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Sami Jo Difuntorum elected Chairwoman for the National American Indian Housing Council, May 2016

Washington, DC: Sami Jo Difuntorum has been reelected to serve a two-year term as the Chairwoman of the National American Indian Housing Council. Election occurred during the 2016 Annual Convention and Tradeshow hosted by AMERIND Risk and the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) May 8-11 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

One of the most significant tasks she will lead is to continue the push for the reauthorization of the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA). NAIHC's members rely on the critical resources NAHASDA provides to develop and manage affordable housing in their respective communities to meet the housing needs of their tribal members. The NAIHC also delivers capacity building and technical assistance to tribes and tribal housing authorities throughout Indian Country.

Difuntorum is an enrolled member of the Kwekaeke band of Shasta from the Upper Klamath River Canyon of Northern California where she has resided most of her life. She has lead tribal housing programs since 1994 and since 2010 she has held the position of Housing Director for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians in Oregon.

She formerly served as a board member for the Lincoln Community Development Corporation, Northwest Indian Housing Association and the Southwest Indian Housing Association. With 22 years experience in Indian housing, she has often provided testimony to Congress and has served as a member of the Formula Negotiated Rulemaking.

About the National American Indian Housing Council: The NAIHC is the only national organization representing the housing interests of Native people who reside in Indian communities, Alaska Native villages, and on native Hawaiian homelands. The NAIHC is composed of over 271 members representing 463 tribes and housing organizations. NAIHC promotes and supports Native housing entities in its efforts to provide culturally relevant, quality, affordable housing on behalf of Native people.

For more information about NAIHC, go to NAIHC.net.

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