



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing the Tribe to Join the *In Re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability* Litigation)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power, “To represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe...; and

WHEREAS, The Council has observed and been advised of the harms done to Tribal members, especially Tribal member youth, as a result of the designs, platforms, and practices of social media companies; and

WHEREAS, Over 140 actions brought by 30 U.S. states, school districts, and individuals against defendants, including Meta, Google, Byte Dance have been condensed into a multi-district litigation case that is currently proceeding in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, in a case titled *In Re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability*, (Case 4:22-md-03047-YGR)(the “MDL”); and

WHEREAS, The Tribe has an opportunity to join as a plaintiff in this MDL, and possibly to recoup some of the funds expended on youth mental health, suicide prevention, and overall mental health for our members, as well as to benefit from any future mental health-related programs that may result from the litigation; and

WHEREAS, After discussing the MDL and the nature of the claims and damages, the Council finds that pursuing becoming a party may help the Tribe improve and sustain its mental health services to its members, and is in the best interests of the Tribe.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that Tribe is hereby authorized to pursue joining as a party in the *In Re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability*, (Case 4:22-md-03047-YGR).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribe’s Office of the Attorney General is instructed to work with the Tribe’s litigation team to prepare the necessary pleading and forms for final approval before filing to join the MDL.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

Resolution No. 08-2024-175

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on AUGUST 7, 2024 duly adopted by a vote of SEVEN for, ZERO against, and THREE abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1, of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Kasey Velasquez 9.11.2024
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman Date

Vaneyssa Johnson 9/11/24
Vaneyssa Johnson, Tribal Secretary Date