



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

Ned Norris Jr. Wavalene M. Saunders  
Chairman Vice Chairwoman



**Executive Order**

**No. 2023-01**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, by Executive Order No. 2020-03, the Chairman issued a Declaration of the Tohono O'odham Nation Proclaiming a State of Emergency in response to the nationwide spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, through a series of executive orders, the Chairman established public health measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on the Nation, which included Stay at Home orders, curfew hours, governmental facility closures, social gathering and public feeding restrictions, wake and funeral guidelines, and mask mandates; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to support and enforce public health measures during the pandemic, the Legislative Council enacted 4 Tohono O'odham Code Chapter 4 – *Violating a Public Health Measure* (the Law), making specific provisions of the Chairman's Executive Orders enforceable by law and subject to civil penalties for violation of those orders; and

**WHEREAS**, as COVID-19 vaccines became more readily available to the general public and local cases steadily declined the Chairman withdrew several public health measures listed under Section 4104 of the Law pursuant to 4 T.O.C. Chapter 4, Section 4103 (C); and

**WHEREAS**, over the past 3 years the Nation has provided vaccine incentives and educational materials to the public to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on the Nation. In addition, the Nation has gone above and beyond to provided education and essential Personal Protective Equipment to the general public and established general welfare programs to render assistance to those effected by COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 10, 2023, President Biden signed into law H.J.Res 7, ending the national emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic, originally declared in 2020, and has announced his intent to end the national public health emergency on May 11, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chairman and Vice Chairwoman acknowledge that while the emergency may be over, COVID-19 will continue to have lasting effects into the future which necessitate the continuation of certain programs and aid to members for the time being; and

**WHEREAS**, after careful consideration the Chairman has determined that it appropriate to withdraw the Declaration of Emergency and terminate all remaining public health measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the authority vested in the Chairman of the Nation, effective Monday, April 17, 2023, the Chairman hereby orders the termination of the Declaration of a

State of Emergency, issued on March 13, 2020, and further withdraws Executive Order No. 2022-02, which contain all remaining health measures.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, all Nation's members and guest of the Nation are strongly encouraged to continue practicing proper hygiene and handwashing, and to remain home when sick in order to reduce the spread of illness to others.

**ORDERED** this 19<sup>th</sup> Day April, 2023 in Sells, Arizona.



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Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation