

SAN MANUEL

BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Legislative and policy veteran to join San Manuel as Legislative Director

Alva Johnson to Serve as Legislative Director

San Manuel Indian Reservation (Near Highland, Calif.) January 29, 2016 — The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is pleased to announce that Mr. Alva Johnson, a veteran California legislative and policy staffer with more than a decade of experience in Indian affairs and policy has joined the tribe as legislative director.

Alva spent more than 10 years in service to state government handling education and gaming issues for several divisions of the California State Legislature. Among the various posts in which he served was chief consultant for the California Assembly Governmental Organization Committee where he worked on issues under the committee's jurisdiction, including tribal government gaming.

Johnson spent an additional 12 years working directly with tribal governments throughout the state providing strategic advice and guidance on various policy issues and representing tribes before state agencies and organizations. During his time with tribal governments, he represented tribal interests at the state and federal levels of government. He has represented tribal government interests in Washington, DC with the Congress and various federal agencies.



“We are fortunate to have Alva Johnson join our Intergovernmental Affairs Department,” said Jerry Paresa, Chief Executive Officer, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. “Alva possesses the breadth and depth of background, experience and skills that will be critical to achieving our legislative, policy and political objectives.”

Alva earned his undergraduate degree in political science at California State University, Hayward, and a Master of Public Policy from the University of California at Berkeley. He served as a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Public Policy and International Affairs Program.

In addition to a strong legislative and policy background, Alva is highly knowledgeable and proficient in emergency management services, processes and protocols, having served in various capacities related to this important work at the tribal government level.

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About the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as a sovereign nation with the right of self-government. Since time immemorial, the San Manuel tribal community has endured change and hardship. Amidst these challenges the tribe continued to maintain its unique form of governance. Like other governments it seeks to provide a better quality of life for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services and promoting social, economic and cultural development. Today San Manuel tribal government oversees many governmental units including the departments of fire, public safety, education and environment. San Manuel operates San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino.

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