's lawful standing as the Controller, agree to support the back pay owed to McCabe, and accept that the Office of the Controller will cover McCabe's attorney fees.

During Wednesday's court proceedings, Chief Legislative Counsel Michelle Espino told the Court that President Nygren is admitting to the unlawful termination of Controller McCabe through his acceptance of the stipulated agreement. She also informed the Court that President Nygren and his attorney expressly excluded Speaker Crystalyne Curley and her attorney from the in-person discussions between the President and the Controller that led to the agreement.

The agreement does not resolve the broader issues raised by the original petition submitted by the Office of Legislative Counsel. The case will continue moving forward, as Speaker Curley seeks the Court's determination regarding President Nygren's unlawful attempt to terminate Controller McCabe and the President's misuse of the presidential line-item veto to eliminate funding from the Legislative Branch and the Navajo Nation Youth Council in the FY2026 Comprehensive Budget.

The Council remains committed to defending the laws of the Navajo Nation and upholding the overwhelming calls of the Navajo people to hold President Nygren accountable.

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