

2 charged with fraud against tribes

Two men have been charged with federal fraud crimes against the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. A grand jury in Portland returned a six-count indictment charging Roderick Ariwite, age 65, resident on the Fort Hall Reservation in Idaho; and Thomas Adams, 48, a resident of the Warm Springs Reservation.

The charges include conspiracy and theft/misapplication of funds from the tribal organization. The indictment charges Ariwite and Adams with conspiring to misappropriate \$93,700 of tribal funds, and with five counts of substantive misappropriation of tribal funds.

In a separate indictment, Ariwite is charged alone with Interstate Transportation of Security Taken by Fraud. This indictment alleges interstate transportation of a \$23,000 check Ariwite obtained by fraud from a board member of a tribal business entity.

According to the indictments, Ariwite was chief executive officer of the Warm Springs Economic Development Corporation, known as Warm Springs Ventures.

Ventures operates as the management organization for a number tribal business interests. One of these interests is the Warm Springs Construction Enterprise.

Construction bids on and executes construction projects such as building roads and commercial buildings. Thomas Adams was manager of Warm Springs Construction, under the supervision of Ariwite, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Oregon.

The indictment alleges that beginning in October 2017, Ariwite

and Adams created their own construction company called Warbonnet Construction Services. Thereafter, and on tribal time, while drawing tribal salaries and travel reimbursements, they engaged in work projects for Warbonnet. The indictment alleges that in one instance Ariwite and Adams used \$48,900 in tribal funds to hire a subcontractor for a Warbonnet construction project.

The indictment also alleges Ariwite and Adams hired REDD, a consulting company Ariwite operated, for two projects that gave no benefit to the tribes.

Ariwite and Adams paid REDD \$9,800 to create a statement of qualifications—a marketing brochure—for Warm Springs Construction.

Ariwite and Adams jointly created the statement of qualifications and they allegedly included false and fabricated information about Construction. For instance:

Most of the construction projects the statement of qualifications said Construction had worked on were in fact projects by a private construction company Ariwite and Adams worked with through Warbonnet, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office report.

Additionally, some of the supposed Construction professional staff the statement of qualifications profiled were employees of the private construction company, the report says.

Ariwite and Adams submitted the false and fabricated statement of qualifications to Construction and allegedly enriched themselves with \$9,800 of tribal funds, according to the report.

Ariwite and Adams also paid

REDD \$28,000 in tribal funds to create and submit to the U.S. Small Business Administration what is known as an 8(a) application. The Small Business Administration operates a business development program for small, disadvantaged businesses, and an 8(a) certification gives preferences to bid on government contracts. REDD never produced an 8(a) application. In this way, Ariwite and Adams allegedly misapplied \$28,000 in tribal funds enriching themselves with these funds.

The separate indictment against Ariwite alleges that in May to June 2018, Ariwite defrauded a Warm Springs Ventures board member, and transported the \$23,000 fraud proceeds, in the form of a check drawn on the board member's personal bank account, from Oregon to Idaho.

The FBI investigated this case with assistance from the Warm Springs Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Seth D. Uram, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon. An indictment is only an accusation of a crime, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Reward offered in 2019 homicide case

The FBI in Oregon is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person or people responsible for killing a man on the Warm Springs Reservation in 2019.

The FBI says Gunner Bailey was found dead about 50 feet off Tenino Road on the reservation on May 17, 2019. Bailey had been fatally shot. He was 31 when he died.

The FBI is working with

the Warm Springs Police Department to investigate the case.


Anyone with information about the homicide case should contact the FBI in Bend at 541-389-1202 during normal business hours or the FBI in Portland at 503-224-4181 twenty-four hours a day or the Warm Springs Police Department at 541-553-3272.

Information may also be submitted online at: tips.fbi.gov

SEEKING INFORMATION

GUNNER JOHNSON BAILEY

Homicide Victim
Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Oregon
March 17, 2019



REWARD

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the identification, arrest, and conviction of the person or people responsible for the death of Gunner Johnson Bailey.

\$10,000 for information in fatal arson on reservation

The FBI is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever was responsible for a fatal arson fire May 17 on the Warm Springs Reservation.

The FBI says the fire killed 77-year old Lamont Brown. A second person in the home suffered critical injuries, and a third resident escaped but not before being seriously burned.

A fourth person escaped

through a window and was uninjured.

Anyone with information can call the Bend or Portland FBI office. The Bend office number is 541-398-1202.

Or call the Warm Springs Police. The dispatch number is 541-553-1171.

Information can also be left on the FBI tips website: tips.fbi.gov

Recognizing symptoms, and where to call

Symptoms for Covid-19 can include: Fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell.

If you have symptoms or are concerned you came in contact with Covid-19, call the IHS Covid-19 Nurse Triage Hotline.

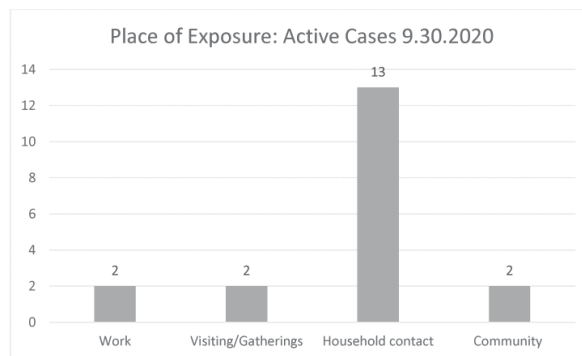
The number is 541-553-5512.

Outside of IHS regular hours, You can call the Registered Nurse Health Advice Hotline at 1-866-470-2015.

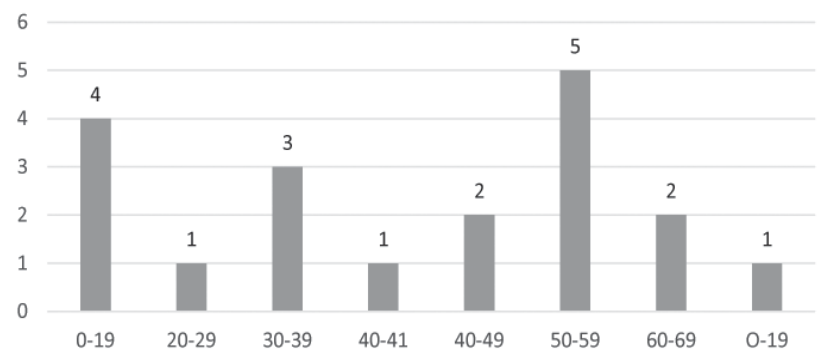
At right: Recently available reservation Covid-19 case demographics, by age, as of September 30.

Active cases: 19 (at that time). Cumulative cases since the start of the pandemic: 351.

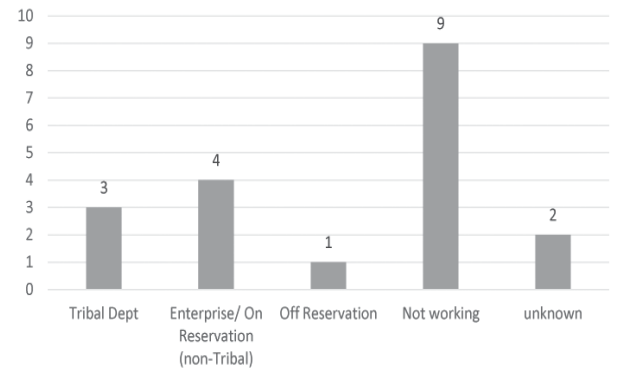
Chart below: Place of exposure, active cases; and below right, place of work exposure incidence.



Age: Active Cases 9.30.2020

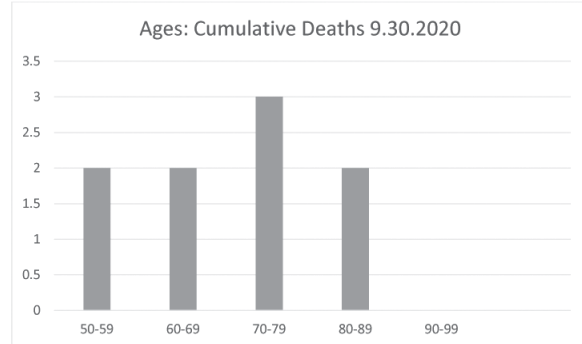


Workplace: Active Cases 9.30.2020



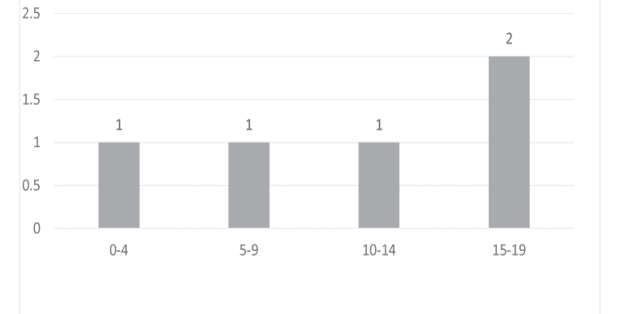
Deaths:

Total: 9



Cumulative deaths on the reservation since the pandemic began, by age group, 50 and over.

Child Ages: Active Cases 9.30.2020



Health care contact numbers

At the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center they ask that you call ahead if you plan on going there.

For a regular appointment call 541-553-2610.

The IHS Covid-19 Nurse Triage Hotline is 541-553-5512.

Outside of IHS regular hours you can call the Registered Nurse Health Advice Hotline at 1-866-470-2015.

For all other business call 541-553-1196.

OSCAR'S EXPERT AUTO REPAIR

Complete Service Foreign & Domestic



















Serving Central Oregon Community ~ Warm Springs

You need to get back on the road call Oscar's Expert Auto Repair. Towing available... If you fix the car with us, we give you the towing for half price. Call Oscar or Byron for more info

541-390-1008

821 SW 11th St. ~ Redmond

541-923-3554

www.autorepairedmond.com