



Kiowa Tribe

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EXECUTIVE BRANCH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 30, 2020

KIOWA TRIBE CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas holiday with their families. My heartfelt prayers go out to those who have lost loved ones this past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has been a trying year for everyone having to adjust to the changes brought forth by the COVID-19 virus.

The Tribe has implemented safety precautions to protect our tribal members and our workforce so that we can continue to render services so desperately needed during this time. Due to various program deadlines, the holidays, and COVID-19 payment disbursements, we have been unable to enhance our current procedures and have put our workforce at substantial risk.

After considering all recommendations made by the safety committee and Executive Branch staff I decided to close Tribal operations at all Kiowa Tribal offices in Carnegie, Anadarko, and Lawton effective Monday, January 04, 2021, to Monday, January 18, 2021.

The Tribe will reopen on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, after the Martin Luther King holiday. We are closed to clean and disinfect all of our tribal buildings and allow the tribal staff to self-quarantine before our January monthly COVID testing. We have had a substantial increase in our positive COVID-19 cases within our workforce during the holidays and need to adjust our internal procedures to ensure everyone's safety.

All program directors can be reached by phone, a list is available at www.kiowatribe.org. Please keep in mind all staff will be in quarantine so no services will be provided. Finance will be closed which means no payments to individuals will be rendered until we reopen on January 19, 2021. Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated during the Tribe's closure. Blessings to everyone in the upcoming New Year, we look forward to a prosperous year and sharing it with you.

Sincerely,

Matthew M. Komalty
Chairman