



**The Navajo Nation** **DR. BUU NYGREN** *PRESIDENT*  
**Yideeskáądi Nitsáhákees** **RICHELLE MONTOYA** *VICE PRESIDENT*

---

Navajo Division of Public Safety  
Statement

The Navajo Division of Public Safety office of the Executive Director expresses gratitude for the partnership that exists between law enforcement jurisdictions protecting the Dine' people, its land, and its life way.

The arrest of Donald Benally on January 23, 2025, in Shiprock, New Mexico pursuant to a federal arrest warrant charging Benally with Conspiracy – possession with intent to distribute 1,000 and more kilograms of marijuana and 1,000 and more of marijuana plants is a testament to this partnership.

Many Dine' farmlands were destroyed and its fresh water polluted with pesticides, creating an imbalance and disharmony for the Dine' people and its land. The disruption occurred when the people's cornfields were replaced with marijuana fields and its yellow corn pollen way of life was trampled on by greed.

The joint investigation into the disruption by the Navajo and federal law enforcement agencies was long and it involved many people. The Navajo Division of Public Safety is happy for the Dine' people that the individuals responsible for the disruption have finally been caught, and it is a good day for the Dine' people.

The Navajo law enforcement and its Tribal, County, State, and Federal partners will continue to work long and hard to protect the Dine' people, its land, and its life way.

M Henderson  
Deputy Division Director