

Kiowa Tribe District 7 Legislature - Newsletter

District 7 has a new website, feel free to visit the site at <https://www.kiowatribe.org/district-7>. You can also use the buttons below to access the website and the most recent Kiowa Tribe Newsletter.

Visit the District 7
Website

Kiowa Tribe Newsletter Vol V
Issue VI



Message From District 7 Legislator

Dear District Citizens,

We are delighted to provide you with an update on the latest developments in our district. As we strive to move our District 7 forward and create a better future for everyone, we have been working to implement various initiatives. I apologize that we have not been consistent with our newsletter. The Kiowa Tribe has been transitioning its website, and we had some staff leave, making it more challenging to publish a newsletter. We are currently aligning our newsletter with the website. My communication plan is to post more resources and activities to our District 7 page on the [kiowatribe.org](https://www.kiowatribe.org) website and create a page that will be a one-stop shop for information regarding District 7 information. Unfortunately, the process has been slow, but we are progressing.

We focused on the Kiowa Tribe budgetary process, juvenile codes for the Kiowa Court, and the blood quantum issue. We will post resolutions and bills to our District 7 website once the documents are final.

We thank you for your support and commitment as we strive to improve access to resources within District 7.

Warren Queton
District 7 Legislator



District 7 Staff Update

The District 7 Office has transitioned from the beginning of the year. We had some staffing transitions with our Office Manager and Legislative Intern. Our legislative intern Jared Blackbear will graduate this spring from the University of Oklahoma and needs to focus on his professional development to graduate and transition into his career. Suzanne Wise, our Office Manager, has changed to the Executive Assistant for Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

We are hiring a new District 7 Office Manager. If interested, you may apply using the link below.

ARP Check Process

If you are not received your ARP Check from December 2022 or are experiencing problems getting a status on your check. Contact Manilla Whitehorse at (405) 857-8408 or email District7legislature@kiowatribe.org.

ARP Delinquent Check Process:

- 1) Kiowa Citizen contacts the Kiowa District 7 Office with their Name, Date of Birth, Current Mailing Address, Phone Number, and Email Address.
- 2) District 7 Office sends all collected information to the Assistant of the Executive Director for processing.
- 3) The Executive Director Assistant will email the status and begin processing delinquent payments once the correct information has been validated.



Blood Quantum Discussion

On Jan. 21st, the Kiowa Indian Council gathered to hear a proposal from Kiowa District 1 Legislator Kyle Attaddley. The proposal includes language that will make all current tribal citizen's blood quantum 4/4s Kiowa blood.

Blood quantum politics is an issue of great importance to Native Nations. The term refers to the measure of Indian blood a person has, which can vary from tribe to tribe. Tribes use this measure to determine whether someone is eligible for enrolled membership and certain rights that come with it, such as receiving tribal benefits or participating in tribal government. The federal government uses blood quantum to determine which tribes are "recognized" and eligible for certain benefits. It is an idea imposed upon tribes, not a concept that is organic to tribal nations. Blood quantum politics raises questions about tribal sovereignty and self-determination. Advocates argue that the policy helps to protect a tribe's culture and identity, while those opposed point out its potential to cause division within tribal communities. Blood quantum also perpetuates the myth of racial purity, an idea used to oppress Native Americans throughout history.

The Kiowa Indian Council's proposal to make all current tribal members 4/4s blood quantum began the conversation. On Feb. 8th, the Kiowa Election Commission (KEC) stated it could not proceed to Special Election since the resolution submitted to the KEC did not comply with the Kiowa Constitution. It also needed to include specific language to amend the constitution, which it did not.

This article informs Citizens that District 7 is proposing a Special Kiowa Indian Council

meeting and Amendatory Convention to address blood quantum options with presentations and data analysis reports to be shared with all citizens.

Let's look at some alternatives to the recent 4/4s KIC Proposal.

1) Lineage Blood Quantum - Like Choctaw and Chickasaws, tribal citizens become citizens no matter their blood quantum amount, meaning as long you can prove you are a descendant of a citizen on the tribal rolls, you are eligible for citizenship.

2) Pooling Blood Quantum - This converts Indian blood into Kiowa blood. For example, if you are half Comanche and half Kiowa, with appropriate documentation, your Comanche Blood is converted to Kiowa Blood, making you 4/4s Kiowa.

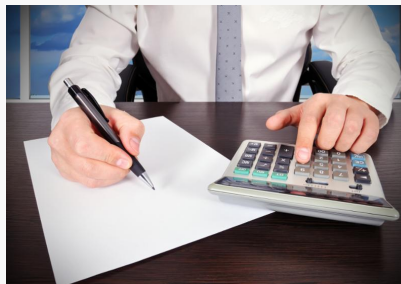
3) 1/8 Blood Quantum - This has been discussed several times before but has yet to be enacted into law. If the tribe adopts a 1/8 blood quantum, it will allow the next generation of citizens whose parents are only 1/4 blood to enroll as citizens.

4) 1/16 Blood Quantum - This option is relatively new but is being discussed in the citizen community. It would address blood quantum and be a solution for the next 2-3 generations but would eventually need to be re-addressed.

5) 1/4 Blood Quantum - This is the current blood quantum enrollment, leaving 1/4 blood quantum to qualify for tribal citizen enrollment.

6) 4/4 Blood Quantum - Raising everyone on the tribal enrollment to 4/4s Kiowa.

Blood quantum is a contentious issue among Native Americans, but it demonstrates how tribes are taking steps to ensure the survival of their cultures in the face of cultural assimilation. Blood Quantum policies are an essential part of tribal sovereignty and self-determination, and the Kiowa Indian Council's proposal is an encouraging step forward in protecting the rights of its people.



Kiowa Legislature Begins the Budget Process:

This month, the Kiowa Legislature begins the budget appropriations process for Fiscal Year 23 (FY23). This process is crucial to ensure that funding is allocated according to the Kiowa Tribe's priorities and that services are provided efficiently in the coming year. This process will focus on determining which programs should receive limited funds and how those funds should be allocated. Tribal leaders will review and discuss the Tribal Budget Process to develop a financial plan that meets the needs of their community. The appropriations process will take several weeks and numerous meetings before it is completed and submitted for approval. During this time, Tribal Leaders will weigh the needs of their constituents while also evaluating the available Tribal resources. Ultimately, Tribal Leaders will craft a fiscally responsible and equitable budget. It is important to remember that Tribal funds are limited, so Tribal Leaders must prioritize programs and services accordingly. The Kiowa Legislature looks forward to the Budget Appropriations Process for FY23 and the opportunity it provides to ensure Tribal funds are used in the most effective way possible.

By engaging Tribal Leaders, Kiowa constituents, and Tribal members in this process, we can ensure that Tribal funds are allocated responsibly and equitably. We welcome your insight into the Tribal Budget Process and look forward to hearing from you. The Kiowa Legislature is committed to creating a budget that will meet the needs of Tribal members and foster Tribal

Public Law 638 Service Areas bar

District 7 Citizens from Services:

District 7 citizens have recently asked why people living outside the jurisdictional area (former reservation) do not receive the same services as those living in the jurisdiction do. The answer is that for years the Kiowa Tribe has operated on Public Law (P.L.) 638 grants for its program services and not under Federal Block Grants, which would allow the Kiowa Tribe to operate more autonomously.

Although the P.L. 638 grants have helped the Kiowa Tribe access services and resources, they would not have had otherwise. However, it still meant that government oversight compromises our tribal sovereignty and self-determination. As a result, more and more tribes are choosing to move away from accepting these grants in favor of Federal Block Grants, which offer more flexibility and autonomy to tribes. Federal Block Grants are provided directly to a tribe or organization to help them meet their needs without the same degree of government oversight as P.L. 638 grants. These grants are used for various purposes, such as economic development, housing assistance, social services, health care, and education. In addition, Federal Block Grants provide tribes with the opportunity to determine their path to success without needing to conform to predetermined government standards.

In addition, Federal Block Grants allow for more financial stability as they are often provided in more significant amounts over a more extended period than P.L. 638 grants. The grants ensure tribes have the resources they need to reach their financial goals while maintaining their autonomy and self-determination. Federal Block Grants also allow for more direct control, as tribes can decide how best to use the funds without going through a lengthy government approval process.

A Federal Block Grant would provide the Kiowa Tribe with the opportunity to gain access to much-needed resources while still maintaining their sovereignty and self-determination. In addition, these grants would offer the Kiowa Tribe financial stability, flexibility, and autonomy, allowing the tribe to determine its path to success without the same degree of government oversight as P.L. 638 grants.

Overall, Federal Block Grants present an attractive option for the Kiowa Tribe to move away from P.L. 638 service areas. These service areas associated with P.L. 638 programs disqualify tribal citizens living within District 7, which needs to change. A Federal Block Grant would provide a high degree of autonomy and flexibility, allowing tribes to tailor their resources to meet their specific needs without being limited by predetermined government standards. Federal Block Grants also provide more financial stability and direct control, ensuring that tribes have the resources to reach their goals while maintaining autonomy. Federal Block Grants are quickly becoming the go-to option for many Native American tribes looking to preserve their sovereignty and self-determination. It is easy to see why Federal Block Grants are becoming increasingly popular in Indian Country. With Federal Block Grants, tribes can access needed resources while preserving their autonomy and self-determination. For this reason, Federal Block Grants are quickly becoming the preferred option for many tribal nations, and the Kiowa Tribe needs to follow suit.





Kawah gw, Betty McKenzie, Marisa Horse, Carole Tapedo, Donna G. U Tapedo, Mildred Tsoodle, Rubies daughter? Helen Poolaw

Tribal Court Update

For the first time in history, the Kiowa Tribe has opened its own Tribal Court – ushering in a new era of self-governance and autonomy. This milestone brings an immense sense of pride for all its members as they assume control over justice within their nation. It's truly a remarkable moment!

The Kiowa Tribal Court manages civil disputes and criminal misdemeanors within the tribe. The court has rules, regulations, personnel, and facilities that distinguish it from other tribal or state court systems. Its jurisdiction includes civil matters, such as land disputes, and criminal cases, such as minor offenses committed by tribal members.

The court is led by Kiowa Tribal Judges who hold power under the sovereignty of the tribe. These judges are nominated by the Kiowa Executive Branch and confirmed by the Kiowa Legislature. They must follow established laws, protocols, and regulations set forth by the tribe to remain unbiased and fair to all parties involved. The judgments made here are final and binding within the boundaries of the Kiowa Nation.

The Tribal Court system gives the Kiowa people a much-needed sense of autonomy and justice. It's an essential step towards self-governance and empowerment, allowing the tribe to control its destiny and be more responsible for its success. This new court system provides hope for a brighter future where the Kiowa people can fully exercise their sovereignty and independence.

Establishing the Tribal Court is an impressive achievement and a significant milestone for the Kiowa Nation that will have lasting repercussions far into the future. It's an inspiring example of what can be accomplished when a tribe takes ownership of its destiny. We look forward to seeing what else the Kiowa Tribe will continue to achieve in the future.

Congratulations, Kiowa Nation! You have opened a new door of justice and opportunity for your people. We wish you all the best on this fantastic journey.

Upcoming Kiowa Language Class

Kiowa District 7 Language Class

MARCH 13

IN PERSON ACTIVITY BEGINS

@ 7:00PM

VIRTUAL CLASS BEGINS

@ 8:00 PM

POTLOCK! PLEASE BRING AN ITEM TO SHARE!

SPEAKERS

DELORES HARRAGARRA

VELMA EISENBERGER

MARTHA POOLAW

Location : Kiowa District 7 Office

123 24th Ave NW

Norman, Oklahoma 73069

ZOOM OPTIONS

Link: [Bit.ly/Feb13Language](https://bit.ly/Feb13Language)

Meeting ID: 896 1731 5150

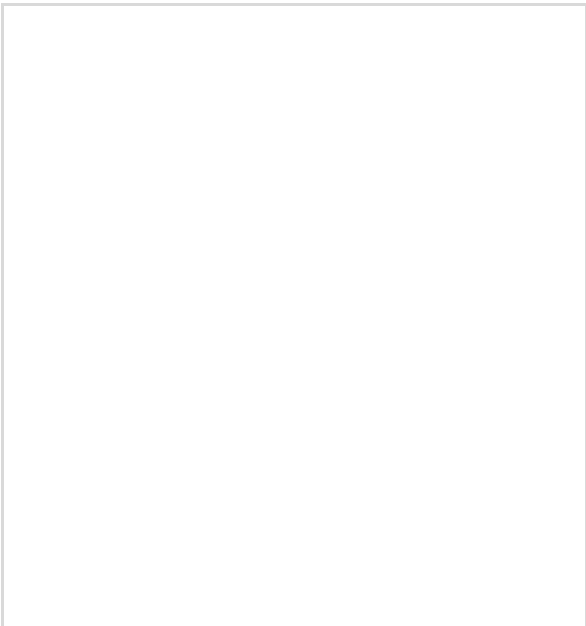
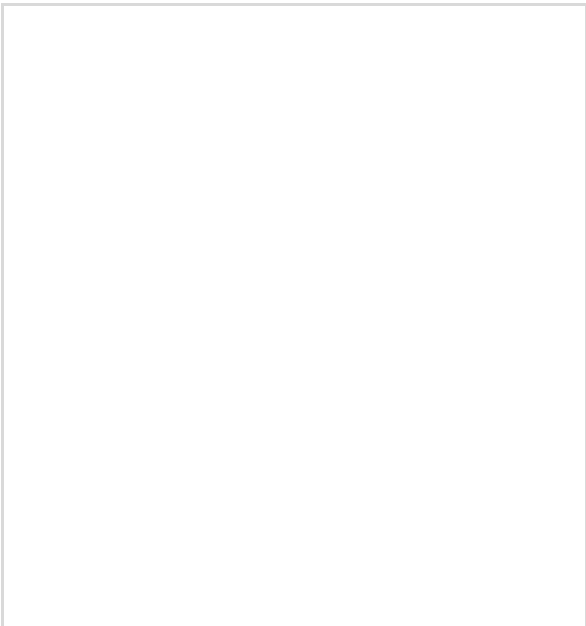
Password: kiowa QR Code:



FOR ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CLASS CONTENT PLEASE
CONTACT KRICKET CONNYWERDY AT RHOADSCONNYWERDY@GMAIL.COM

District 7 Meet and Greet - New Mexico

District 7 Legislator Warren Queton had the opportunity to travel to New Mexico and discuss important ongoing current events. The Meet and Greet was a success, and Warren Queton is currently working on his next plan of action.





FROM CO-CREATORS STERLIN HARJO & TAIKA WAITITI



OPEN CALL

RESERVATION DOGS
SEASON 3 EXTRAS NEEDED

OPEN TO ALL AGES & ETHNICITIES	NATIVE AMERICAN, AFRO- INDIGENOUS, CAUCASIAN, AFRICAN AMERICANS, ETC. NEEDED
WHERE	TULSA, OKLAHOMA
WHEN	MARCH - JUNE 2023
CONTACT	REZDOGSCASTING@GMAIL.COM

SCAN QR CODE
TO REGISTER



Open Call -Reservation Dogs

Reservation Dogs is looking for new folks who are interested in being background extras, Native and non-Native of all ages. It's a paid opportunity based in Okmulgee and Tulsa. We are only requiring a pre-employment COVID-19 test to be eligible to work.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3PUry5wOui3GSALaSDEi60emYyQdJJ-h9TIGyMYpwef8fTw/viewform?usp=sf_link