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**Public Service Announcement**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

**TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION SUES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
OVER PLANS TO TAKE PART OF ITS RESERVATION FOR BORDER WALL**

SELLS, Ariz. – The Tohono O'odham Nation has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) over its plans to take our reservation land and water to construct a border wall. The Nation is taking this action now because DHS plans to award contracts in the next few weeks for building a wall across our reservation.

The Tohono O'odham Legislative Council voted unanimously to move forward with the lawsuit, which documents exactly how the border wall violates our rights as a sovereign tribe. First, DHS's construction of a border wall would illegally take the Nation's land and decrease the Nation's reservation. Second, DHS and its contractors would be trespassing on the Nation's land and violating the Nation's exclusive use of its reservation and resources. The Nation's lawsuit also explains how the wall would destroy sacred cultural sites and impact important ceremonies and religious practices.

For decades, the Nation has cooperated with the federal government's border security measures. Together, we have been successful in protecting the U.S. homeland without resorting to a wall that would separate our people, desecrate sacred areas, and cause great harm to the natural environment. The current extensive border security measures already in place on the Nation have decreased unlawful border crossings by more than 95% in the last two years. The border wall is not a security asset; it is a multi-billion-dollar waste of taxpayer dollars that will destroy existing robust, expensive, and proven security measures.

DHS has chosen to disregard our sovereignty, ignoring proven border security strategies and dismissing the irreversible environmental and cultural destruction that will follow. We have already witnessed the desecration that border wall construction has caused with the blading of the thousand-year-old Las Playas Intaglio, both an O'odham and American treasure, and previous efforts to dynamite areas around the sacred Quitobaquito Springs. As a result, we have been left with no other choice. We would prefer to use the resources that the litigation will require for services directly to Nation members. But our priority **MUST** always be to protect our people, our culture, and to stand up for what is right.

**STAND WITH THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION**

**Get the facts. Read the full legal complaint. Support sovereignty.**

**VISIT: [WWW.TONATION-NSN.GOV/NOWALL](http://WWW.TONATION-NSN.GOV/NOWALL)**

**#NoWall**



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*Together We Are Stronger*