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**GRICUA LEADERSHIP HAS CONFIRMED ALL COMMUNITY YOUTH PARTICIPATING
IN WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR ARE SAFE**

The early morning shooting incident that took place in Alexandria, Virginia prompted GRICUA to confirm youth tour group to nation's Capital were not in harms way

Sacaton, Arizona – The Executive Office of the Gila River Indian Community received confirmation from GRICUA leadership that all youth participating in the Washington youth tour are safe and were not close to the incident.

General Manger of GRICUA, Leonard S. Gold, informed the Community that he was in touch with a GRICUA chaperone, who indicated that all students are safe and that at the time of the shooting they had just arrived at the capital where the security was extremely tight.

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis said, “The Gila River Indian Community extends its support and well-wishes to those affected by this tragedy, as our tribal communities have professional and personal relationships with legislators and various staff who work in the Washington D.C. area. An incident like the shooting that occurred this morning reminds us of how perilous, violent situation can occur in our country and how we must all continue to be vigilant.”

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Gila River Indian Community located on 372,000 acres in south-central Arizona and home to the indigenous O’odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) people. The Tribe is comprised of seven districts, the administrative offices and departments are located in Sacaton, and serve the people throughout these seven community districts. 100% of its profits from gaming and 17 other Enterprises are utilized by the community providing services and opportunities to achieve the highest quality of life.