SECOND AMENDED EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2 REGARDING SCHOOL OPERATION DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, I issued an Executive Order (now referred to as Executive Order No. 1 Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic) regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and measures to be taken in the Gila River Indian Community to address the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, I issued an Executive Order No. 2 Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic to direct that all schools within the Gila River Indian Reservation to close from March 16, 2020 through March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020. I issued an Amended Executive Order No. 2 Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic, which extended school closures through April 10, 2020, and directed all schools to develop and implement a plan for providing meals for students and other school-aged children and for funding such meals; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has not abated in Arizona or in the Community sufficiently for the Community to relax measures taken to protect the public health and welfare of Community members and others, but has, in fact, surged in recent months, further deepening the public health crisis we face; and

WHEREAS, the Community must continue diligence in its efforts and direct measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor of the Gila River Indian Community, through the authority granted to me in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community and Title 1 of the Gila River Indian Community Code, hereby order as follows:

First, I hereby direct that all schools within the boundaries of the Gila River Indian Reservation shall provide education to the students enrolled in the school only through virtual classes or distance learning, and not through in-person on-site classes, from the date that each such school decides to commence classes for its students through at least October 5, 2020. I will assess health and safety factors affecting education on Reservation during the month of September, 2020, and determine whether to extend this period of virtual classes and distance learning for all schools on Reservation.
To the greatest extent possible, schools should offer synchronous learning where teachers provide instruction in real-time. In-person classes may resume on October 5, 2020, unless upon review I determine it is in the best interests of the Community to extend the period of virtual classes or distance learning.

Second, I hereby direct each school within the boundaries of the Gila River Indian Reservation to develop and implement a plan for providing meals while practicing COVID-19 prevention measures for students and other school-aged children using existing resources that each such school has available to it, and to the extent such meal programs exceed the resources available to these schools, the schools may request such funding as may be necessary from the Community Treasurer.

DONE THIS 30th DAY OF JULY, 2020.

BY

GOVERNOR STEPHEN ROE LEWIS