

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Approving FY 2027 Professional Services Contract between the Tohono O'odham
Nation and Benjamin Aguilera, Esq. of the Aguilera Law Firm PC)

RESOLUTION NO. 26-340

1 **WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation vests the Legislative**
2 **Council with the power "to employ legal counsel for the protection and**
3 **advancement of the Tohono O'odham Nation..." (Constitution of the Tohono**
4 **O'odham Nation, Article VI, Section 2(a)); and**

5 **WHEREAS, the increasing needs of Tribal Members ("Members") for legal representation**
6 **has caused a need for contracted attorneys to represent Members in cases where**
7 **the Tohono O'odham Advocate Program is ethically conflicted out of the**
8 **representation; and**

9 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Advocate Program has prepared and submitted for review**
10 **and approval FY 2027 Professional Services Contract between the Tohono**
11 **O'odham Nation ("Nation") and Benjamin Aguilera, Esq., which is incorporated**
12 **herein by this reference, to represent Tribal Members in certain Adult and**
13 **Juvenile Criminal Cases who cannot be represented by the Nation's Advocate**
14 **Program due to a conflict of interest; and**

15 **WHEREAS, fees for services provided under this Contract will be paid out of the FY 2027**
16 **Advocate Program Budget in accordance with the terms of the FY 2027**
17 **Professional Services Contract with Benjamin Aguilera, Esq., which shall extend**
18 **from October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027; and**

19 **WHEREAS, the Domestic Affairs Committee has reviewed the contract and recommends**
20 **approval by the Legislative Council.**

21 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council approves the**
22 **FY 2027 Professional Services Contract between the Tohono O'odham Nation and**
23 **Benjamin Aguilera, Esq., in substantially the form attached.**

24 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council authorizes and directs**
25 **the Nation's chairperson to execute the Professional Services Contract, provided**
26 **that any amendments to the Professional Services Contract shall be submitted**
27 **for prior approval by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council.**

28 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 22ND**
29 **day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,321.1 FOR;**
30 **-0- AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [01] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by**
31 **Article VI, Section 2 (a) of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation, adopted by the**
32 **Tohono O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant**
33 **Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of**
34 **June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).**

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TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wavalene M. Saunders
Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman

29 day of September, 2026

ATTEST:

Evonne Wilson
Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

29 day of September, 2026

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 29 day of September, 2026 at 8:19 o'clock, a.m., pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48 hours of submittal.

TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wavalene M. Saunders
Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman

☒ APPROVED

on the 30 day of September, 2026

☐ DISAPPROVED

at 3:40 o'clock, p.m.

Verlon M. Jose
VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 30 day of

September, 2026, at 4:00 o'clock, p.m.

Evonne Wilson
Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary

ACTION: APPROVING FY 2027 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION AND BENJAMIN AGUILERA, ESQ. OF THE AGUILERA LAW FIRM PC

MOVED: COUNCILMAN BENNETT CHEWING

SECOND: COUNCILWOMAN VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF OIDAK 251.2	1. WVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez) 2. FRANCIS HOMEWYTEWA (Dionne Kuth-Le)	125.6 125.6	X X			
SELLS 565.7	1. JANET B. ELEANDO () 2. EVELYN JUAN MANUEL (Juan Buendia)	282.85 282.85	X X			
SCHUK TOAK 195.3	1. THEORIA CAMPILLO (Rebecca Ann Valentine) 2. DELISA M. RAMON (Quintin C. Lopez)	97.65 97.65	X X			
SAN XAVIER 249.8	1. DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III () 2. JANICE FELIX ()	124.9 124.9	X X			
SAN LUCY 266.3	1. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (Lorraine M. Eller) 2. ROGER MANUEL (Christina Andrews)	133.15 133.15	X X			
PISINEMO 240.3	1. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas) 2. NAOMI MONTE (Edward D. Manuel)	120.15 120.15	X X			
HICKIWAN 222.9	1. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (Loretta A. Ortega) 2. DELMA M. GARCIA ()	111.45 111.45	X X			
GU VO 279.6	1. LESLIE LUNA () 2. BENNETT CHEWING ()	139.8 139.8	X X			
GU ACHI 289.2	1. GLORIA JOHNSON (Rodney T. Aguilla) 2. LUCIUS E. LOPEZ (Victoria A. Hobbs)	144.6 144.6	X X			
CHUKUT KUK 361.9	1. MARLAKAY HENRY () 2. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone)	180.95 180.95	X X			X
BABOQUIVARI 398.9	1. JESSE NAVARRO () 2. NED NORRIS, JR. (Leander Mase)	199.45 199.45	X X			
TOTAL		3,321.1	3,321.1	-0-	-0-	[01]