



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION UNIFIED COMMAND

Conditioned, Committed, Confident



Coronavirus COVID-19 changed the way we live, changed the way we work and do business, the way we interact with one another, it changed the world. What it did not change is the need to collaborate, the need for teamwork, and the need for environments like the Emergency Operations Center that promote the collaboration and teamwork needed to accomplish a mission. COVID-19 forced change, it forced us to re-condition the way we think. For members of the Unified Command Staff, staying safe and staying healthy, in order to provide the services necessary to slow the spread of COVID-19 became imperative. These changes required the Unified Command Staff to be Conditioned, Committed, and Confident.

Becoming CONDITIONED

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated and opened on March 13, 2020 when Chairman Norris declared a State of Emergency for COVID-19. For the last 14-weeks Unified Command Staff have worked side by side in the EOC dedicated to a mission. That mission? Combat and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. From the beginning, Unified Command Staff, followed the evolving and rapidly changing guidelines set in place by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). When COVID-19 started to spread in areas of the United States like Seattle, WA and New York, NY, guidance from the CDC was to wash your hands, not touch your face, and cover your cough. Unified Command Staff followed these guidelines, and eventually began to follow other guidelines as they were recommended, to include face masks and cloth face coverings, temperature checks, and surface cleaning. Staff have conditioned themselves, as a team, to maintain a safe and clean work environment; and individually, staff have conditioned themselves to maintain their individual workstations. Staff learned quickly to monitor their health so they do not report to work sick. Unified Command Staff have conditioned themselves to follow the safety protocols and now have a “new normal” when reporting to work or conducting personal business on personal time. Unified Command Staff are aware that these guidelines and protocols could change as more is learned about COVID-19, and are ready to adapt.



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Staying COMMITTED

The Unified Command Staff have stayed committed to each other and to the mission throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. When the Stay at Home orders that were established by the Nation and the State, eventually lifted, Unified Command Staff stayed committed to each other by continuing to abide by safety recommendations. This included limiting time outside of the home, except to conduct essential business, wearing a face mask/covering while outside of the home and in a work environment where social distancing was not possible, practicing social distancing, limiting contact with individuals that do not reside within the individual households, among many other protocols. The individuals that make up the Unified Command Staff understand the importance of keeping each other safe, as one staff member put it, "I trust that everyone in this room is taking care of themselves and doing everything they can to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while at home and on the weekends, so I am going to do the same for them." It is this individual commitment to one another that enables the team to stay committed to the mission.

Being CONFIDENT

The Unified Command Staff are confident that the recommended safety measures and protocols work; and will continue to follow CDC recommendations and guidelines as they change and evolve. Unified Command Staff are confident the recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), in the form of cloth face coverings, work. Unified Command Staff are confident in each other, and trust that the person sitting next them is taking the same precautions and is committed to the same mission, combat and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

As individuals start to become "COVID fatigued" and the reality of COVID-19 begins to set in, remember all you need to do is be Conditioned, Committed, and Confident. **Conditioned** to the new changes, **Committed** to one another, **Committed** to preventing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and **Confident** in the safety guidelines and recommended PPE.

Coronavirus COVID-19 changed the world and changed lives, the only way to change how COVID-19 will impact the Tohono O'odham Nation, is to work together as a community and look out for one another.