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National American Indian Housing Council Hires New Governmental Affairs Director

Former tribal court solicitor and prosecutor will advance NAIHC advocacy efforts

WASHINGTON—March 5, 2010—The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC), the only national Indian organization solely advocating on behalf of tribal housing issues, is pleased to announce that Ms. Traci Hobson has been selected as NAIHC's new Governmental Affairs Director. Ms. Hobson will lead the organization's tribal housing advocacy agenda.

"NAIHC is glad to welcome Ms. Hobson to the NAIHC staff and to Washington, DC. Her talents and skill set are sure to move NAIHC into a new era of intergovernmental affairs with Congress and the Administration," said NAIHC Executive Director Mellor C. Willie. "Ms. Hobson's background and experience at the tribal and state level is an asset to our organization's pursuit to advocate for adequate and affordable housing for tribal communities across the country."

Ms. Hobson is a licensed attorney from North Carolina focusing on real estate and Native American law. She has worked as a court solicitor for the Tohono O'odham Nation and a tribal prosecutor for the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Ms. Hobson most recently served as adjunct professor at North Carolina Central University College of Law where she taught a Native American Law Seminar.

As Government Affairs Director, Ms. Hobson will serve as Senior Advisor to NAIHC on legislative and regulatory matters with Congress and the Administration. Ms. Hobson will also assist tribes with all housing-related governmental affairs issues.

Ms. Hobson succeeds Ms. Wendy Helgemo who left NAIHC in November 2009 to join Senator Harry Reid's (D-NV) staff.

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The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) was founded in 1974 as a 501(c)(3) corporation. NAIHC is the only national organization representing housing interests of Native people who reside in Indian communities, Alaska Native Villages, and on native Hawaiian Home Lands.