



THE SOVEREIGNTY SYMPOSIUM 2025 AGENDA DRAFT

3-10-25 – LAST UPDATE

June 12-13, 2025

OKANA

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

This agenda is subject to revision and all panels and speakers are subject to change.

Each state has its own rules and regulations, including the definition of continuing legal education.

Therefore, certain portions of the program may not receive credit in some states.

12 CLE credits approval pending, including 2.0 Ethics credit.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm – Early Registration during Native American Bar Association Reception

Thursday, June 12, 2025

7:30 am to 4:30 pm – Registration Open
7:30 am to 4:30 pm – Vendor Exhibits Open
7:30 am to 8:30 am – Continental Breakfast

HEALTHCARE AND HEALING

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Restoring Balance: Indigenous Approaches to Health and Well-Being	8:30 am to 10:15 am		Amy Pierce , District Court Judge, Choctaw Nation	Tasha Mousseau , Vice President, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, and Chief Officer of Advancement and Tribal Relations, Friends of the Children

BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Tribal Nations and the State: A Dialogue on Law, Policy and Partnership	8:30 am to 10:15 am		Leslie Osborn , Oklahoma State Labor Commissioner	Matt Morgan , Special Envoy, Chickasaw Nation Hershel Gorham , Lt. Governor, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Sovereign Prosperity: Building Sustainable Tribal Economies	8:30 am to 10:15 am		Jim Collard , Director of Planning and Economic Development, Citizen Potawatomi Nation	

10:30 am – 11:30 am – Opening Ceremony

Host: **David Holt** (*Osage*), Dean, Oklahoma City University School of Law

Camp Call: **Gordon Yellowman** (*Cheyenne*), Peace Chief, Cheyenne and Arapaho Nation

Presentation of Flags – Honor Guard: **Kiowa Black Leggings**

Memorial and Honor Songs: **Southern Nation**

Invocation: **David Wilson**, Bishop, Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church

Welcome: **Kenneth Evans**, President, Oklahoma City University

Closing Prayer: **Gordon Yellowman** (*Cheyenne*), Peace Chief, Cheyenne and Arapaho Nation

11:30 am to 1:00 pm – Luncheon for All Attendees

LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
The Power of Language: Strengthening Identity Through Revitalization Efforts	1:15 pm to 3:00 pm			

TRIBAL RELATIONS AND TREATIES

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Sovereignty and Solidarity: Collaboration Among Indigenous Nations	1:15 pm to 3:00 pm			

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Trade, Tradition and Transformation: The Future of Indigenous Global Business	1:15 pm to 3:00 pm		Valerie Devol , Principal, Devol & Associates	Jim Collard , Director of Planning and Economic Development, Citizen Potawatomi Nation

3:00 pm to 3:30 pm – Break

DATA SOVEREIGNTY

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Data is Power: Indigenous Control Over Digital Infrastructure and Information	3:30 pm to 5:15 pm			

CRIMINAL LAW

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Tribal Justice: Navigating Criminal Law in Indian Country	3:30 pm to 5:15 pm		Arvo Mikkanen , Assistant U.S. Attorney and Senior Counsel for Tribal Relations,	

			U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma	
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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Rooted in Tradition, Growing Toward the Future: Tribal Economic and Agricultural Innovation	3:30 pm to 5:15 pm		Jim Collard, Director of Planning and Economic Development, Citizen Potawatomi Nation	

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm – Reception and Book Signing

Friday, June 13, 2025

7:30 am to 2:00 pm – Registration Open
7:30 am to 2:00 pm – Vendor Exhibits Open
7:30 am to 8:30 am – Continental Breakfast

HISTORY

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Where It All Began: The History and Legacy of Native Nations' Struggles and Sovereignty	8:30 am to 10:15 am		Greg Bigler , District Judge and Tribal Judge	Kirke Kickingbird , Attorney, Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker Gary Pitchlynn , Managing Attorney, Pitchlynn Law Ryland Rivas , Chief Justice, Comanche Nation

ENVIRONMENTAL

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Resilient Futures: Legal Insights on Water, Cannabis and Post-Disaster Recovery	8:30 am to 10:15 am			Erick Giles , Attorney, Drummon Woodsum

MEDIA AND THE ARTS

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Amplifying Native Stories: The Intersection of Media, Arts and Culture	8:30 am to 10:15 am			

10:15 am to 10:45 am – Break

JUVENILE ISSUES

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Building Strong Foundations: Legal Approaches to Juvenile Issues in Native Nations	10:45 am to 12:30 pm		Elizabeth Brown , Associate District Judge, Adair County, Oklahoma	

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
From Craft to Commerce: Navigating the Intersection of Cultural Preservation and Legal Protections	10:45 am to 12:30 pm			Chloe Moyer , Attorney, Choctaw Nation

GAMING

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
Rolling the Dice: The Evolving Landscape of Tribal Gaming and Sovereignty	10:45 am to 12:30 pm		Matt Morgan , Special Envoy, Chickasaw Nation	Mike McBride , Attorney, Crowe & Dunlevy

12:30 pm to 2:00 pm – Lunch on Your Own

ETHICS PANEL A

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
	2:00 pm to 3:45 pm		Stephen Greetham, Principal, Greetham Law	

ETHICS PANEL B

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
	2:00 pm to 3:45 pm			

ETHICS PANEL C

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
	2:00 pm to 3:45 pm			