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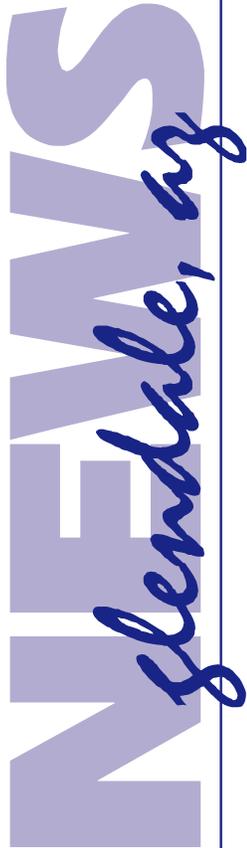
**GLENDALE PREVAILS OVER THE TOHONO O' ODHAM NATION
IN ANNEXATION LAWSUIT**

GLENDALE, Ariz. – The city of Glendale took another major step forward today in its efforts to prevent a Tribal Nation from creating a reservation within the city's exterior boundaries. A judge ruled today a large portion of the land at 91st and Northern avenues has been part of the city's jurisdiction since it was annexed in 2001.

The Tohono O' odham have requested that the federal government create a reservation for gaming purposes on approximately 134 acres at the corner of 91st and Northern avenues. The Tribe challenged to the validity of the city's 2001 annexation of the middle third of the property. Today, Superior Court Judge J. Kenneth Mangum decided in favor of the city and ruled the 2001 annexation was in fact effective.

Glendale's position in this particular case was that the 2001 annexation became final 30 days after the annexation ordinance was adopted. The Tribe argued that the annexation was not effective because it was challenged and that the city attempt to abandon the annexation months later was valid. The challenge was later dismissed by the court because the then landowner failed to prosecute the case.

In the current lawsuit, Judge J. Kenneth Mangum agreed with Glendale and stated in his decision, "the simple response to the Tribe is that had the legislature wanted to suspend the annexation from taking effect as opposed to the Court later



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reversing it, it could have said so.” Therefore, the city’s annexation in 2001 remains in effect and that portion of the land does not qualify under the federal statute that the Tribe relies upon for creation of a new reservation.

“We were confident in our position and believe this is the right decision,” said Glendale City Attorney Craig Tindall. “None of the land that is the subject of the Tribe’s application qualifies under the federal statute for creation of a reservation. But this ruling is important in the broader context. It reflects one of the many critical issues that local jurisdictions face when the federal government seeks to create a federal enclave within a city. The Tohono O’odham has adamantly stated that the local community has no say whatsoever in their proposal and refuses to consider the jurisdiction and governmental issues that its proposal creates. This lawsuit is one example of those many issues.”

For more information, visit www.glendaleaz.com/indianreservation.

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