



# Kiowa Tribe

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**Executive Branch**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## *Kiowa Tribe Announces Emergency Management Plan*

The Kiowa Tribe Executive Branch announces the establishment of the Emergency Management Plan.

Chairman Matthew Komalty and Madame Vice-Chairman Rhonda Ahhaitty announce the launching of a comprehensive emergency management plan today. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many U.S. governmental concerns including local, state, and tribal governments to assess their emergency preparedness because of challenges brought forth by the current crisis. The Kiowa Tribe continues to assess its response to the crisis and the collateral impact to its tribal operations and support, and infrastructure to meet the emergency needs of its citizens.

Chairman Komalty says, “The Kiowa Tribe must be at the forefront of protecting its Kiowa member citizens as well as the citizens of the surrounding communities. The emergency management plan is a work in progress that will require continuous updates as we begin discussions with other local governments in the development of mutual aid agreements. We plan to use the plan as a blueprint to bring the proper dialogue to the Kiowa Indian Council, the Legislative Branch, and coordination with local, county, and state officials.”

Unfortunately, disruptive events can happen suddenly, creating a situation in which the normal staff support services for the Kiowa Tribe can become overwhelmed. During these events, the Kiowa Tribe requires special programs to address the needs of response operations and recovery management. To address disruptive events, the plan establishes the framework for the management of the immediate actions and operations required to respond to, recover from, and prepare for any future disruptive event.

The Kiowa Tribe’s primary goals during a disaster, or a pandemic like a coronavirus, are the protection of lives, property, the community, and the environment. The overall objective is to effectively respond to disruptive events carefully and manage the process of restoring Kiowa Tribe programs and services.

“We believe that the emergency management plan is a good start for long-term planning and preparedness. Without a proper plan in place, we will continue to experience chaos

in a time when the allocation of resources is critically important. We are excited to have an initial plan in place. We will work through the intricate details of the plan and look forward to working with our local community partners in Carnegie, Caddo County, and other surrounding areas,” states Madame Vice-Chairman Ahhaitty.

To view, the Kiowa Tribe emergency plan go to [www.kiowatribe.org](http://www.kiowatribe.org)

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