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## Matthew J. Rourke

Chief of Police for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police



Matthew J. “Matt” Rourke is Chief of Police for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, where he has devoted his law enforcement career for the last 22 years. He takes great pride in serving and protecting his own Mohawk community of Akwesasne.

Since his entry as a Tribal patrol officer in 1998, Matt Rourke continued to rise in rank to Corporal in 2004. In 2007, he was promoted to Detective/Sergeant, the first in the history of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police. He became Acting Chief in 2014, and after a national search, was named Chief of Police in 2015.

The 35-member SRMT Police Department handles some 7,000 service calls annually. It is a respected partner to multiple U.S. and Canadian law enforcement agencies that serve the Northern border region. Matt Rourke’s experience and leadership of investigative teams has led to the resolution of several high-profile cases, including missing persons, narcotics cases, and homicide on the St. Regis Mohawk Indian Reservation.

The Tribal police department under Matt Rourke’s leadership strives toward victim- and family-centered response. It cooperates with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Healing to Wellness Court, provides three School Resource Officers, and participates in several community preventive efforts that positively impact youth and elders.

Matt Rourke is a lifelong resident of Akwesasne. He and wife Sandy have two children.

### Education

New York State DCJS Zone 9 Training Academy

B.S., Criminal Justice, SUNY Brockport

A.S., Criminal Justice, Herkimer College

### Credentials

Cross Customs Designation, Homeland Security Investigations (Title 19) Special Law Enforcement Credentials (SLEC), Bureau of Indian Affairs International Border Enforcement Team (IBET)

Franklin County Task Force

St. Lawrence County Task Force

### Recognition

2018 Employee Enrichment Award, Member of Unified Incident Command

## Richard C. Blake

Chief Judge, Hoopa Valley Tribal Court



Chief Judge of the Hoopa Valley Tribe since July 2002 and retired from the Hoopa bench after 17 years on July 1, 2018. Judge Blake is also a proud member of the Hoopa Valley Tribe. Judge Blake is the Chief Judge for the Redding Rancheria Tribal Court, Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation and an Appellate Judge for the Cow Creek Tribe located in Southern Oregon.

Judge Blake is the President of the Board of the National American Indian Court Judges Association, having served on the board for the past 12-years. Judge Blake is the Region 2 representative representing courts in California, Nevada and Hawaii.

Judge Blake is the founder of the Northern California Tribal Court Coalition, which currently has a membership of six northern California Tribal Courts including Hoopa, Yurok, Tolowa Dee-Ni Nation, Trinidad Rancheria, Bear River and Karuk Tribes.

Judge Blake was also appointed as Co-Chair of the California Tribal State Forum. His vision resulting in the development of the Forum now immortalized by California Rules of the Judicial Council. Judge Blake remains involved in the California Tribal State Forum but currently sits as member of the California Federal-Tribal Forum.

Judge Blake has dedicated himself to working with tribal and state law enforcement agencies on issues surrounding domestic violence, traffic, Human Trafficking and worked closely with National DEC (Drug endangered children). The development of relationships with law enforcement, prosecutors, and probation and service providers has provided for safer communities.

Also a current member of the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges, Judge Blake sits on committees within that organization and was named the 2016 "Innovator of the Year" by "NCJFCJ" being honored in July 2016. Judge Blake also serves as faculty in the areas of Domestic Violence and Domestic Sex Trafficking.

Judge Blake has been instrumental in facilitating forum meetings between tribes and states across the nation under the lead of Casey Family Programs, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and NAICJA.

## Bill Denke

Chief of Police, Sycuan Tribal Police Department



Bill has served the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation as Chief of Police for the past 15 years. He has served as a subject matter expert for California's Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training in developing new training curriculums, "Policing Indian Lands" and "Responding to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Calls on Tribal Lands". Bill was appointed to the National Indian Law and Order Commission's Advisory Committee in 2012. He is the current chairman of the Indian Country Section of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and a member of IACP's Board of Directors. Bill is also the chairman of the California Tribal Police Chiefs' Association. In 2014, he was appointed by the director of the FBI to the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) Advisory Policy Board and also chairs that board's tribal task force. Locally, Bill serves on the board of directors for Crime Stoppers San Diego. He received his formal law enforcement training at the San Diego Regional Law Enforcement Training Center and executive training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.