# RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

### 23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2015

#### AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL, CONFIRMING TERRELENE G. MASSEY AS NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### BE IT ENACTED:

# Section One. Findings

- A. The Navajo Nation President appoints a person as the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director. 2 N.N.C. § 1653.
- B. The appointed Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director serves at the Navajo Nation President's pleasure. *Id*.
- C. The Navajo Nation Council gave the Health, Education and Human Services Committee legislative oversight over the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services. 2 N.N.C. §§ 401(C)(1) see also CJA-03-13, 22nd Navajo Nation Council (2013) and 1655.
- D. A proposed resolution requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be assigned to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).
- E. The Navajo Nation Division of Social Services shall operate pursuant to a Plan of Operation. 2 N.N.C. §1655.

# Section Two. Appointment of the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director

The Navajo Nation President appoints Terrelene G. Massey as the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director. Ms. Massey's appointment letter and resume are attached as EXHIBIT A. Section Three. Recommendation of the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director

The Health, Education and Human Services Committee recommends Terrelene G. Massey as the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director. 2 N.N.C. §1653 see also CJA-03-13, 22nd Navajo Nation Council, sect. 5, 30 (2013).

Section Four. Confirmation of the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director

- 1. The Navajo Nation Council confirms Terrelene G. Massey as the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Executive Director.
- 2. Ms. Massey shall serve at the Navajo Nation President's pleasure. 2 N.N.C. § 1653.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona) at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 21 in favor and 0 opposed, this  $21^{\rm st}$  day of October 2015.

LoRenzo Bates, Speaker Navajo Nation Council

C(XQ3

Date 1. 27, 2015

Motion: Honorable Nelson S. BeGaye Second: Honorable Jonathan Perry



# RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT



May 26, 2015

Terrelene G. Massey

Re: Appointment as Division Director to the Navajo Division of Social Services

Dear Ms. Massey:

This memorandum serves to appoint you as the Division Director to the Navajo Division of Social Services. This appointment shall take effect on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. and is subject to confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

Your duties are outlined in the plan of operation for the Division. You shall be responsible for the administration and management of the Navajo Division of Social Services and the supervision of all personnel. This includes ensuring compliance with all applicable Navajo Nation laws and policies.

Your salary shall be that of the current budgeted salary for the position. During this appointment, you will report to the Chief of Staff, President Begaye and Vice President Nez. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Russell Begaye, President

NAVAJO NATION

Jonathan Nez, Vice President

NAVAJO NATION

# TERRELENE G. MASSFY

# **EDUCATION**

University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, NM

Juris Doctor, May 2011

- Indian Law Certificate
- Pre-Law Summer Institute (Summer 2008)

University of Texas at Austin, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, Austin, TX

Master of Public Affairs, May 2001

Public Policy and International Affairs fellow

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Bachelor of Science, Political Science, May 1998

Memorial Union Activities Board, Board member

# **BAR ADMISSION**

- State of New Mexico (April 27, 2012)
- Navajo Nation (November 5, 2012)

# WORK HISTORY

#### **LEGAL EXPERIENCE:**

Johnson Barnhouse & Keegan, LLP Albuquerque, NM

Attorney, April 14, 2014 - current

- Prepare wills involving federal trust properties and other legal documents for execution by clients.
- Represent individuals in probate matters in federal or tribal settings.
- Advise and represent tribal and non-tribal companies involving unemployment issues, commercial and transactional matters.
- Draft and finalize corporate documents for companies located on reservation lands and prepare other documents for such companies to conduct business on and off Indian reservations.
- Draft legal memorandum concerning business entity and business associations.
- Assist senior attorneys on litigation involving insurance defense, and representation of tribal enterprises by drafting complaints or motions, conducting legal research and drafting memorandums.

New Mexico Legal Aid, Native American Program, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

Staff Attorney, May 7, 2013 - April 4, 2014

- Advise and represent approximately 40 clients involving custody, child support, jurisdiction, timesharing agreements and parental rights in Tribal and State Courts.
- Draft and finalize petitions, motions, and responses and proposed Court orders for clients in same matters for both State and Tribal Courts.
- Advise and prepare documents for clients on other civil law matters including grandparents rights, consumer law, unemployment benefits, probate, and employees' rights.
- Advise and represent Native American defendants in Tribal courts regarding the Indian Civil Rights Act and tribal law if applicable, and prepare their defense against Tribal Police or Bureau of Indian Affairs Police.

 Draft court documents for defendant clients including motion for discovery, conduct discovery, prepare clients for trial, and negotiate plea agreements on their behalf.

#### Navajo Nation Department of Justice, Window Rock, AZ

Contract Attorney, February 11, 2013 - May 3, 2013

- Draft advisory memorandum to Navajo Nation Chapter Houses (sub-entities of the Navajo Nation) for their legal inquiries regarding economic and community development projects.
- Provide legal advice to Navajo Nation Programs, legislative bodies, and staff regarding Navajo Nation Code, Fundamental Law, and Navajo Common Law.

### New Mexico Legal Aid, Native American Program, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

Volunteer Attorney, October 2012 – January 2013 (part-time)

• Handle civil cases for clients under the direction of staff attorney in Indian law, probate and disability law.

#### University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, NM

Law Clerk, Southwest Indian Law Clinic, January - May 2011

Manage four to six client files during the semester with lead supervisor/professor. Wrote letters to clients, opposing parties, and third parties. Draft pleadings and motions which were filed in court including tribal and state courts. Represented clients in court with supervisor.

Legal Writing Teaching Assistant, January – May 2010

 Provide assistance to first year law students on writing briefs and delivering oral arguments in mock trials for writing class.

#### Sacred Wind Communications, Albuquerque, NM

Legal Intern, June – August 2010

- Draft company's affirmative action plan for submission to the Navajo Nation Labor Relations for company
  to continue engaging in work on the Navajo reservation, including employment of Navajos in the company.
- Research the Navajo Preference for Employment Act and case law, including Navajo and Federal cases.
   Met with and conducted interviews with key managers to develop the plan.

#### JA Associates, Albuquerque, NM

Law Clerk, June – August 2010

 Conduct research and wrote legal analyses for mid-level attorneys at civil firm that specializes in Indian law and worked on issues related to the tribal 638 process for Indian health, public safety, and other issues involving tribal members.

# American Indian Law Center, Albuquerque, NM

PLSI Teaching Assistant, June - July 2009

 Serve as a teaching assistant for Native American law school candidates for three first-year law courses and an Indian law class. Conduct study sessions and review student assignments.

#### **POLICY EXPERIENCE:**

#### New Mexico Human Services Department, Santa Fe, NM

Native American Liaison, November 2004 - May 2008

Responsible for achieving the objectives of the department's Native American initiatives. Served as lead coordinator on tribal consultation projects impacting Native American health and human services programs on behalf of five State agencies. Facilitate communication and project coordination with tribal leaders, tribal program managers and the Indian Health Service. Co-draft and review legislative bills impacting Native Americans; testified and lobbied state legislature for agency bills as assigned. Lead department's outreach for enrollment of Native Americans in department's Medicaid, child support, and other programs.

# New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, Santa Fe, NM

Senior Policy Analyst, July 2003 - November 2004

Serve as lead staff for health, behavioral health, Indian education, and public safety issues. Wrote policy
analyses, briefs, and position papers on state and federal policies that impact Native Americans for
legislative committees, and Governor's office.

Harvard University, The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, Cambridge, MA Associate Director of Honoring Nations, July 2002 – June 2003

• Co-wrote and edit printed reports and case studies evaluating tribal sovereignty programs and governmental best practices through site visits and interviews of tribal members. Manage day-to-day activities of the program including website development, supervise two staff persons, and coordinate logistics for major events. Increase program exposure at national conferences and during radio interviews..

# **The Navajo Nation Office of the President/Vice-President**, Window Rock, AZ *Executive Staff Assistant to President Kelsey A. Begaye*, June 2001 – May 2002

Meet with and present to federal and state officials in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah on policy and funding needs for the Navajo Nation including education, senior centers, and public infrastructure. Track bills impacting the Navajo Nation in the State legislatures and coordinate lobbying activities for tribal priorities. Co-drafted speeches for President of the Navajo Nation to State officials emphasizing tribal priorities and status reports on projects supported by the state.

# **SKILLS**

- Proficient with Microsoft Office.
- Proficient with Westlaw and Lexis Nexis research.
- Speak Navajo language fluently.