



## THE SOVEREIGNTY SYMPOSIUM 2025 AGENDA DRAFT

*4-12-25 – 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, 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**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Moderators</b>	<b>Panelists</b>
<b>Restoring Balance: Indigenous Approaches to Health and Well-Being</b>	8:30 am to 10:15 am		<b>Amy Pierce</b> <i>(Choctaw)</i> , District Court Judge, Choctaw Nation	<b>Chris Anoatubby</b> <i>(Chickasaw)</i> , Lieutenant Governor, Chickasaw Nation <b>Tasha Mousseau</b> <i>(Wichita)</i> , Vice President, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, and Chief Officer of Advancement and Tribal Relations, Friends of the Children <b>Jennifer Ontiveros</b> RN, BSN, CCM, Clinical Nurse Manager, OKC Indian Clinic

				<b>Gordon Yellowman</b> ( <i>Cheyenne Arapaho</i> ), Artist
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### BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Tribal Nations and the State: A Dialogue on Law, Policy and Partnership</b>	8:30 am to 10:15 am		<b>Leslie Osborn</b> , Oklahoma Labor Commissioner	<b>Hershel Gorham</b> ( <i>Cheyenne Arapaho</i> ), General Counsel for the Office of Tribal Attorney and Lt. Governor, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes <b>Matt Morgan</b> ( <i>Chickasaw</i> ), Special Envoy, Chickasaw Nation

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Sovereign Prosperity: Building Sustainable Tribal Economies</b>	8:30 am to 10:15 am		<b>Jim Collard</b> , Director of Planning and Economic Development, Citizen Potawatomi Nation	<b>Dan Boren</b> ( <i>Chickasaw</i> ) Secretary of Commerce, Chickasaw Nation <b>Tana Fitzpatrick</b> ( <i>Lakota/Crow/Ponca/ Chickasaw</i> ), Associate Vice President of Tribal Nation

				Relations, University of Oklahoma
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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** (*Choctaw*), 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
<b>The Power of Language: Strengthening Identity Through Revitalization Efforts</b>	1:15 pm to 3:00 pm			<b>Howard Paden</b> ( <i>Cherokee</i> ), Executive Director, Department of the Cherokee Language <b>Forest Tahdoohnippah</b> ( <i>Comanche</i> ), Chairman, Comanche Nation

### TRIBAL RELATIONS AND TREATIES

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Sovereignty and Solidarity: Collaboration Among Indigenous Nations</b>	1:15 pm to 3:00 pm			<b>Bill Anoatubby</b> <i>(Chickasaw)</i> , Governor, Chickasaw Nation <b>Lewis Johnson</b> <i>(Seminole)</i> , Chief, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

### INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

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

3:00 pm to 3:30 pm – Break

### DATA SOVEREIGNTY

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Data is Power: Indigenous Control Over Digital Infrastructure and Information</b>	3:30 pm to 5:15 pm		<b>Tia Ebarb Matt</b> <i>(Choctaw- Apache)</i> , Clinical Professor of Law and the Director	<b>Ben Barnes</b> <i>(Shawnee)</i> , Chief, Shawnee Tribe <b>Kym Cravatt</b> <i>(Seminole)</i> , General Counsel,

			of Experiential Learning, Oklahoma City University School of Law	Chickasaw Nation Health <b>Anthony Hendricks</b> , Director and Head of Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Practice Group, Crowe & Dunlevy <b>Traci Morris</b> , Executive Director, American Indian Policy Institute, Arizona State University
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**CRIMINAL LAW**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Moderators</b>	<b>Panelists</b>
<b>Tribal Justice: Navigating Criminal Law in Indian Country</b>	3:30 pm to 5:15 pm		<b>Arvo Mikkanen</b> , Assistant U.S. Attorney and Senior Counsel for Tribal Relations, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma	

## AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<p><b>Rooted in Tradition, Growing Toward the Future: Tribal Economic and Agricultural Innovation</b></p>	<p>3:30 pm to 5:15 pm</p>		<p><b>Jim Collard</b>, Director of Planning and Economic Development, Citizen Potawatomi Nation</p>	<p><b>Carly Griffith Hotvedt</b> (<i>Cherokee</i>), Executive Director of Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiatives, University of Arkansas  <b>William Walton</b>, Associate Professor in Urban Planning Law, Bartlett School of Planning, University College, London  <b>Libby Washburn</b> (<i>Chickasaw</i>), Associate CEO of Native American Agriculture Fund</p>

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
<b>Where It All Began: The History and Legacy of Native Nations' Struggles and Sovereignty</b>	8:30 am to 10:15 am		<b>Greg Bigler</b> <i>(Euclidean/Muscogean (Creek) Nation, District Judge and Tribal Judge)</i>	<b>Kirke Kickingbird</b> <i>(Kiowa), Attorney, Hobbs, Straus, Dean &amp; Walker</i> <b>Wilson Pipestem</b> <i>(Otoe-Missouria), President, Pipestem Law Firm</i> <b>Gary Pitchlynn,</b> Managing Attorney, Pitchlynn Law <b>Ryland Rivas</b> <i>(Comanche), Chief Justice, Comanche Nation</i>

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Resilient Futures: Legal Insights on Water, Cannabis and Post-Disaster Recovery</b>	8:30 am to 10:15 am			<b>Ashley Anderson</b> Tribal Water Law Attorney, Native American Rights Fund



				<p><b>Brian Candelaria</b>, Staff Attorney, Oklahoma Indian Legal Services</p> <p><b>Erick Giles</b>, Attorney, Drummond Woodsum</p> <p><b>Christine Pappas</b>, Professor, East Central University</p>
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**MEDIA AND THE ARTS**

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Amplifying Native Stories: The Intersection of Media, Arts and Culture</b>	8:30 am to 10:15 am			<p><b>Cara Dehnert</b>, Lawyer, Instructor and Program Director for Contemporary Music Business, University of Central Oklahoma</p> <p><b>Seth Fairchild</b> (Choctaw), Executive Director of Cultural Services, Choctaw Nation</p> <p><b>DG Smalling</b> (Choctaw), Choctaw Nation Master Artist</p>

10:15 am to 10:45 am – Break

### JUVENILE ISSUES

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

### CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>From Craft to Commerce: Navigating the Intersection of Cultural Preservation and Legal Protections</b>	10:45 am to 12:30 pm			<b>Kelli Mosteller</b> ( <i>Citizen Potawatomi Nation</i> ), Executive Director and CEO, First Americans Musuem <b>Chloe Moyer</b> ( <i>Choctaw</i> ), Attorney, Choctaw Nation <b>Gena Timberman,</b> ( <i>Choctaw</i> ), Attorney and Founder, Luksi Group

### GAMING

Session	Time	Room	Moderators	Panelists
<b>Rolling the Dice: The Evolving Landscape of Tribal Gaming and Sovereignty</b>	10:45 am to 12:30 pm		<b>Matt Morgan</b> , Special Envoy, Chickasaw Nation	<b>Mike McBride</b> , Indian Law and Gaming Practice Group Chair, 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			