

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

Executive Office of the Governor & Lieutenant Governor

“Gila River Strong”

Stephen Roe Lewis
Governor



Monica Lynn Antone
Lieutenant Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER ENDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, from March 13, 2020 through October 2, 2020, I issued eight separate Executive Orders addressing various aspects of the coronavirus pandemic, ranging from a declaration of a public emergency to a requirement that all persons wear a mask while on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation; and

WHEREAS, I amended these separate Executive Orders on numerous occasions to extend and clarify them as necessary; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2020, I issued a new comprehensive Executive Order No. 9 that combined these prior Executive Orders into one single order, setting forth the numerous elements of our governmental response to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, I amended Executive Order No. 9 on two occasions to both address necessary clarifications, and also to extend its effect until April 12, 2021, in order to provide necessary time to consider important possible modifications to the pandemic restrictions contained therein; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2021, I issued comprehensive Executive Order No. 10, which made various changes including approval of the Tribal Government Return to Work Plan and easing certain restrictions for fully vaccinated individuals; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2021, I issued comprehensive Executive Order No. 11 to address growing concerns regarding new COVID-19 variants; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2021, I issued Comprehensive Executive Order No. 12 to further address recent increases in COVID-19 due primarily to the spread of the Delta variant among unvaccinated individuals; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2021, I issued Amended Comprehensive Executive Order No. 12, which directed that all schools on the Gila River Indian Reservation provide classes virtually until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2022, I issued Comprehensive Executive Order No. 13, which provided for the reopening of Community schools subject to approval of school reopening plans; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2022, I issued Comprehensive Executive Order No. 14, which continued the Community's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2022, I issued Comprehensive Executive Order No. 15, which addressed the reopening of the Community's schools for the 2022-2023 academic year; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2022, I issued Comprehensive Executive Order No. 16, which was amended on October 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Community had a swift, robust and comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the declaration of a public health State of Emergency in the Community and mandating various public health measures, including testing and vaccination programs; and

WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has indicated that it will extend the federal emergency declarations to May 11, 2023, and end both emergencies—the COVID-19 national emergency and public health emergency—on that date; and

WHEREAS, the Community's public health authorities and the COVID-19 Task Force have recommended ending the public health State of Emergency commensurate with the actions of the Biden Administration.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor of the Gila River Indian Community, through the authority granted to me in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community and Title 1 of the Gila River Indian Community Code, hereby issue this Executive Order Ending the Public Health State of Emergency in the Gila River Indian Community as follows:

First, I hereby declare that the public health State of Emergency in the Gila River Indian Community regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, shall end effective May 11, 2023, and all provisions of Amended Comprehensive Executive Order No. 16 Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic not specifically addressed in this executive order are hereby rescinded.