

Dear Election Committee,

I am writing to formally declare my candidacy for a seat on the Tribal Council. With over two decades of experience as a Renovation Specialist with our Tribal Housing Authority, I have had the privilege of supporting housing stability for hundreds of our members and their families. This role has deepened my understanding of how essential safe, quality housing is to the well-being of our community, and it has inspired me to seek an active role on the council to address urgent needs in housing, infrastructure, and essential services.

As an employee, contractor, and lifelong member of our Tribe, I have seen firsthand where we are falling short. Many of our buildings are not up to code, and too many tribal member homes need renovations, maintenance, and weatherization to ensure safety and comfort. We also face a critical shortage of housing that affects our community's stability and growth. Road repairs improved broadband internet access, and robust protections for our water and land rights on the Colorado River are additional essential needs. Defending our sovereign rights is paramount, as these rights are the foundation of our identity and autonomy as a people. Addressing these concerns is central to my vision, and I am committed to working toward solutions that ensure safe housing, modern infrastructure, essential connectivity, and protection of our lands and sovereignty for all.

Alongside my experience with the Tribal Housing Authority, I am the owner and General Manager of Apestrong Renovations LLC, a tribal-owned small business that provides maintenance and construction services. Through Apestrong renovations, I have developed a workforce program focused on teaching trades to our tribal members, helping them build valuable skills and create sustainable career paths. My commitment to economic empowerment, workforce development, and community resilience drives my vision for the future.

My platform for the council includes:

- **Housing and Infrastructure Improvements:** Prioritizing initiatives to bring tribal buildings up to code, providing resources for home renovations and weatherization, expanding housing availability, and enhancing road maintenance to improve transportation and safety.
- **Broadband Internet Access:** Working to expand reliable, high-speed internet access throughout our community, which is essential for education, business, health, and economic growth.
- **Protection of Water, Land, and Sovereign Rights:** Committing to the protection of our water and land rights on the Colorado River and standing firm in the defense of our sovereign rights, which are essential to our self-determination and heritage.
- **Economic Growth and Job Opportunities:** Supporting small business development and job training programs that empower tribal members and strengthen our local economy.
- **Education and Youth Empowerment:** Offering mentorship and career support to help our youth succeed and contribute to our community's future.
- **Health, Safety, and Community Well-being:** Advancing health initiatives and ensuring that public safety services are fully equipped and trained to serve our members.