



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

About this Election

The Tribal Elections office has been receiving inquiries as to why there are only candidates for the Lieutenant Governor's seat in the Primary Election.

According to the Gila River Indian Community Election Ordinance: on the third Tuesday in September prior to a General Election; a Primary Election shall be held for the purpose of placing on the ballot at the ensuing General Election:

1. Two candidates for the office of Governor
2. Two candidates for the office of Lieutenant Governor
3. Two candidates for the office of Chief Judge
4. Ten candidates for the five offices of Associate Judge.

In the event that no more than two candidates for each of the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Chief Judge or no more than ten for five positions of Associate Judge file certificates of candidacy, then no Primary Election shall be held for that office.

This means that only the five candidates running for office of Lieutenant Governor will be placed on

the ballot for the Primary Election.

The two candidates with the most votes for this office will be placed on the General Election ballot.

On July 15, 2020, the Gila River Indian Community Council called for a special election to be held within 60 days in order to fill the vacant seat of a District Five Community Council Representative whose term ends June 2021.

This election will be held simultaneously with the Primary Election, September 15, 2020

Candidates who declared for a seat for the office of Associate Judge, Chief Judge and the office of Governor will be move onto the ballot for the General Election, November 3, 2020.

Tribal Elections is providing to you, the voter an opportunity to read all Candidates running for office in the Primary, District Five Community Council and General Election; their position on why they are seeking office in these tribal elections.

Please note, all written statements are being presented in the Candidates' own words; no edits were done by the Tribal Elections Program.

IMPORTANT Election Date:

NOVEMBER 3, 2020

- **GRIC General Election**
- **Special Election on Amendments to the Gila River Indian Community's Constitution**
- **Presidential Election**

DON'T FORGET! Last day to register to vote in the Presidential Election:

October 5, 2020.

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*Don't miss out
on these
important elections.*

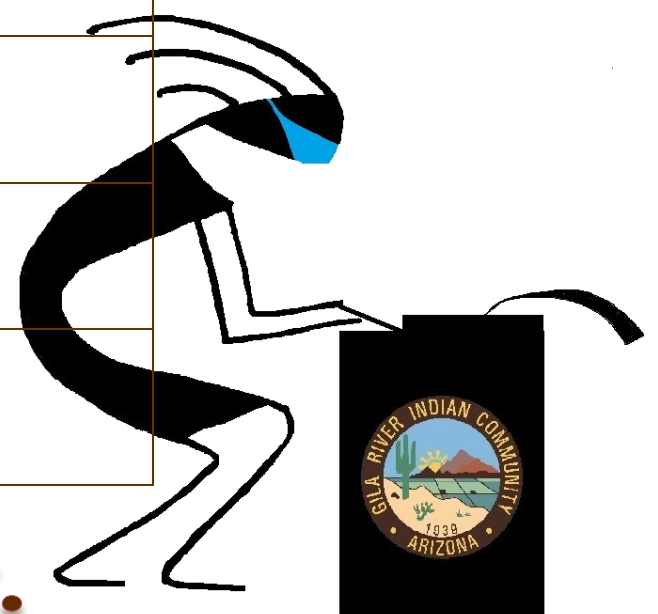
YOUR VOTE does matter!

Gila River Indian Community Polling Site Locations:

POLLING SITES ARE OPEN 6:00 AM - 6:00 PM

DISTRICT #1	DISTRICT ONE MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 15747 N. SHEGOI ROAD, BLACKWATER
DISTRICT #2	DISTRICT TWO EVENT CENTER 9257 W. SACATON FLATS ROAD, HASHAN KEHK
DISTRICT #3	DISTRICT THREE SERVICE CENTER 31 CHURCH STREET, SACATON
DISTRICT #4	DISTRICT FOUR MAIN HALL BUILDING (former D#4 Service Ctr.) 1510 W. SANTAN ROAD, SANTAN
DISTRICT #5	DISTRICT FIVE MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 3456 W. CASA BLANCA ROAD, CASA BLANCA
DISTRICT #6	DISTRICT SIX LEARNING CENTER 5230 W. ST. JOHNS ROAD, KOMATKE
DISTRICT #7	DISTRICT SEVEN MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 8035 S. 83RD AVENUE, MARICOPA COLONY

MASK UP! at the polling sites.



SPECIAL DISTRICT FIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTION, September 15, 2020

INTRODUCING DISTRICT FIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

District 5 Community Members

My name is Brian E. Davis Sr.

On July 20, 2020 I submitted my declaration to run for District 5 Council.

My parents are the late Brenda (Gibson) Mendoza and the late Joseph Mendoza Jr. (Stepfather). My Grandparents are the late Myra (Davis) Darrell and the late Harold Darrell.

I've been married to my wife Karen (Juan) Davis for 43 years, we have five children, 11 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. I'm the oldest of (6) Christopher, Anthony, Gregory, Angel and Danny Mendoza.

I am running as a candidate for the position of District 5 Council and seeking your support.

In prior years I served the district 5 community as your council representative for two terms, in both terms I supported:

Better Homes to be built for community members:

Water which is a very valuable commodity for our community:


Education for our children:

Economic development:


Gila River Farmers/Small Businesses & Farmers:

Thank you for your support

Brian E. Davis Sr.



BRIAN E. DAVIS, SR.



PAMELA VEGA

Greetings my District 5 Community Members. My name is Pamela Jeanne Vega and I reside in the village of Sweetwater. My maternal grandparents were the late Ida and Enos Paul. My mother was the late Mida Paul.

For the past 23 years, I have been employed with the GRIC Department of Public Works in various positions. During that time, I've done my best to serve our Community and the needs of the people.

My current involvement with the District 5 Community includes serving on the Housing Committee, Election Board, Recreation Committee; the GRIC Law Enforcement Citizens Advisory Board the TSS Crime Victim Service Advisory Board. I also previously served as a volunteer with the GRIC Fire Departments Crisis Response Team (5 years), and Hospice of the East Valley (1 year).

Working for the Community I have seen firsthand some of the issues that need to be addressed regarding our elderly, the health and wellbeing of our people and departmental needs. I would like to be part of the solutions.

Our elders carry a value system that is generations old, we can and must do better for them. After all, they are the keepers of our history and traditions. I believe that to be a big priority for now and our future generations.

Our health and wellbeing are just as important and ensures our place in the future. Everything from mental and physical health, substance abuse and disease prevention.

Lastly, I would like to see consistency and fairness in processes regarding our departments. This can be accomplished through group effort and improved communication.

I come before you and humbly ask for your vote as the District 5 Council Representative. If elected, I will fulfill the duties and serve the position with integrity.

You are important, I'm here to listen and help.

SPECIAL DISTRICT FIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTION, September 15, 2020

INTRODUCING DISTRICT FIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES



JACOB ANTONE

Greetings My O’odham Hajun

I would first like to offer My prayers and condolences to the families of those lost during this pandemic. Continued prayers of strength and healing to our community during these uncertain times.

I’m not much for self-glorification, so my introduction to who I am is short and simple. I’m 34 years old, my parents are Timothy and Erma Antone. My roots to District Five go back through my grandmothers Janice Stewart and Charlotte Antone. My great grandparents are the late Harrison Stewart, Erma Jackson Stewart, Gladys Preston and Jose Antone. My love and loyalty to my people runs deep into the soil of our tribe and has always been the motivation behind the various outlets I’ve utilized to advocate for the tribe and indigenous peoples.

While uncertain times have caused the wheel to slow and forced us to step outside of our comfort zones, it has also challenged us to seek new and innovative ways to operate. Maybe even reason to explore the why nots in our community. Why can’t we develop a sufficient housing process for our community? Why can’t we take a stronger stand against mental illness and substance abuse that will allow us to save more of our people? Why cant we spare no cost to ensure our children and their families are afforded the highest quality of resources to succeed? Why cant we reinvest in ourselves and kick off grassroots programs that will teach trades and provide jobs for our people? Why can’t we establish a common platform of accountability and share honest dialogue amongst the people and leadership?

While I am just one person and we all know a movement requires numbers. My hope is that with your support, and likeminded leadership we will work toward prosperity for the people.



Deborah A. Norris

(SERENA JOAQUIN
no picture available)

Greetings District 5 Community Members:

My name is Serena M. Joaquin and I am running for the position of Council representative. I am the daughter of the late Joseph T. & Ethelyn L. Joaquin and reside in Wet Camp. My grandparents are the late (paternal) Lorenzo & Mary (Moristo) Joaquin and (maternal) Jose & Ruby (Milda) Allen. I have six siblings, two adult children, a son-in-law and two grandsons.

What can I do for you?

- Represent you at the Council level, thereby ensuring your ideas and opinions influence the decisions that are to be made. Overall, that your voices are heard. No voice left behind!
- Keep you informed of Tribal affairs as well as introduce you to events occurring around Indian Country, that may one day affect us. Communication is key!
- Ensure accountability.
- Support the aspects of our community – housing, education, economic development, gaming, health care, etc.

I have worked in Indian Gaming (operations and regulatory), Emergency Management, Community Housing and have been an avid member of my district committees as well as school board member for a bureau/grant school. I have a proven track record of being a hard worker, multi-tasker, critical thinker, decision maker, policy driven as well as a writer, fast learner, protecting sovereignty through regulation and can be demanding at times. I am thankful to those individuals who gave me the opportunity to be in certain positions where I learned all these traits.

If elected, I will do my best to make sure that you know what is going on in our Community, when and where it’s happening and how it affects you. It is my intention to represent honestly and diligently, to listen closely to your concerns and serve as a good council representative. I humbly ask for your support in this election. Thank you.

My name is Deborah Norris, first of all I would like to thank you for allowing me the time to introduce myself. I am running for district 5 council person.

I have lived in D-5 my whole life. Many of you may know me, in my younger years I work at Casa Blanca Market. This was about 30 years ago. I also worked at Lone Butte Casino, back when the casino’s first opened up. From there I had my most rewarding job. That was to care for my parents, my father was the late Dana R. Norris Sr. My mother was the late Myra P. (Jones) Norris. This was like I mentioned before was the most rewarding job, caring for the elderly.

Right now I currently work at Fry’s. My main goal is to come back to the Gila River Indian Community to work. Running for this seat would give me that chance. I would to represent D-5. A big job, but I feel I am up to the challenge.

Thank You,

CANDIDATES FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

CANDIDATES WILL BE PLACED ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT, September 15, 2020



DAVID ANDERSON

My name is David Anderson, I reside in Hashan Kehk, District 2 with my wife Alison. We have eight children and many grandchildren. My parents are the Late Charles Anderson Sr. and Pricilla Pancott Anderson, from Sacaton, District 3. My maternal grandparents are the late Antonio (the "Colonel") and Jessie Porter Pancott.

I am a 20-year veteran of the US Army Special Forces with twenty years of experience in supervising, experience in crisis management, analysis, coordination, planning and problem solving on large-scale projects.

As Native Americans we are one of the fortunate tribes to have and continue to reap the benefits of the revenues from our Gaming and Enterprises. In which the community has put the revenues toward a better quality of life for the members such as the different programs, housing, education, jobs, updating service centers and the list goes on. Today, our community is facing new unknowns with the covid pandemic as we have recently seen with the closures of the Casinos for a period of time which has drastically stopped the revenues back to the community and could continue or operate with limited gaming for an unknown time. I am running for Lieutenant Governor, if elected, I would work with the Governor, Tribal Council and departments, to relook at the community budgets, short, long term community plans to make the necessary changes to update them.

Economic Development is another area to revisit as far as missed opportunities or opportunity for bringing companies to the community for another source of income for the community and job creation.

Education is another area I feel strongly about when we talk about educating our members for a stronger community with having our college degreed people move in to upper management, or be able to compete for jobs in and out of the community but recently as we seen the members who did go out and get their college degree and apply for jobs in the community were either over qualified, not qualified because of no experience or not given a chance at an interview. If elected Lieutenant Governor, I will look into the hiring processes and mentorships to give our community members opportunity to obtain upper management employment. Grades K-12 also needs attention so we can make sure that our future leaders will be able to graduate high school and go on to college or get into the workforce.

Housing is another area of concern, where the community is behind on their lists for people who are eligible to receive housing. If elected Lieutenant Governor, I will look into the processes of moving housing forward to keep up with our growing community. These are a few areas that are at the center of our government.

Things don't change overnight but I believe it's a step in the right direction to change the future for a stronger Community for the members. I thank you for your vote and support in being elected Lieutenant Governor of Gila River Indian Community.

Sincerely,

David Anderson



CAROLYN K. THOMPSON

Carolyn K. Thompson is from Sacaton, Arizona, a place her family has called home for generations. Carolyn's father is Gary W. Thompson (baht) and her mother is Evangeline Thompson (baht). Carolyn's paternal grandfather is Nathan (Micky) Thompson Jr. (baht) from Stotonic and her paternal grandmother is Edith (Tootie) Morago (baht) from Sacaton. Carolyn's maternal grandfather is Lee Cook (baht) and maternal grandmother is Effie Cook (baht). Carolyn is married and has one daughter.

Growing up and residing within the boundaries of the Gila River Indian Community, Carolyn is familiar with both the success and the challenges faced by the tribe. In 2018 Carolyn became active in her District meetings and recognized opportunities for improvement in areas such as project development, communication, education and mentoring, and wellness programs for Community members.

Carolyn is running for the office of Lieutenant Governor because she believes her experience, education, and business background can be applied to help the Community develop process improvement plans, improve communication, fiscal accountability, and economic development plans that increase value to the Community for generations.

Carolyn is accomplished leader with 25 years of demonstrated success in developing and leading operational improvements for large departments and groups. A leader who engages well across all levels of an organization with the ability to motivate and deliver financial and operational results for the organization she leads.

Carolyn earned her Bachelor of Political Science degree from Arizona State University and went on to work for Gila River Gaming Enterprises. Carolyn earned her Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the University of Arizona, Eller College of Management in 2019.

Carolyn is a member of Global Gaming Women, a leadership group that mentors and encourages women to strive as leaders in the gaming industry. Carolyn is also a member of the Arizona Indian Alumni Association supporting native students at the University of Arizona.

Carolyn's goal is to inspire change. She believes as Lieutenant Governor she can be the start of the change the Community needs to move us forward, while maintaining a deep respect for our rich history and culture. Together we can make the change we need.

CANDIDATES FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

CANDIDATES WILL BE PLACED ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT, September 15, 2020



MIGUEL VALENCIA

Hi my name is Miguel G. Valencia I am running for office of Lieutenant Governor for the Gila River Indian Community.

I was born in Sacaton, AZ I live in District five. My parents are Jose Jesus Valencia, and Gloria Ann Lewis (Ramirez) I have many brothers and sisters,

I am married to Karry J Valencia I work for Department of Public Works for the tribe I am a waste water treatment plant operator.

I would like to make a difference for the community by being Lt. Governor, and working with the counsel and the Governor, and I would work with the people of this tribe. I will do my best and work honestly for them, and hear what ever they need to say. It is for the people of the community That I will serve and put the people first before myself I have worked for other entities of the tribe the casino, Gila River Health care, and many years of construction work through TERO. There is not much more of me to tell but given the chance I will serve this community. Thank You.



WELDON SALKEY

From : Weldon Salkey for Lt. Governor

What is it that keeps you up at night? Your family? My life is not any different from all O'otham. Whenever I'm asked about the back story of my life. I tell them I was born poor. So poor I had a tumbleweed for a pet. We hauled our water for domestic use. Chopping mesquite was tedious and an unexciting chore it was necessary so that my grandmother or mother would be able to cook our meager meal. Pinto beans and chumuth was good but if we had bologna or long horn cheese it was the greatest meal. My family lived in a mud sandwich house. My father was a holy roller preacher. My mother was loving and caring. She gave me my moral compass and values. What keeps up at night is my missing 14 year old grandson. Grandparents, parents, and relatives who raise children find it difficult to raise and nurture. Challenged by fixed incomes, no income. The three years I advocated for my grandson. I discovered the resource employees are indifferent, hostile and dismissive. I'm guided by the Bible scripture Isaiah. Chap 30 verse 21. I seek to find the pathway, the solution, and resolve for all O'otham who want a better life. GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU !! Mask Up !! Vote in the National and Gila River election. Supo !!!



MONICA L. ANTONE

Greetings, my name is Monica Antone, District 4, my parents are Edward Allison and Lupe. My paternal grandparents are Edison Allison and Agnes Antone Allison. I am married to Victor Antone and have six children and a grandmother of fourteen.

I currently serve the Gila River Indian Community with a seasoned career within Tribal Government and have for the past 21 years. I currently serve as the District Four Council representative. I serve as the Chairperson for Economic Development, member of Government and Management & Legislative standing committee. Many topics require budgetary experience to analyze impacts to our community. I continue to strive to get answers on planning methods not in place.

Launching with the late Governor Mary V. Thomas, she instilled in me the core values of representation, ethics and learning from mistakes for an overwhelming career, this helped manifest and instill the care and compassion for our people. My education consists of receiving an Associates in Business Operations. On June 26, 2020, I completed and obtained my bachelor's degree in Government Affairs and Public policy, due to coronavirus, I cannot attend my ceremony, however I am grateful to have made it through as I worked on Council responsibilities attend Council meetings with dedication and commitment.

I credit our culture and history as a people, who in the face of adversity with COVID-19 pandemic, I want to help lead us through honoring health practices, strengthen the people by communication using technology.

In the upcoming Lt. Governor election, I will bring new thoughts with a stronger avenue to provide a communication line and guidance to the people. As a former Lt. Governor I know the importance of relationships with the local, state and federal levels. Strength for Tomorrow, Stand for today, and a Generational Voice for the people. I appreciate your support and thank you!

CANDIDATES WILL BE PLACE ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT, November 3, 2020

CANDIDATE FOR
ASSOCIATE JUDGE



CHARLES ARAGON

Hello, my fellow community members, my name is Charles W. Aragon. I grew up and currently reside in District Six. I believe my long work experience has helped prepared me to serve as a judge. I have had the opportunity to work in community departments that have required me to learn about federal and state laws as well as tribal ordinances. I am currently employed by the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) as a Compliance Officer. My duties include being familiar with Tribal Employment Rights law, Indian Preference law as well as state and federal regulations. The skills I have learned from this position are to enforce tribal preference, settle claims and investigate allegations of employment discrimination. One thing I learned as a Compliance Officer is there is nothing more satisfying, personally and professionally, than to help our members gain employment.

I also worked for community court for 5 years total as a Bailiff/Court Security Officer, including 3 years as a supervisor. I was employed with the Community Court at the time when the Court transitioned into exercising jurisdiction under the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) which brought felony cases to the community. I observed hundreds of cases and heard the judges make their decisions. From that experience, I learned the most important job of a judge is to listen to everyone. I also worked for the Tribal Gaming Office as a Gaming Inspector and part of my duties included being familiar with the legal agreements (gaming compact) between the State and Community, as well as various other tribal ordinances that govern gaming operations.

I am running for Associate Judge to better serve my community and to change lives for the better. I also would like to make a difference by helping others be contributing members to society. I understand that crime, especially, can be a complex issue. So often, especially here at GRIC crime is a symptom of other issues such as addiction, grief, and lack of resources. I want to be able to attempt to understand the challenges that defendants face in order to craft punishments that are not only punitive, but truly rehabilitative. In cases with victims, I certainly want to be sure that their vision of justice is part of the calculus. In civil cases, I want to be sure community members find the Community Court to be accessible so that they can find practical ways to address issues that are important to them without feeling overwhelmed by the legal process. Growing up, my mother always told me to do my absolute best in any task I had started. As I got older, I was taught what's right is right and what is wrong is wrong but always seek the truth. My main goal, if elected, is to make a difference in our community and ensure that each hearing will be fair and impartial. Thank you for the opportunity to put my drive and enthusiasm to work for our community.

CANDIDATE FOR
ASSOCIATE JUDGE



JANICE
BRECKENRIDGE

Greetings to all GRIC Community members. My name is Janice F. Breckenridge and I have resided in District 6, Gila Crossing Village for many years, and I have two daughters. I am running for the Office of Associate Judge. I would like to thank our Lord Jesus Christ for the opportunity he has given me to serve our Community as an Associate Judge for the past eight and a half years and to all Community Members who have supported me.

The majority of my employment has been working for the Tribe in various capacities as a Police Dispatcher/ Detention Officer, an Automations Clerk for the Pima Agency, Branch of Law Enforcement Investigations Unit, for approximately 12 years; GRIC Gaming Enterprises as a Supervisor, Manager and Acting Director for a total of 15 years; and currently the Office of Associate Judge for eight and half years.

In regards to my education and training, I have obtained an Associate's Degree in Business, a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management and a Master's Degree in Business Administration. I continue attending continuous legal education opportunities for Judges.

I ask for your continued support as a member of the Community in rerunning for the Office of Associate Judge.

CANDIDATE FOR
ASSOCIATE JUDGE



ANTHONY J. HILL

My name is Anthony Hill and I am running for Associate Judge. I appreciate the support the Community has shown me over the years I have been a judge and thank you for giving me the privilege of serving this Community. I live in Co-Op Village and have spent time serving on boards and committees in the Community and through my church. I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona and law degree from Arizona State University.

Our court handles thousands of criminal, civil, traffic, juvenile and appellate cases each year. Many of our Community members encounter the court system in difficult times and our court should operate in an efficient and competent manner to meet these challenging times. Our court needs judges that can manage the demands of a complex judicial system. As a judge, I manage a growing caseload that affects the lives of our Community members. My legal education and training allow me to make decisions based on the law and fairness. Over the years, I have heard from many Community members who are tired of repeat offenders, parents who do not live up to their obligations, and victims with no voice.

My core beliefs as a judge were formed over the years and guide me as I do my work. On the criminal side, repeat offenders should be held accountable and not be given sweetheart plea deals. I understand that people need help to avoid committing new crimes, that is why alternatives to jail such as substance abuse treatment and strict probation monitoring are important. I listen to the victims of violence and work to help heal the pain caused by domestic violence. Despite all the pain that comes with criminal cases, there are a few bright spots when someone successfully completes probation or graduates from substance abuse treatment. These are the beginnings of new lives and hopefully a better Community.

I strongly believe that parents should be held responsible for raising and supporting their children. Making sure child support and parenting time orders are enforced is an important part of a judge's job. Our grandparents often care for their grandchildren and their voices should be respected and heard in court. In cases simple and complex, my decisions are based on the law and evidence. I work to ensure that my decisions and orders are followed so people do not have to come back to court over and over. I manage my courtroom so that people's time is respected and allow both sides to be heard. I strive to treat each person and case with respect and dignity. While not everyone will like the decisions I make, I hope that anyone who comes to our Community Court will have faith that justice is done.

I hope you will think of me when you vote. Thank you for your support and God Bless You.

CANDIDATES WILL BE PLACED ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT, November 3, 2020

CANDIDATE FOR
ASSOCIATE JUDGE



SHERI CASSA

No comments available

CANDIDATE FOR CHIEF JUDGE



**JOESPH
MANUEL**

My Name is **JOSEPH MANUEL**, I am running for **Chief Judge** in the General Election, **Tuesday, November 3, 2020, 6:00AM-6:00PM** in Districts 1-7. I am from D3 Sacaton Gu'u Ki' District. My maternal grandparents the late Frank & Isabel Johnson, my paternal grandparents the late Warren & Liza Manuel, & my parents the late Herman Manuel & Lorraine Johnson were all from Sacaton. I am a full blood Pima, an Elder, & I'm in my mid-sixties. I have a Bachelor of Science in Business Management degree, & a Master's in Business Administration. I retired from Gila River Indian Community 10 years ago, after 30 years of employment. I pride myself with **37 years of Sobriety**. Thank you for your support of 60% in the May 5, 2020 Special Election. I am Chief Judge now. As Chief Judge I will continue to manage the Court's effectively, sufficiently, with Integrity, & be the Example. I believe Judge's should remain impartial & not get involved in politics. They should live by Judge's Canon's (Code of Conduct). My experience comes from being a **Pro Tempore Judge** here in the Community. **Associate Judge** in Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. And a **Visiting Associate Judge** in the Hualapai Tribe. Early on, I Advocated at various Indian Reservations, The Thono O'Odham Nation; White Mountain Apache Tribe; San Carlos Indian Tribe; Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community; Hualapai Tribe; Hopi Tribe; Ak-Chin Indian Tribe; & Fort McDowell Yavapai Apache Tribe. I am a member of the San Carlos Bar. I have been your **Lieutenant Governor, D3 Councilman**, & have been on various GRIC Boards, such as, 4 River Indian Legal Services; GRTI; GRICUA, WHPDA, the Law Enforcement Commission, & more. I have served as chairman of the Arizona Indian Gaming Association, & have been the Secretary for the Intertribal Council of Arizona. I am married & have been for **30 years**. I have 4 boys. I am a Family man.

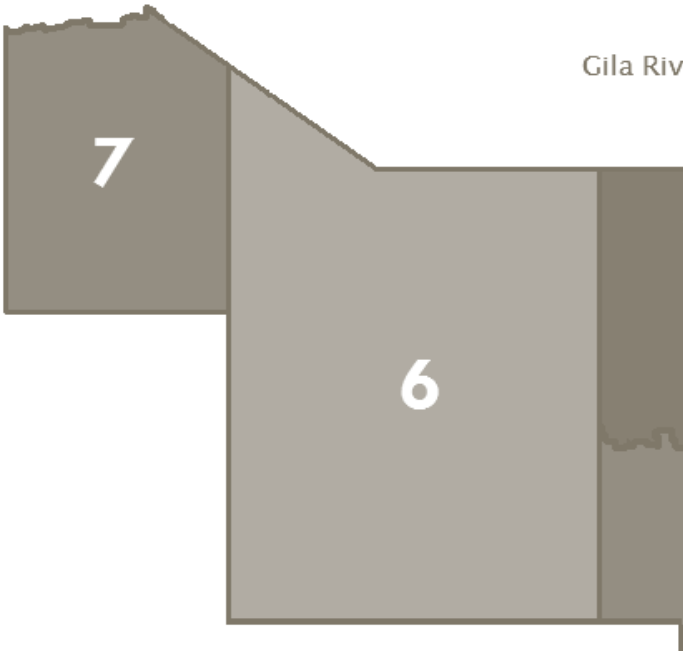
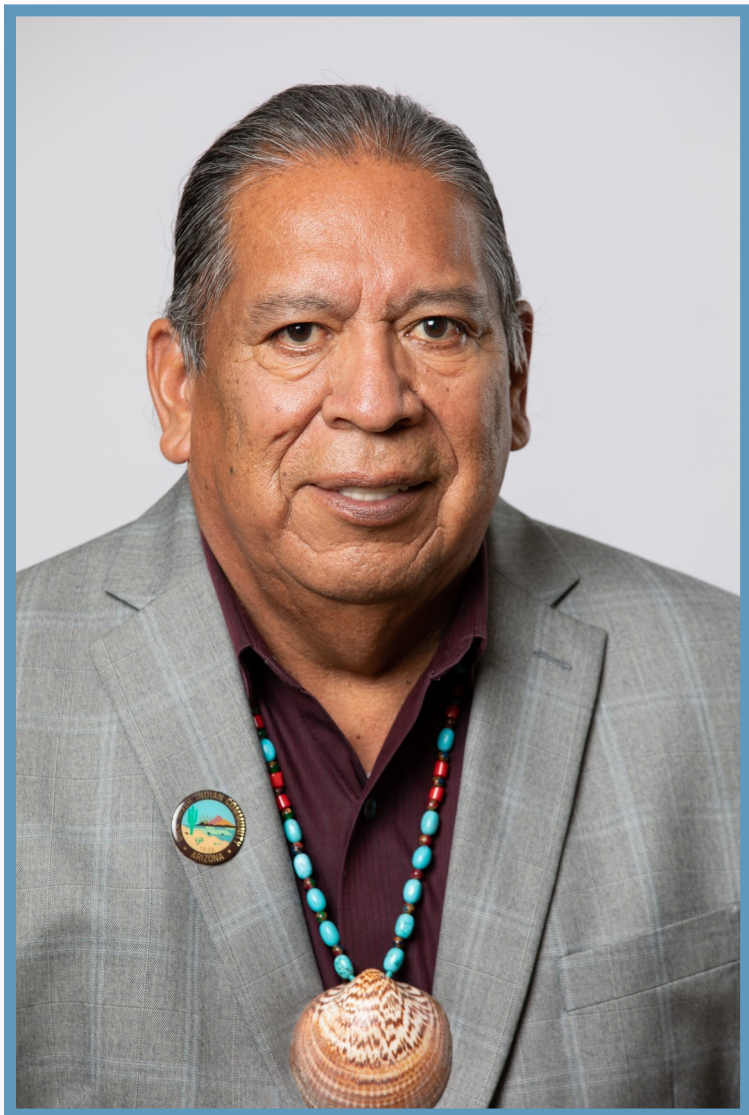
I have never been **Impeached** as a sitting Judge. I have never been **suspended** for actions unbecoming of a Judge. I will never bring disrespect to the Chief Judge position. I need your Support again, to advocate for all employee merit increases, additional Court facilities & employees, & Justice through Judicial Ethics. We are trying to find innovative alternatives to facilitate Justice during the COVID-19 Pandemic. I call upon my Hajun in Districts 1-7, With wise wisdom & direction from Our Creator, together we can set the example for Our generation, & generations to come. **Nasapo**.

RE-ELECT – "JOSEPH MANUEL" – CHIEF JUDGE

"A VOTE FOR JOSEPH, IS A VOTE FOR JUSTICE"

CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

CANDIDATES WILL BE ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT, NOVEMBER 3, 2020



ROBERT STONE

Shamai Masma,

My name is Robert Stone, and I was raised in Sweetwater, District 5. My parents were the late Thamer Patricia Enos Stone and the late Leonard Porter Stone. My maternal grandparents were the late Blanche Norris Enos and the late Alonzo Enos, and my paternal grandparents were the late Clara Pablo Stone and the late Benjamin Stone. I am respectfully asking for your vote for the position of Governor for the Gila River Indian Community.

First and foremost, I offer my prayers for all Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh during this unprecedented time within our Community. The Pandemic has definitely changed our perspective and way of life. I have been fully engaged in important areas of our Community to support our fight against the Coronavirus. This includes supporting the valuable services provided by our frontline workers from Gila River Health Care, Office of Emergency Management, GRPD, GRFD, EMS, and the GRIC COVID-19 Task Force.

If elected Governor, I pledge to continue to work with the Council, Tribal Departments, Congressional Leadership, and our team of experts to fight for the Covid-19 Federal funding which is essential for the sustainability of our Community during this difficult time.

I have an Associate degree in Agricultural Technology from Central Arizona College, and I have completed coursework at the University of Arizona and Arizona State University. My work experience includes many years of Community service in leadership roles such as General Manager of Gila River Farms, District 5 Councilman, Government and Management Standing Committee, Natural Resources Standing Committee, and Economic Standing Committee; in addition to being the current Lt. Governor of the Gila River Indian Community. These experiences have provided me opportunities to collaborate with Federal, State, and other Tribal Governments. I believe I have demonstrated my leadership skills and abilities by facing challenges with a positive approach in negotiations, fostering cooperation, and educating others by promoting our unique Community culture and values. I am dedicated to serving the Community, and willing to commit my time and effort by engaging long hours to the Office of the Governor position when needed.

If elected Governor, my priorities will be to enhance economic opportunities, protect our water rights, support Community Member education, support GRIC employees, promote our culture and traditions, support traditional language programs (Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh), support Elders and Youth Programs, support health care assistance for Community members, health & wellness programs, continue to support the current housing plans, promote agriculture development, engaging in the annual GRIC budget process, and continue to be “at the table” when decisions are made regarding projects affecting our Community, such as the I-10 improvement project.

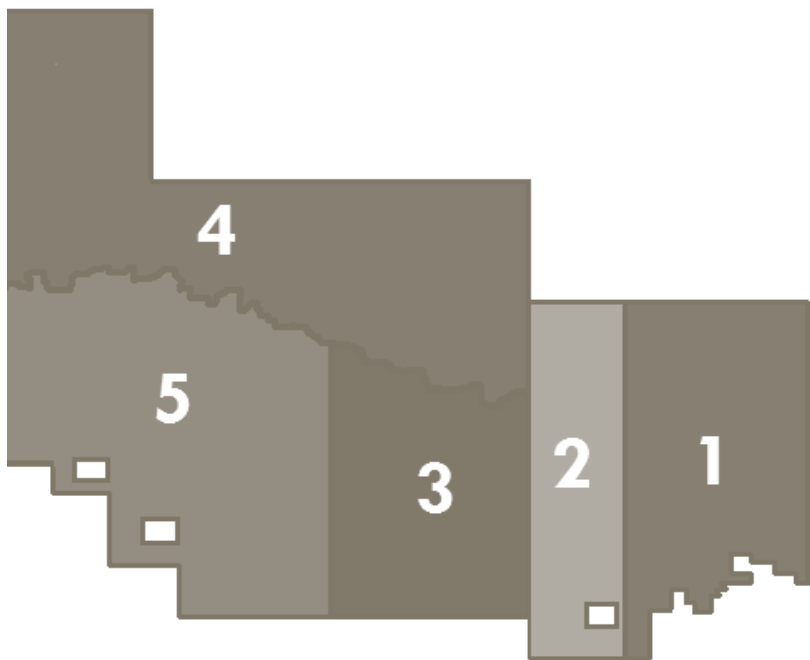
I believe I have been blessed with a family background based in our culture and traditions, with the ability to speak the O’otham language fluently; which has provided me a strong foundation to face challenges and obstacles in my path as a Leader of the Community. It would be an honor to serve our Community as your next Governor, and to represent you – the O’otham and Pee Posh, a Community of strong, prosperous people living within our blessed lands. I humbly and respectfully request your support.

I wish the best of luck to all of the candidates running for office in this 2020 election year!

Mova Sapa,
Robert “Bobby” Stone

CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

River Indian Community



STEPHEN ROE LEWIS



I am Stephen Roe Lewis and I was raised in Sacaton by my parents Rodney(baht) and Willardene Lewis. My paternal grandparents are Roe(baht) and Sallie(baht) Lewis of Lower Santan and maternal grandparents Willard(baht) and Catherine(baht) Pratt of Sacaton. I have a son Daniel who is 21 years old.

I have been honored to serve our Community as Lieutenant Governor and now Governor. I am proud of the accomplishments my Administration has made working with elected leaders, Districts, and Community members.

Education

Education has always been a top priority. I have an annual Education Summit to hear from you Community members and learned that one of your top priorities was new school construction. Working as a unified team, we built the new Gila Crossing Community School. We are now in the process of building a new Casa Blanca Community School which should open in August, 2021.

Water Rights

As your Governor, I fought to defend our Water Rights during the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) negotiations during 2018. As your Governor, I took a leadership role in those negotiations and as a result our Community's Water Rights remain intact. I also led the fight to stop water theft of Gila River water in the Upper Valley.

My first act as Governor was to proclaim 2015, the "Year of Honoring our Water Rights." Since then I have fought to educate, protect, and defend our shudag both at home, in the state, and nationally.

We built the MAR 5 Interpretive Trail which represents our historical tie to our Keli Akimel and will serve to educate, protect, and conserve our shudag for our future generations.

Pandemic

The pandemic has been a new threat to our Community at all levels. My father taught me our past leaders never waited for others to protect our shudag. We had to take care of ourselves. I have taken this teaching to heart every day since this deadly pandemic started.

We created our own plan to protect our Community in the absence of state and federal guidance. I established a Covid-19 testing program for Community members on and off our Community, and for all our employees. I worked to get access to PPE including masks for Community members. Through my Executive Orders, I have acted more quickly than any other government instituting Stay At Home, Masking, and Remote School requirements.

Working together with our elected leadership, our government has continued to function, providing essential services for our Community. I have aggressively and successfully advocated at the federal level to get the financial support we need.

There is still much to be done, and there are difficult days ahead before we are safely out of this pandemic.

If re-elected I will continue to fight for the health and safety of our Community during this pandemic. We will get through this together if we continue to support and care for each other. Thank you for your consideration. Let's continue to keep Gila River Strong.

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW...

ABSENTEE Ballot VOTING OPENS: August 24th thru September 14th, 5:00 pm

Contact your District Judge, if you would like to cast your ballot in this manner:

If you plan to have your District Judge assist you in voting by absentee, please do not request an absentee ballot through the mail.

They will have ballots on hand.

- Wear a mask
- Keep a safe distance apart
- Hand sanitizer will be provided by the District Judge

DISTRICT #1 Judge - Cynthia Antone, (520) 705-3004

DISTRICT #2 Judge - Bertha S. Thomas, (520) 610-8350

DISTRICT #3 Judge - Zuzette Kisto, (520) 610-1965

DISTRICT #4 Judge - Sharon Miguel, (520) 610-0670

DISTRICT #5 Judge - Verna Sunna, (480) 737-1584

DISTRICT #6 Judge - Lorina Allison, (480) 404-5184

DISTRICT #7 - unavailable;

Tribal Elections Office - (520) 562-9735 or (520) 562-9758

All Districts will provide a polling site. However, we strongly recommend you vote by absentee to combat the spreading of the COVID-19 virus as part of our efforts to assist you in the most safest way of VOTING.

Some absentee ballots that came through the mail were NOT COUNTED. WHY? One simple step was missed. They didn't sign the back of the return envelope. DON'T WASTE YOUR VOTE! PLEASE make sure you sign the envelope.

APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

I, _____ do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I am the person whose name is signed to this application and that such name and signature is my true name and signature (or, if I did not personally sign, it was due to physical disability); that I am a qualified elector of the Gila River Indian Community; that I am registered at:

DISTRICT AND ZONE: _____

and that I reside at: PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

Because I expect to be absent from my district at the time of the election, or because of physical disability, I will not be able to go to the polls on the day of the election, I hereby make application to the Tribal Elections Program for an Absentee Ballot. I understand that casting more than one ballot in any election is forbidden by Community Ordinance.

Signature of elector

Grid #

My Mailing Address Is: _____

If you requested an absentee ballot through the mail, but couldn't mail it back in time. You can drop it off at a polling site nearest to you. Inform the Election Judge you are dropping off your absentee ballot; they will sign off on it and drop it in a box to be counted at the end of the election day.

While you are at the Polling Site...

REMEMBER

- ⇒ You can vote at any polling site location; you must show proper photo identification
- ⇒ All districts with the exception of District 5; will have only Candidates running for Lieutenant Governor on their ballot
- ⇒ If you missed the deadline to change your name, address, marital status or district. Your information will stay the same in the database. This WILL NOT prevent you from voting. You cannot change your information on Election Day. Your District Judge will provide you with information as to when you can do so. If you already changed your name (i.e. drivers license) you must sign your name as it is shown in the data base.
- ⇒ If you are prevented from voting due to any of the above listed issues; please notify the Tribal Elections office immediately, (520) 562-9735
- ⇒ During the time the polls are open; no one shall loaf or loiter within the 50-foot limit area. No one except voters who have not voted and the Election Officials, may be inside the 50-foot limit. There shall be no electioneering or other political activity within the 50-foot limit area. Election Officials, voter or others within the 50-foot limit shall not force, induce or influence any voter or attempt to do so.
- ⇒ NO CAMPAIGN ATTIRE, PROMOTIONAL ITEMS OR TAKING OF CELL PHONE PICTURES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE POLLING SITE AREA.
- ⇒ ELECTION DAY will require drive-up voting service; please follow signs to route you through this process and please be patient.

