



Contact: Karen Francis, Government  
Relations Officer  
Office of the Chief Justice  
JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE NAVAJO NATION  
Office: 928-871-6920  
E-mail: [karenfrancis@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:karenfrancis@navajo-nsn.gov)  
<http://www.navajocourts.org>

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: Friday, March 06, 2020

### NAVAJO NATION JUSTICE DAY EVENTS CANCELLED

Justice Day events for the Navajo Nation judicial districts have been cancelled for the year 2020. These events are typically scheduled in the months of April and May by the Navajo Nation courts and celebrate the creation of the Navajo court system.

Chief Justice JoAnn B. Jayne said that the purpose of cancelling Justice Day is for the Branch to be prepared and to mitigate the potential of spreading COVID-19 among Navajo Nation employees and the Diné people. There are no reported cases of COVID-19 on the Navajo Nation as of now.

“This is not a time to cause undue alarm, however, let us continue to be vigilant, keeping in mind that the virus does exist in neighboring areas of the United States,” Jayne said.

Chief Justice Jayne noted that the Judicial Branch looks forward to Justice Day celebrations each year and will miss the events. However, rather than promoting large public gatherings at this time, she said, the branch will educate the public on the Navajo court system through the Judicial Branch website, social media and other forms of mass media.

Chief Justice Jayne also urged for judicial employees to actively prevent and prepare for the COVID-19 consistent with recommendations from public health entities.

“All Judicial Branch courts, programs and employees are hereby encouraged to assist the public in a manner that will not increase the risk of spreading an infectious disease,” Chief Justice Jayne stated.

She said that the branch is participating with Executive and Legislative Branch leadership for daily updates on COVID-19.

For more information on the COVID-19, please visit the [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) website or the Navajo Nation Department of Health website at [www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov](http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov).

For more information on the Judicial Branch, please visit [www.navajocourts.org](http://www.navajocourts.org) or call the appropriate court or program.

###