

Presented to the Court by the foreman of the Grand Jury in open Court, in the presence of the Grand Jury and FILED in the U.S. DISTRICT COURT at Seattle, Washington.

February 21, 2024
Ravi Subramanian, Clerk
By [Signature] Deputy

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

v.

MERIC SOENEKE,
Defendant.

NO. **CR24-5053 BHS**

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges that:

COUNT 1

(Involuntary Manslaughter)

On or about December 21, 2023, within the Makah Reservation Boundary, in Indian Country, as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 1151, and within Clallam County in the Western District of Washington, MERIC SOENEKE, an Indian, acting with wanton and reckless disregard for human life, caused the death of Adult Victim 1 in the commission of an unlawful act not amounting to a felony, and in the commission in an unlawful manner, and without due caution and circumspection, of a

1 lawful act which might produce death, that is, driving a motor vehicle on the beach in the
2 darkness at a high rate of speed while under the influence of alcohol, knowing that such
3 conduct was a threat to the lives of others and knowing of circumstances that would
4 reasonably cause him to foresee that such conduct might be a threat to the lives of others.

5 All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1112 and 1153(a).


6
7
8 A TRUE BILL: *yes*

9 DATED: *February 21st, 2024*

10 *Signature of Foreperson redacted pursuant*
11 *to the policy of the Judicial Conference of*
12 *the United States.*

13 _____
14 FOREPERSON

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16 _____
17 TESSA M. GORMAN
18 United States Attorney

19 
20 _____
21 TODD GREENBERG
22 Assistant United States Attorney

23 
24 _____
25 JOCELYN COONEY
26 Assistant United States Attorney

27 
28 _____
29 MICHAEL HARDER
30 Assistant United States Attorney