



Statement on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People

On this National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW), we take a moment to honor the lives of all our missing relatives and those who were taken far too soon. We also hold in our hearts the families who carry this pain every day. This is not just a national issue; it is something many of our own families here in Fort Hall know personally.

For generations, Native people have faced high rates of violence tied to long-standing injustices and policies that continue to affect our communities today. These are not just statistics. They are daughters, sons, mothers, fathers, aunties, and uncles who are deeply missed and always remembered.

We are grateful for the work happening in our own community through our Tribal Victims Assistance Program and the Fort Hall Police Department, who continue to support families and respond with care and commitment. We also recognize the important work of programs like “Carrying the Message”, who help bring awareness forward and make sure our loved ones are not forgotten or overlooked.

This is not a one-day message. We carry this responsibility every day. We need continued commitment, stronger resources, and better coordination so families can get answers and healing. As a community, we will keep showing up for our relatives, keep speaking their names, and keep working toward a future where our people are safe, seen, and protected.

*- Fort Hall Business Council Chairwoman of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Donna Thompson
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