



**David M. Clouse**  
Sheriff

**Holbrook (928) 524-4450**  
[www.navajocountyaz.gov](http://www.navajocountyaz.gov)

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 17, 2020

For more information contact:

Brian Swanty, Chief Deputy

[Brian.Swanty@navajocountyaz.gov](mailto:Brian.Swanty@navajocountyaz.gov)

**Pinetop, AZ:** On behalf of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and Governing Body, the Navajo County Sheriff's Office has been asked to release the following information on their behalf.

On February 17, 2020, just before 1 a.m., officers from the White Mountain Apache Police Department responded to reports of "shots fired" near the Hon-Dah Resort-Casino, south of Pinetop-Lakeside. The first responding officer located a male subject matching the description of the individual involved. The subject immediately engaged in a violent, physical altercation with the officer, during which, the officer was shot. A second responding officer arrived shortly after, and fearing for his life and the public's safety, shot the suspect.

The officer and male subject were both transported to a local hospital where they succumbed to their injuries.

The investigation is being led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Any further inquiries should be routed to the FBI Public Affairs Office in Phoenix.

The Navajo County Sheriff's Office would like to express our deepest sympathy for the loss of the White Mountain Apache Police Officer who lost his life serving his community today.