



Pueblo de San Ildefonso
Office of the Governor

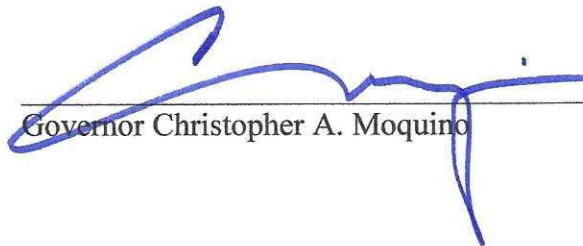
**STATEMENT TO THE SAN ILDEFONSO PUEBLO COMMUNITY
REGARDING REMOVAL OF CHIEF JUDGE TROY WARD FROM
OFFICE**

Several San Ildefonso tribal and community members may have heard or received emails about the removal action against Chief Judge Troy Ward from the Pueblo de San Ildefonso Trial Court. This is official notification that Troy Ward has been removed from his position as Chief Judge of the San Ildefonso Trial Court effective August 13, 2025.

There have been serious concerns about Judge Ward's absences from the Court, cases being dismissed or not being handled in a timely or appropriate manner, and Judge Ward's overall judicial conduct. On June 17, 2025, nine (9) Tribal Council members, as citizens of the Pueblo, filed a formal complaint requesting Judge Ward's removal pursuant to the Pueblo's Code of Judicial Conduct. Chief Justice Martinez of the Pueblo's Supreme Court determined, pursuant to the Code, that there was probable cause to hold a hearing on the removal complaint. An independent hearing panel consisting of three attorneys was convened. A formal hearing before the panel was held at the Pueblo on August 7, 2025. The Council members' complaint and evidence was presented to the panel by presenting officer, attorney Jeff J. Davis. Judge Ward had notice of the hearing and failed to appear. The panel listened to the presentation, considered the facts and evidence presented, and issued a unanimous ruling finding that Judge Ward's conduct violated multiple Rules of Judicial Conduct, showed total disregard and deliberate indifference to the ethical requirements for judges, and therefore, justified the immediate removal of Judge Ward from his position as Chief Judge.

The Pueblo does not take this unfortunate matter lightly and is committed to ensuring that the Trial Court will operate in a fair and efficient manner moving forward. Please reach out to my office at (505) 455-2273 with any questions.

DATED: August 15, 2025



Governor Christopher A. Moquino