

Leadership with Loyalty, Integrity & Wisdom



Tohono O'odham Nation
Office of the
Chairman and Vice Chairwoman

Ned Norris Jr. Wavalene M. Saunders
Chairman Vice Chairwoman



Friday, November 11, 2022

**TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION EXECUTIVE OFFICE STATEMENT
ON VETERANS DAY 2022**

Veterans Day is a time for us to give thanks to our Tohono O'odham veterans and all who have served our country. Whether you show your respect through private moments of thanks to family and friends or through parades and other large Veterans Day gatherings, it is important that we embrace this holiday for what it represents: recognizing the commitment and service of our veterans.

Native Americans currently serve in the U.S. military at a much higher rate than any other demographic, and have served in every major U.S. conflict for more than 200 years. The Tohono O'odham have a history of valiant leadership in the U.S. armed forces, defending this country and our ancestral homeland that we have lived on since time immemorial. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedoms. On behalf of our entire Nation, we would like to personally thank our O'odham veterans for their contributions to the safety and security of our land and our great country.

We know that the job of our military goes beyond a traditional workday and affects more than just the individuals who serve. Their families—from their children to spouses to parents—all feel the weight of the job. To these families, we share our gratitude and thanks for the sacrifices you make to support your loved ones in uniform.

We have many tribal citizens working to help our veterans through the Tohono O'odham Veterans Affairs Office. They are dedicated to providing the needed resources to our veterans, not only on November 11, but every day of the year. We encourage all Tohono O'odham veterans and their families to contact this office for assistance in navigating critical resources. Thank you once again for your service.

Ned Norris Jr, Chairman

Wavalene Saunders, Vice Chairwoman

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