Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

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MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release July 16, 2025



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Rincon Tribe Elects Steve Stallings as New Tribal Chairman

Valley Center, CA – The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians announced today that former Tribal Council Member Steve Stallings has been elected as the new tribal Chairman.

Rincon tribal members elected Stallings in a special election to succeed long-time Chairman Bo Mazzetti, who passed away May 1.

"I am honored and humbled to be elected as the new Chairman," said Stallings. "It is a profound responsibility to lead the Rincon tribe, and I am deeply humbled to serve in this capacity. I look forward to working with our tribal council members, residents and employees to continue the great progress we have made in growing our tribe. Together, we will continue to generate economic prosperity to help our members thrive and strengthen relationships with our neighboring communities throughout the region, all while preserving our rich culture, heritage and traditions."

Stallings previously served on the Council for 10 years. He also served on the Tribe's Investment Committee and was Chairman of the California Nations Indian Gaming Association, an industry group made up of tribal governments that operate gaming businesses. Stallings retired as a Senior Vice President and director of Native American Banking Services at Wells Fargo, where he worked for 20 years, He provided financial services to Indian tribes in gaming, commercial banking and community and government relations. Prior to his tenure at Wells Fargo, he served for 20 years as the President of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

Rincon Tribal Council, include a Chair, Vice Chair, and three Council members, and are elected by a majority vote of tribal members. The Tribal Council is vested with executive, legislative, and judicial authority for the Tribe under the Articles of Association, exercises sovereign jurisdiction over Reservation lands, and protects and promotes the welfare of our tribal members.

About the Rincon Tribe

The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians is a sovereign government recognized by the United States of America. The Tribe owns Harrah's Resort Southern California and uses profits from this and other commercial enterprises to provide government services including police and environmental enforcement; economic development; healthcare and culture programs; and a tribal court. At no cost to taxpayers, Rincon's public safety operations respond to emergencies in the neighboring communities, with more than a majority of calls generating outside the Reservation. Rincon's tribal enterprises are significant contributors to the North San Diego County economy through job creation, tax generation, purchase of local products and services and charitable donations. <u>www.rincon-nsn.gov</u>.

Joseph Linton Vice Chairman Laurie E. Gonzalez Council Member John Constantino Council Member