



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

Ned Norris Jr. Wavalene M. Saunders  
Chairman Vice Chairwoman



Friday, Sept. 9, 2022

**Jesus Rodriguez Named New Executive Director of Public Safety  
for the Tohono O'odham Nation**

SELLS, Ariz. – The Tohono O'odham Nation Executive Office is pleased to announce the appointment of Jesus Rodriguez as the new Executive Director of Public Safety for the Nation. In this capacity, he will oversee the Department of Public Safety's programs which include fire, police, emergency management, corrections, the Environmental Protection Office, and the Tribal Employment Rights Office.

Mr. Rodriguez earned his bachelor's degree from Arizona State University. He previously served as a lead Supervisory Border Patrol Agent for the Tucson sector from 1995 – 2017. In that capacity, he became knowledgeable of Tohono O'odham culture, customs and traditions. In 2014, Mr. Rodriguez was recognized with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Commissioner's Award for Community and Tribal Liaison Outreach for his work with the Tohono O'odham Nation in border security and related projects. He has extensive experience in recruiting, coaching, training and mentoring law enforcement officers, as well as planning objectives and goals for his patrol group.

More recently, Mr. Rodriguez served as a Security Program Manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), where he deployed to areas across the United States that were impacted by natural disasters. In that role, he served as a liaison for local agencies and people affected by the natural disasters.

Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Ned Norris, Jr. said *"Mr. Rodriguez's experience coordinating a wide range of operations is well-suited to the extensive responsibilities of the Nation's Department of Public Safety. He is deeply familiar with the unique public safety issues impacting the Tohono O'odham Nation and will provide valuable insights for protecting our citizens, property and natural environment. It is an honor to welcome Mr. Rodriguez to his new position as Executive Director of Public Safety."*

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