



USET

SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND

Nashville TN Office
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Ste. 100
Nashville TN 37214
P: (615) 872-7900
F: (615) 872-7417

Washington DC Office
400 North Capitol St., Ste. 585
Washington DC 20001
P: (202) 624-3550
F: (202) 393-5218

USET SPF Resolution No. 2018 SPF:008

APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES TO FIRSTNET TRIBAL WORKING GROUP

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an Intertribal organization comprised of twenty-seven (27) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Middle Class Tax and Job Creation Act of 2015 created the First Responder Network Authority, also known as FirstNet, as an independent authority within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration; and
- WHEREAS,** the mission of FirstNet is to develop, build and operate the nationwide, broadband network that equips first responders to save lives and protect U.S. communities, including Tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the FirstNet Board is committed to establishing nation-to-nation relationships with federally recognized Tribal Nations, has adopted a Tribal Consultation Policy, and formed a Tribal Working Group; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Working Group was formed to provide advice on Indian Country outreach, education, and inclusive engagement strategies; and ultimately, to involve federally recognized Tribal Nations in planning for and deployment of the FirstNet network; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Working Group is comprised of volunteer delegates from organizations with diverse geographic and disciplinary interests in Tribal public safety; and
- WHEREAS,** the FirstNet Board is seeking representation from USET member Tribal Nations in the Southeast Region to serve on the Tribal Working Group; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors appoints the following individuals to represent member Tribal Nations and their interests on the FirstNet Tribal Working Group:
- a. Primary - April Sells, Tribal Emergency Services Director, Poarch Band of Creek Indians
 - b. Alternate - Robert Bryant, Chief of Police, Penobscot Indian Nation; and, be it further

RESOLVED the USET SPF Board of Directors authorizes and empowers the appointed individuals to act and make recommendations/decisions on their behalf while attending the respective work group meetings and/or conference calls.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed by the USET SPF Executive Committee, at which a quorum was present, on November 15, 2017.



Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund



Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes
Sovereignty Protection Fund

RESUME

April Sells
1200 Lynn McGhee Drive, Apt. 4-A
Atmore, AL 36502

CAREER OBJECTIVE

"It is my desire to use the skills I have obtained through education, training and work experience to benefit our tribal people."

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 1978-1982 Escambia County High School
 Atmore, AL 36502
 General Curriculum (Diploma)
- 1982-1986 University of Alabama
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
 Bachelors Degree: Major – Psychology; Minor – Marketing
- 1989-1990 Faulkner State Junior College
 Bay Minette, AL 36507
 Course in Paralegal
- 2006-Present Alabama Fire College
 Certification in Volunteer 160
 Certification in Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations
 Certification – Apparatus Pumper/Operator
 Certification – First Responder
 Certification – Basic High Rise Operations
 Certification – Introduction to Technical Rescue
 Certification – Fire Inspector I
 Certification – Fire Investigator

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

January 1987 thru March 1989: I worked as a Caseworker for the Poarch Creek Indians Social Services Department. Duties included: Intake of possible child abuse and neglect complaints and investigated such cases; Sought alternate resources for Indian Health Services regarding Tribal Members; Assisted the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources with cases involving Tribal Members (both in Alabama and Florida); and assumed the duties of the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor until hired.

March 1989 thru January 1991: I worked as the Tribal Court Clerk for the Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Court System. Duties included: Intake of possible cases; Filed petitions, complaints and court dockets; Worked closely with Tribal Law Enforcement and Social Services Departments; Maintained and continuously developed Tribal Codes; and Prepared for Tribal Court hearings and maintained the Tribal

Judge's calendar and prepared documents for Judge's signature. Prepared Attorney applications to present to Tribal Council to obtain approval to practice in Tribal Court.

1988 thru January 1991: I assisted the Health Department of the Poarch Creek Indians in the role of Alternate Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor. Duties included: I assumed the role of the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor when the full time Counselor was not available.

January 1991 thru February 2004: I worked as the Human Services Director for the Poarch Creek Indians Health Department. Duties included: Develop, organize and conduct programs to prevent and resolve conditions and problems relating to mental disorders and/or alcohol and substance abuse; Conducted individual and/or group counseling sessions; Client assessments; organization of treatment plans and aftercare services.

Assisted in the development and counseled in the Original Drug Court Program for the Tribe. Developed the Drug Court participants' treatment plans and acted as a mentor. In this Program, I provided opportunities for the participants to experience a Drug-Free Lifestyle – cook outs, interview tips for possible jobs, family counseling, etc.

Referred and transported adolescents to treatment Centers. Also, I developed their family and After-Care Programs while employed with the Health Department.

February 2004 to March 2005: I worked as the Wellness and Activities Director for the Poarch Creek Indians. Duties included: Developing policies and procedures; supervising a new staff; developing budgets; Overseeing the Summer Youth Program and After-School Program; Landscaping; Organizing and developing new programs; and Organizing NAYO/NASA Tournaments.

March 2005 to Present: I have worked as the Tribal Emergency Management Director for the Poarch Creek Indians. Duties included: Developing policies and procedures on handling and response to an emergency on tribal property; at one time was managing twelve (12) different budgets and program/projects at once; Responsible for the Strategic National Stockpile planning and training on the Reservation; Point of Contact for State of Alabama Homeland Security Information; Coordinate activities with the State Agencies such as State of Alabama Emergency Management and State of Alabama Department of Public Health, State of Alabama Radiological Department and State of Alabama Homeland Security Department. Also, responsible for heading a full scale exercise with the State of Alabama Civil Support of the Alabama National Guard. The Tribe was suggested to be the training host and responding organization by the State of Alabama Homeland Security Director (DragonSlayer Exercise). Work with the State of Alabama Department of Public Health to assist their DMORT team in time of a possible mass casualty event during a Pandemic. Also responsible for the Tribe's COOP Plan and other emergency plans for the Reservation. Responsible for the Tribe's Public Assistance Program after a Presidentially Declared Disaster. Responsible for developing the Tribe's LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee).

July 2017 to Present: Given a Job Title change to reflect the additional job duties as assigned to include both fire and emergency medical services as provided by the Department. Job Title has been changed to Tribal Emergency Services Director.

Additional Duties: I have been appointed by the Poarch Creek Tribal Council to be the Director of the newly formed Career Fire Department for the Tribe. Duties include maintaining and developing

operating budgets; oversee expenditure reports on all Programs; on scene incident commander; filling in on apparatus if shorthanded; developing Partnerships with responding agencies to oversee protection of our Northern Properties; developed Plans for Hazard Mitigation, Evacuation Plans for Hotel at Wind Creek Wetumpka; overseeing the day to day operations; acquisition of supplies and equipment; supervising directly and indirectly 19 Firefighters, Training Officer, Office Manager, Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Chief. Act as a Liaison between the Tribal Chairperson and local, state and federal partners and then informed in changes in policy and response to incidents on Tribal Land. Assisted in the development of the school safety procedures for Huxford Elementary and Escambia Co. Middle School.

OTHER JOB DUTIES AS ASSIGNED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE POARCH CREEK INDIANS

- *Must work closely with the Counties in Region 1 as defined by the State of Alabama Emergency Management Agency**
- *Member of the State of Alabama Bio-Terrorism Committee**
- *Member of the Alabama Department of Public Health/Escambia County Advisory Council**
- *Member of the Regional Advisory Council for Region IV for FEMA**
- *Member of the United South and Eastern Tribe's TEMAC (Tribal Emergency Mutual Aid Compact)**
- *Member of the South Alabama Mutual Aid Compact Work Group**
- *Participant in the Public Health Preparedness and Response Core Competency Development Project**
- *Community Emergency Response team trained in the train the trainer program**
- *Homeland Security Point of Contact for the Tribe**
- *Board member of the CLEAR Program (this program provides free training for First Responders and Tribes)**
- *Member of Committee for Strategic National Stockpile response for the State of Alabama**
- *Participated in a Center for Disease Control webinar regarding the Tribe's response and preparedness in the event of a Pandemic Influenza and implementing the Tribe's Strategic National Stockpile Plan**
- * Secured funding through Homeland Security for Hazardous Materials Response**
- *Secured funding for 2 Mass Casualty Trailers**
- *Secured funding for 2 portable Hospital Units**
- *NIMS Certified**
- *NIMS Instructor**
- *Secretary/Treasurer for the Southwest Fire Chief Association**
- *Assisted in Writing Homeland Security Grant to construct 200 foot Communications Tower – upgrade Tribe's Communication System and to conduct and Exercise between local, state and federal and Gaming Facilities Partners.**
- *Member of the Alabama Department of Public Health's HERC Committee.**
- *Member of the Sub-Committees for the State of Alabama Opt In/Opt Out for the FirstNet Communications System.**

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Past member of the Partnership for the Youth Board of Atmore; Past member and chairperson of United South & Eastern Tribes Alcohol/Certification Board; Chairperson of the Tribe's Muskogee Metalworks business; Past chairperson of the Community Injury Prevention Committee for the Tribe; Liaison for the Poarch Creek Indians Child Protection committee; Past member of Leadership Atmore; Past chairperson of Leadership Atmore Steering Committee; Past member of the Tribe's Coordinating Committee; Past President of the Atmore Area Chamber of Commerce; Past member of AIDS Coalition

for Escambia County School System; Past coordinator for the Poarch Creek Indians Princess Contest; Past member of the Atmore Advance News Article Advisory Committee; 1997 Tribal Member of the Year; Past co-coordinator for Youth Leadership Atmore; Past member of the Atmore Rotary Club; 1998 Service Above Self Award from the Atmore Rotary Club; named to Atmore's Five Top Women of the Atmore Area; Member of the Advisory Committee of Huxford Elementary School; Chairperson of the Education Endowment Committee for the Tribe; Endowment Chairperson for the Tribe.