

Rural and Tribal Law Enforcement Hearing

Potential Questions to Panelists from Commissioners

Thursday, May 21th, Rural and Tribal Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time
Criminal Justice System in Indian Country

- Trent Shores, United States Attorney, Northern District Oklahoma
- Matthew Rourke, Chief of Police, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, NY
- Richard Blake, Chief Judge, Hoopa Valley Tribal Court
- Bill Denke, Chief of Police, Sycuan Tribe, CA

1. Trent Shores, United States Attorney, Northern District Oklahoma

As a member of the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee on Native American Issues (NAIS), have you identified any trends specific to violent crime and combating the drug epidemic? If so, what resources do you need to adequately address those trends?

You mentioned in your written statement that despite the various systems to collect case information the biggest issue you have is that tribes are not required to provide all crime data to the federal government. Could you go into more detail about this issue?

2. Matthew Rourke, Chief of Police, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, NY

When it comes to recruiting tribal law enforcement, the need in Indian country is great. How do you think agencies can enhance recruitment and retention of officers to encourage them to serve in tribal agencies?

Can you provide more information regarding the obstacles facing law enforcement in Indian Country and how the complex jurisdictional framework may impact a case?

3. Richard Blake, Chief Judge, Hoopa Valley Tribal Court

What is the greatest obstacle in promoting trauma informed courts, and what resources do you need to overcome that obstacle?

4. Bill Denke, Chief of Police, Sycuan Tribe, CA

Given your experience working in Indian Country, what would be your number one issue the commission should focus on?

Can you provide more information regarding the obstacles facing law enforcement in Indian Country and how the complex jurisdictional framework may impact a case?