David Jose President

Cecil F. Eriacho Vice-President

Nancy R. Martine-Alonzo Secretary/Treasurer RAMAH NAVAJO CHAPTER

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Norman M. Begay Council Delegate Navajo Nation Council

Leo L. Pino Member Eastern Navajo Land Board

September 17, 2015

## **Press Release**

The Ramah Navajo Chapter filed this lawsuit 25 years ago. Our fellow Class Representatives and friends from the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Pueblo of Zuni—our neighbors here in New Mexico—have tenaciously stuck together in a long legal battle against the U. S. government. Now thanks to our victory in the Supreme Court, we have come to a historic agreement with the government. This agreement must be approved by the District Court here in New Mexico. We call on all Indian tribes and their organizations contracting under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to support this agreement.

This settlement will be remembered as a landmark victory by over 645 tribes and tribal organizations across the country that operate programs under the Self-Determination Act. It will promote the Act's goal of tribal self-sufficiency, self-reliance, and self-governance for generations to come and reduce unemployment on our reservations. Our government programs and services have suffered because the government has been underpaying us. The two sides have been in a long dispute which should now end. After our victory in the Supreme Court, we have been in a long, hard-fought negotiation and have reached an honorable compromise. We thank the government and all those lawyers and experts, including Magistrate Judge Molzen, who helped us reach this/agreement.

David Jose, President

Ramah Navajo Chapter

## Brief Bio of DAVID JOSE President of Ramah Navajo Chapter

David Jose, DOB 5/1/46, Divorced, 7 children (two boys and 5 girls) and at least 5 grand kids, no siblings

Lifelong resident of Ramah Navajo

May 1965 Graduate of Ramah High School July 1972 BBA Degree from ENMU July 1979 MBA Degree from ENMU

1974 – 1977 Employment with Ramah Navajo School Board
1980 – 1986 Employment with Ramah Navajo Chapter
1988 – 2006 Employment with the Navajo Nation
Dec 29, 2006 Retired from Employment with the Navajo Nation and for disability reason

1980 – 1983 Eastern Navajo Land Board 1983 – 1987 Ramah Navajo Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Feb 24, 2015 Elected to the Office of the President (replaced the late President Harry B. Yazzie) - Term of Office January 2017

1966 – 1968 U.S. Marine Corps, Served in Vietnam Era, Purple Heart recipient, and Disability Retirement

Other than above I do cattle ranching since I returned from ENMU