## RESOLUTION OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

Approving and Adopting the Personnel Policies For Navajo Nation Judges and Justices Hereby Attached as Exhibit "B"

## WHEREAS:

- 1. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §574(A), the Judiciary Committee of the Navajo Nation Council exercises oversight responsibility for the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation and is empowered to review and approve policies, procedures and regulations necessary for the administration and operation of the Judicial Branch; and
- 2. On June 12, 2002, the Chief Justice proposed the adoption of SAS Document No. 14675 Adopting Personnel Rules for Probationary and Permanent Judges and Justices of the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation to the Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee issued a directive to the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court to seek the input and recommended changes from the judges of the Courts, and to bring back a document to the Judiciary Committee within sixty (60) days that reflects the consensus of, and has the support of, the judges and justices of the Navajo Nation Courts; and
- 3. The Judicial Conference of the Navajo Nation is comprised of justices and judges of the Courts of the Navajo Nation, and among its goals is the adoption of policies for the Courts of the Navajo Nation in collegiality; and
- 4. Pursuant to the Judiciary Committee's directive, on December 19, 2002, the Judicial Conference met via teleconference and formally adopted the proposed Rules of Judicial Conduct for Navajo Nation Judges and Justices by Judicial Conference Resolution; and
- 5. The Judicial Conference of the Navajo Nation has determined that it is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation and the Judicial Branch that the Judiciary Committee of the Navajo Nation Council approve and adopt the proposed rules for judges and justices, attached as Exhibit A; and

6. After approval by the Judicial Conference, the proposed rules were reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General and Legislative Counsel pursuant to the section 164 review process. The suggestions and commentary provided by the Office of the Attorney General and Legislative Counsel have been incorporated into the proposed rules, without advice and consent of the Judicial Conference. The document is now entitled the Personnel Policies for Navajo Nation Judges and Justices, and is attached as Exhibit B.

## NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Judiciary Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves and adopts the Personnel Policies for Navajo Nation Judges and Justices, as set forth in Exhibit B attached.
- 2. The Personnel Policies for Navajo Nation Judges and Justices shall be subject to immediate implementation.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Judiciary Committee of the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstained, this 7th day of January, 2003.

Kenneth L. Begay, Chairperson

**Judiciary Committee** 

Motion: Leo Gishie

Second: Peter Watchman