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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: Thursday, January 26, 2017**

**THOMPSON CONFIRMED FOR PERMANENT APPOINTMENT AS DISTRICT  
COURT JUDGE**

The Honorable Cynthia Thompson was confirmed for a permanent appointment as district court judge today by the Navajo Nation Council. She was given the oath of office by Acting Chief Justice Allen Sloan immediately following the vote that approved confirmation.

Thompson has served as a probationary district court judge since July 2009. She has served at the Chinle and Dził Yijiin Judicial Districts and is currently the presiding judge at Dilkon Judicial District. She has also served as an associate justice by designation on the Supreme Court for several cases due to the need for an additional justice.

Navajo Nation law requires that judges serve a two-year probationary period and undergo an evaluation process that includes the three branches of government and the public.

“Thank you to all the people who supported my appointment, including the Law and Order Committee, the Navajo Nation Council, the Judicial Branch, my family and friends,” Thompson said following the vote.

Thompson is from Del Muerto, Arizona. She graduated from Chinle High School and from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice.

Before her appointment as a judge, Thompson was a hearing officer at Window Rock Judicial District, a senior prosecutor, a Navajo Nation court administrator and a staff advocate with DNA Legal Services in Chinle, Arizona.

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