



# USET

SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND

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## USET SPF Resolution No. 2018 SPF:009

### **NOMINATING LIEUTENANT CHRIS RUTHERFORD TO OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN TASK FORCE ON RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN**

- 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 Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is seeking nominations for members to the Task Force on Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women (Task Force); and
- WHEREAS,** the Task Force was authorized by Section 904(a)(3) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Pub. L. No. 109-162) to assist the U.S. Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and OVW in the implementation of a program of research that examines violence against Indian women in Indian Country, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, murder, and sex trafficking, and in evaluating the effectiveness of federal, state, Tribal and local responses to these crimes; and
- WHEREAS,** American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women suffer from violent crime at a rate three-and-a-half times greater than the national average, and nearly 40 percent of all AI/AN women will experience domestic violence, one in three AI/AN women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime, and the murder rate of AI/AN women is ten times the national average on some reservations; and
- WHEREAS,** the collection and evaluation of such data is critical, as it assists in the efforts to inform all levels of government to address violence against AI/AN women, including the advocacy of USET SPF; and
- WHEREAS,** by statute, the Task Force members must be representatives of one of the following entities: Tribal governments; national Tribal domestic violence and sexual assault non-profit organizations; or national Tribal organizations; and OVW is seeking nominees that reflect the entities described in the statute, and offer diverse expertise and experience; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Tribal Justice Committee has responded to the OVW request for nominations to the Task Force, by selecting LT Chris Rutherford of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians as a nominee to serve as a Tribal government representative to the Task Force during the 2017 USET SPF Annual Meeting; 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

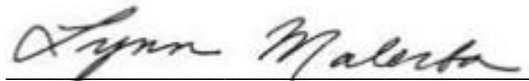
**RESOLVED** the USET SPF Board of Directors nominates Lieutenant Chris Rutherford of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians to serve as a Tribal Government representative to the Office of Violence Against Women Task Force on Research on Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women.

### 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

Christopher W. Rutherford

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## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR

**Performance Summary:** Dedicated law enforcement professional with 18+ years' experience in public service capacities. Documented success of directing and leading law enforcement goals and objectives. Track record of resolving general public complaints. Adept at handling court proceedings and public hearings. Hands-on experience in taking necessary action against Offenders, gathering evidence, filing cases and generating appropriate reports. Documented success in:

- Liaising with community and individuals
- Crime deterrence and reassuring the community
- Identifying and interviewing suspects
- Potentially volatile situations diffusion

### CORE COMPETENCIES

- Patrolling
  - Community education
  - 911 calls responding
  - Initial investigation
  - Incidents assistance
  - Crime reports preparation
  - Gathering evidence
  - Taking statements
  - Conducting arrests
- 

### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Developed and implemented a new evidence storage and tagging system
  - Developed and implemented a new records management filing system
  - Assisted in overhauling and rewriting the entire Policy and Procedure manual
  - Developed and implemented revised Back Ground Check policy for Tribal Officers
  - Deployed to Iraq in Support of Operation IRAQ Freedom
  - Wrote language in State Legislation recognizing Tribal Officers Role in SORNA
- 

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Poarch Creek Tribal Police Officer – Atmore Alabama – 2000 – Present

Criminal Investigator Supervisor

- Take walk in officer complaints
- Follow up on patrol officer cases
- Manage multiple misdemeanor and felony cases
- Manage the Records Management System

- Manage the Evidence and Property room
- Manage and supervise the Training Division
- Manage the emergency communications center
- Manage the Conservation Division
- Supervise the investigative Division
- Maintain BIA Special Law Enforcement Commission

Atmore Ambulance Inc. – Atmore, Alabama – 1997 – present

Paramedic

- Provide emergency care and transport to the critically ill or injured
- Supervise the emergency care and transport team
- Train new team members

Alabama Army National Guard

Sargent

- Install and maintain digital end to end encrypted communications systems
- Supervise and train the communications team
- Lead subordinates
- Manage and track battalion level logistical support
- Recruit and retain quality soldiers as the unit retention NCO

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## EDUCATION

- 1992 Graduated U.S. Army Basic Combat Training Fort Jackson South Carolina
- 1993 Graduated U.S. Army Mobile Subscriber Equipment Switching School Fort Gordon Georgia
- 1995 Graduated Alabama Fire College Volunteer Firefighter 160 course
- 1996 Graduated Jefferson Davis Community College (Basic Emergency Medical Technician)
- 1997 Graduated Jefferson Davis Community College (Intermediate Emergency Medical Technician)
- 2001 Graduated Lurleen B. Wallace Community College (Paramedic)
- 2003 Graduated Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission
- Graduate of BIA Lieutenant Command School Artesia New Mexico
- Graduate of BIA Chief of Police Command School Artesia New Mexico

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## COMMITTIES

- Poarch Creek Domestic Violence Task Force
- Poarch Creek Child Protection Team
- Escambia County Alabama Sexual Assault Response Team
- State of Alabama SORNA Resource Council

Tribal Justice  
(name of Committee)

## Committee Report Summary

Meeting Annual Date 10/9-12/2017 Location Eastern Band / Cherokee NC

Robert Bryant reporting.  
(name of person reporting)

Committee met under the direction of Chairperson Robert Bryant  
(name)

9 Tribes were represented. 6 Committee Members Attended.  
(number) (number)

### OFFICIAL BUSINESS ACTIONS taken:

1. Selected Lt. Chris Rutherford of the Poarch Band of Cherokee Indians to represent USET on the Violence Against Women Task Force
2. Elected William Latchford, the Director of Public Safety of the Seminole Tribe of Florida to the position of Co-Chairperson
3. Monday
  - a. The Justice Committee joined the USET Board of Directors for the General Assembly
  - b. The Committee met in the afternoon and discussed the upcoming agenda
  - c. The Committee then received a presentation from the "A Child is Missing" organization, Sherry Fredlander, Director
  - d. The Committee recessed at 4PM
4. Tuesday
  - a. BIA Special Agent in Charge, Jimmy Gibson updated the Committee on District VI law enforcement issues
  - b. The Committee was joined by the Social Services Committee: Constance Fox, BIA Office of Justice Services – Self Determination Program, provided and update on the 25 CFR – What you need to know and How it impacts Your Law Enforcement Program
  - c. Presentation from Harrell French, USET Staff Member, on the free training program offered by the Alabama Fire College
  - d. Liz Malerba, USEDT Policy and Legislative Affairs Director, joined the Committee as we discussed retirement options for Tribal Law Enforcement personnel
  - e. Ended the day with a presentation from the BIA on Drug Enforcement
5. Wednesday
  - a. FBI Agent, Tracy Miller gave a presentation on New Approaches to Countering Violence Extremism
  - b. The Committee joined the USET Board for the Substance Abuse Round Table
  - c. The Committee went to the Phoenix Theater for the viewing of the "Wind River" movie
  - d. Ended the day by joining the USET Board for the Round Table discussion on Domestic Violence and Jurisdictional Challenges in Indian Country
  - e. Committee adjourned.