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**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
SAN CARLOS APACHE NATION**

<b>REVISION AS OF 09/01/04</b>
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The Constitution of the San Carlos Apache Nation of the San Carlos Reservation, Arizona, revised and supercedes the Constitution of 1954, is as follows:

**PREAMBLE**

We the people of the San Carlos Apache Nation in order to affirm our power as a sovereign nation, establish our own form of government, ensure basic human rights, preserve our language and culture, establish justice, manage our natural resources, promote and support educational, social and economic opportunities, do hereby ordain this Constitution.

**ARTICLE I – TERRITORY AND JURISDICTION**

**SECTION 1. Territory.** The territory of the San Carlos Apache Indian Nation shall include all lands held by the Nation or the people, or by the United States for the benefit of the Nation or the people, and any additional lands acquired by the Nation or by the United States for the benefit of the Nation or the people. The Reservation shall include all air, water, surface, subsurface, natural resources, and any interest therein, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent or right-of-way in fee or otherwise, by the government of the United States or the San Carlos Apache Nation, existing or in the future.

**SECTION 2. Jurisdiction.** The jurisdiction of the San Carlos Apache Nation shall extend to all territory set forth in Section 1 of this Article and to any and all persons or activities within the Reservation, based upon the inherent sovereign authority of the Nation. Nothing in this Article shall be construed to limit the ability of the Nation to exercise its jurisdiction based upon inherent sovereignty, regardless of territorial restrictions or limitations.

**SECTION 3. Sovereignty.** The people of the San Carlos Apache Nation possess inherent sovereign powers by virtue of territorial integrity and democracy.

**ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1. Current Membership.** The membership of the San Carlos Apache Nation shall consist of all persons whose names validly appear on the Official Membership Roll of the Nation on the date of the adoption of this Constitution.

**SECTION 2. Membership Requirements.** Any person who is not a member of any other Indian Tribe shall be entitled to become a member of the Nation, provided that such person follows the established enrollment procedures and is a least one-fourth (1/4) degree or more San Carlos Apache blood.

**SECTION 3. Relinquishment.** Relinquishment shall be voluntary only.

**SECTION 4. Banishment.** Notwithstanding any provision in this constitution, the government of the San Carlos Apache Nation shall have no power of banishment over tribal members.