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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 26, 2017

On behalf of Apache County District 2, we would like to express our appreciation and honor our fallen soldiers this Memorial Day. It's crucial to observe their bravery, sacrifice, and devotion to defend the freedom and liberty of the United States of America and its people.

When the Civil War was coming to an end, mothers, sisters, daughters, and wives of soldiers whom lost their lives had their graves decorated with flowers, this act was recognized as "Decoration Day". Nineteen years later, "Memorial Day" was established and a moment of silence for our fallen soldiers was observed.

From the battlefields of Civil War, World War I, World War II, and other conflicts, men and women have diligently put their lives at risk to fight for the land of the free and home of the brave. The United States flag stands tall for the fearless, noble, and confident soldiers fighting for our Nation.

We continue to commend the unselfishness and willingness of the men and women of the Armed Forces who paid the ultimate price for our freedom. We will forever remain grateful for the brave and courageous men and women who have served and are currently serving in the military. We also express our gratitude to the families of the soldiers that sacrifice precious time and memories with their loved ones.

Our fallen soldier's legacies will forever be remembered and honored. With our utmost respect we would like to say, "Thank You" (Ahé'héé), to those who have given the ultimate sacrifice and for those who voluntarily stand ready to respond to the call of duty.

Respectfully,

Alton Joe Shepherd, County Supervisor

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**"BETTER ROADS,  
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