

San Manuel Tribal Elections: Business Committee Member Elected



Pictured left to right: Chairwoman Lynn Valbuena, Tribal Secretary Ken Ramirez, San Manuel Chief Judge Claudette C. White and newly elected Business Committee member Johnny Hernandez Jr.

San Manuel Indian Reservation (Near Highland, Calif.), June 12, 2018 – Newly elected Business Committee Member, Johnny Hernandez Jr., was sworn into office today by Chief Judge Claudette C. White, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Tribal Court.

Entering his first term as a member on the Business Committee, Hernandez has been contributing his time and talents to his Tribe for many years now. From lending his voice as a bird singer at numerous Native events, to coordinating the yearly Tribal Unity Retreat, Hernandez plays a vital role to the San Manuel community helping establish new efforts including the Cultural Awareness Working Group (CAWG) that works to perpetuate and share Serrano culture to tribal citizens, team members and the public at large.

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“I recognize that the sacrifices and persistence of our elders who struggled to preserve our tribal sovereignty and culture make it possible for our tribal nation and government to exist today. I’m honored to help continue in this tradition by working with the San Manuel General Council and Business Committee to preserve what is precious to our people: our way of life, unique form of government and the culture within which all of these things are rooted,” said Hernandez.

Among the priorities of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is establishing and maintaining strong, mutually-beneficial relationships with other governments and with partners across its aboriginal lands, which encompass the majority of present-day San Bernardino County. The Tribe is focused on positively affecting the greater community with its contributions to social and economic development for jobs and support for local businesses through the Tribe’s purchasing of goods and services.

About the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is a federally-recognized Indian tribe located on the San Manuel Indian Reservation near Highland, California. San Manuel exercises its inherent sovereign right of self-governance and provides essential services for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services, and promoting social, economic and cultural development. As descendants of the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys, mountains and high deserts, the Serrano people of San Manuel have called this area home since time immemorial and are committed to remaining a productive partner in the San Bernardino region.

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