



NEZ PERCE TRIBE

FALL GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

LAW & JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT

2025



Welcome

Greetings Nez Perce Tribal Members,

Welcome to the Fall 2025 Nez Perce Tribe's General Council, here in Kamiah, Idaho. As your Law & Order Executive Officer, I am here to ensure the integrity and efficiency of our programs within the Law & Justice Department. Our mission is to uphold justice, promote fairness, and protect the rights of every individual within our jurisdiction.

This year, we are focusing on several key initiatives aimed at enhancing our legal processes and community safety. We are committed to strengthening our partnerships with local law enforcement agencies, providing comprehensive training for our officers, and ensuring that our judicial system remains transparent and accessible to all.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such a dedicated team and look forward to collaborating with each of you to achieve our shared goals. Together, we can continue to build a justice system that reflects the values and traditions of the Nez Perce Tribe. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

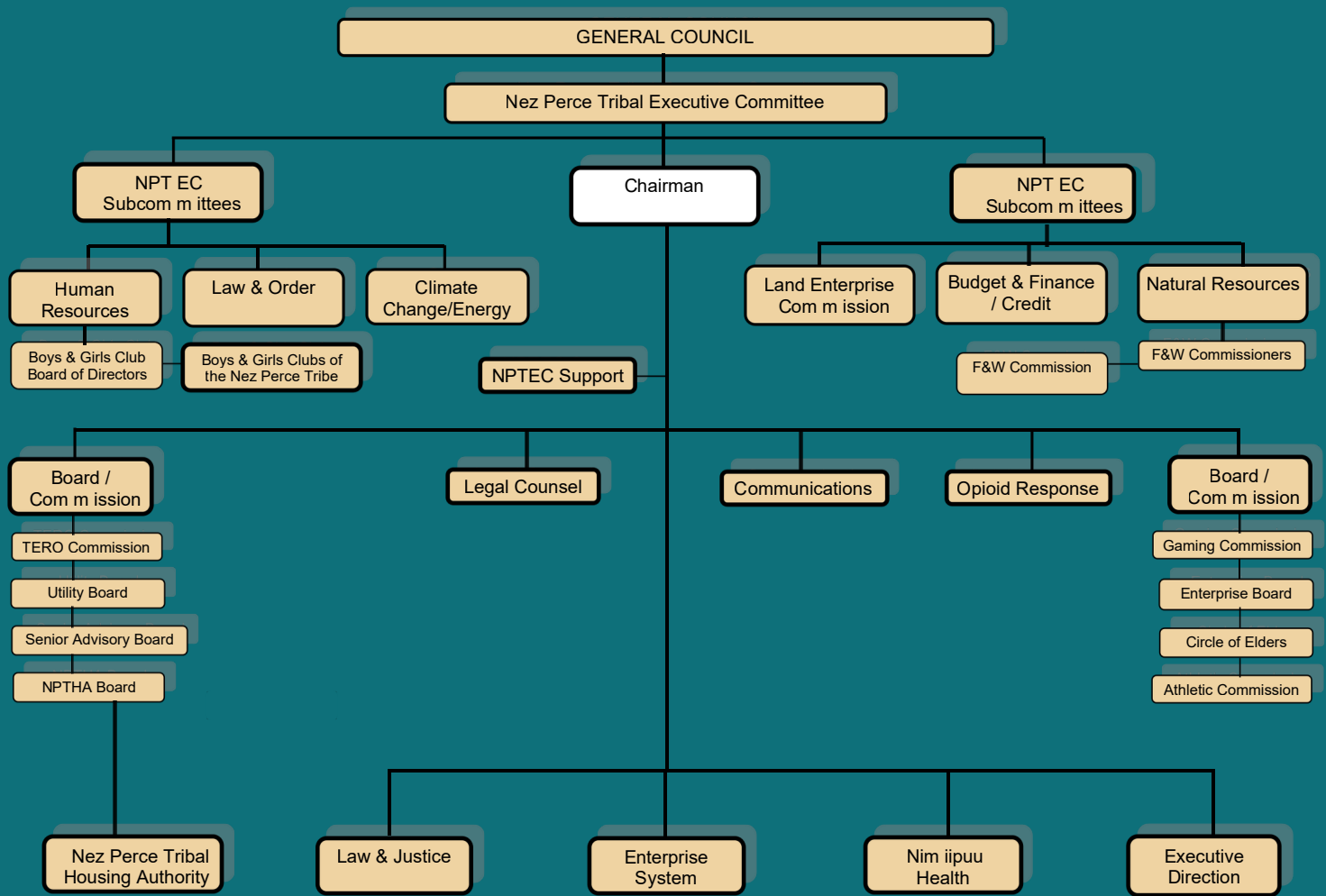
Sincerely,

Eva J. White
Law & Order Executive Officer



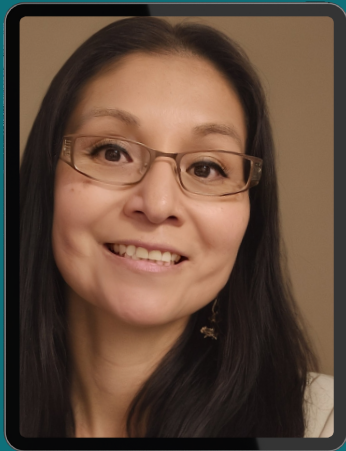


NEZ PERCE TRIBE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Resolution #NP 25-486
(08/12/25)

LAW & JUSTICE TEAM



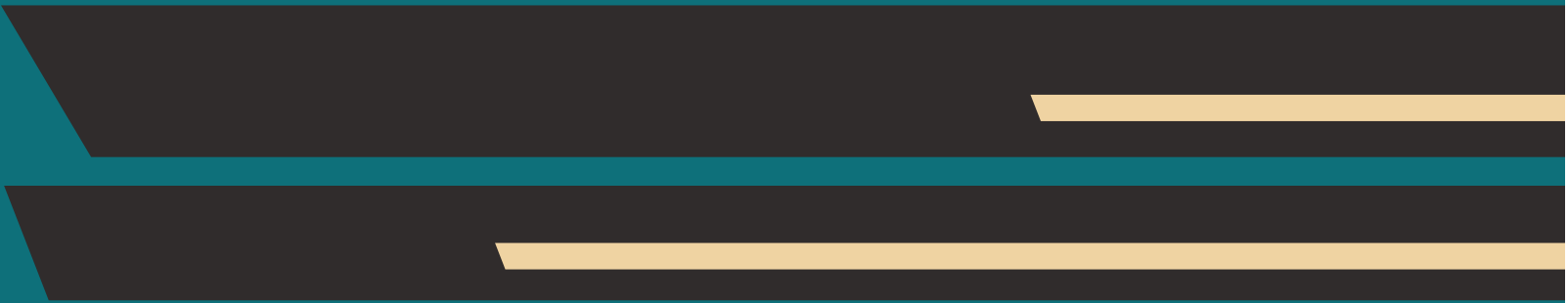


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Law & Justice Executive Office

Mission Statement

The mission of the Law and Justice Department is to provide coordinated, effective services by all the programs within the Department to protect the health, safety and welfare of all the Tribal members, particularly children, the elderly and other vulnerable citizens, and to improve economic opportunity for Tribal members. All programs within the Department will work to preserve and enhance the inherent sovereignty of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Staff

- Eva J. White, Law & Order Executive Officer
- Peggy Van Woerkom, Law & Order Executive Assistant
- Sara Moffett, temporary hire Law & Justice Technology Administrator

Current Law & Justice staff total 58

Nez Perce Tribal members	32
Other Tribal members	04
Descendants	01
Non-Tribal members	21

Grants:

Description	Term Dates	Received	Remaining	Note
OJP Family Treatment Court	10/1/20-9/30/25	\$480,000.00	\$480,000.00	requesting a no cost extension
OJP NP Tribal Justice Systems Tech	10/1/25-9/30/25	\$327,651.87	\$272,922.00	Requesting a no cost extension
OJP NP Opioid Substance abuse	10/1/21-9/30/25	\$812,180.95	\$782,301.57	Requesting a no cost extension
DOJ: Implementation DV	10/1/20-9/30/26	\$144,931.72	\$72,224.29	On-going
OJP: NPT Justice Systems	10/1/21-9/30/26	\$420,084.05	\$346,643.76	On-going
DOJ: Phase 2 Justice Ctr	10/1/24-9/30/29	\$1,399,829.00	\$1,399,829.00	On-going

Activities

The LOEO and the LOEA attended weekly Zoom meetings and an on-site visit with the Court Expansion project team, including Justin Webb (Grant Project Manager) and Shawn Spencer (Tribes Construction Manager). The team consists of Eva White, Peggy Van Woerkom, Shawn Spencer, Justin Webb, Rachel Joffey, Lynnette Morin, Geislia Barnes, and Danae Wilson (as needed). Once the project starts, the TERO manager and Chief Judge will join our group meetings.

The LOEO and the LOEA continue to collaborate with Court Expansion project leadership, attending meetings and coordinating efforts as needed. The Court Expansion project will include:

- second courtroom 880 s.f.
- jury room
- Conference room/Peace makers courtroom
- additional office space
- storage room
- restrooms

Continue to meet one on one with the managers in the L&J Department. (on going)

LOEO and LOEA worked on completing the grant reports and completed two no cost extensions. Currently working on another no cost extension on a grant.

Met with Danae Wilson, Executive Director, to discuss various topics of: L&J Kamiah building regarding insurance claim and clean up, relocation of L&J Staff, budgets, reorganization chart, and program-to-program concern/issues that needed to be addressed.

Our office hired Sara Moffett as an emergency temporary hire under a grant as the Law & Justice Technology Administrator.

Met with the Court staff to clarify their expected duties during the transition to a new Court Administrator. I observed that the clerks' caseloads were uneven, so as the LOEO I redistributed cases to balance their workloads. The Court Administrator now focuses solely on administrative responsibilities and handles only Appeal and Probate cases, rather than a full caseload. To ensure ongoing operations and adequate coverage, a front desk staff member was temporarily hired to provide customer service, accept and file documents, process court/fine payments, mail checks, and answer calls.

Our office is collaborating with Idaho Legal Aid, which has received two federal grants focused on Indian law. One grant is aimed at offering criminal representation to defendants in Tribal Court, while the other provides civil legal services to tribal members. Stay tuned for more information coming soon.

JUDICIAL SERVICES

Mission Statement

To provide an effective and fair forum to handle all matters of law arising under the duly enacted laws of the Nez Perce Tribal Code. To create and maintain a working relationship within the area of other judicial jurisdictions and service providers.

Staff

- Vacant, Chief Judge
- Jeffery Phillips, Associate Judge
- Todd Richardson, Pro Tem Judge (on-call as needed)
- Hazel Arthur, Court Administrator
- Michelle Cutfinger/Shanelle Freouff/temp hire Sonia Van Woerkom/Kim Bryant, Court Clerks
- Yvette Whitman, Data Entry clerk

The court system is currently undergoing significant changes and enhancements to improve its operations. With the chief judge position vacant following Natasha Anderson's departure on July 11, 2025, the court is in a transitional phase. Hazel Arthur has been appointed as the new Court Administrator as of September 2, 2025, taking over from Yvette Whitman, who served as the interim administrator. Hazel brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to the role, aiming to streamline processes and enhance the efficiency of judicial proceedings.

The court employs three full-time clerks, each with specialized duties. One clerk manages the criminal docket, which constitutes the majority of the caseload, as well as child support cases. The second clerk oversees family law matters, including divorce and child custody, while the third focuses on marriages, civil, HTWC cases. Additionally, a full-time receptionist aids in managing front-desk operations. The Court Administrator also takes on the responsibility of handling Appeal, Probate cases and administrative duties of court .

To enhance efficiency, the court is implementing the e-Court case management system by Journal Technologies, Inc. This system facilitates the electronic initiation and management of cases, with over 675 cases already successfully uploaded. Regular bi-weekly meetings with Journal Technologies representatives ensure smooth integration and address any concerns. Concurrently, there are ongoing efforts to improve the court's website by updating forms and documents and obtaining quotes for upgrading the court's audio recording system. These initiatives reflect the court's commitment to modernization and improving access to justice.

May 2025-August 2025

Hearings held: 237

Scheduled Jury Trials: 15

Healing-To-Wellness Court

Active Participants: 4

Pending New: 0

Minor In Need of Care (MINOC)

Open cases: 17

Total # of children: 21

APPEALS (criminal and civil)

Open cases: 2

NEW CASES INITIATED

Criminal cases initiated: 128

Total offense charges: 241

Extradition cases initiated: 5

Civil cases initiated: 50

Probate 10

Adult Guardianship 6

Name Change 16

Juvenile Offender

MINOC 21

Custody 8

Child Support 29

Minor Guardianship 9

TPR/adoption: 0

Marriage 1

Divorce 6

Protection Order 24

Eviction 1

Small Claims 7

Forfeiture 3

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mission Statement

The fundamental goal of the Nez Perce Tribal Police Department is to enhance the standard of living for those living on the Nez Perce Reservation by optimally using the resources provided to us to reduce crime which will create a safe and productive environment for the people that live, visit, and work on the Nez Perce Reservation. The reduction in crime will result in an increase in community member's standard of living decreasing insurance costs, increasing property values, increasing tourism all of which increase the economic opportunities for community members by creating a community that is desirable to business. The Nez Perce Tribal Police work cooperatively with numerous tribal, state, and federal agencies to meet this goal.

Staff:

ADMINISTRATION:

CHIEF OF POLICE: Mark Bensen
CAPTAIN OF POLICE: Wayde White Eagle (Interim)
LIEUTENANT OF POLICE: Michael Erickson (Interim)
JAIL COMMANDER: John Williamson
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR: Marie Baheza
TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATOR: Open
ADMINISTRATIVE SGT: Open
RECORDS: Brenda Axtel
FRONT DESK: Open

PATROL:

PATROL SGT: John Svancara
PATROL SGT: Michael Stegner
PATROL CPL: Tyson Davis
OFFICER: Jerry Florence
OFFICER: Vacant (advertising)
OFFICER: Chase Langmack
OFFICER: Vacant (advertising)
OFFICER: Titus Oatman
OFFICER: Cassidy White
K9 OFFICER: Monta
OFFICER: Meghan Antoni
OFFICER: Ruben Perez
OFFICER: Matthew Neu-Griffin
OFFICER: Davis Gobbi Jr.
OFFICER: Patrick Hendren
OFFICER: Gabriella Santana
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER: Kamelle Bourgeau



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION:

DETECTIVE: VACANT (filled January 1, 2026)

DETECTIVE: Jeff Kaltenbaugh

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION ACT (SORNA) OFFICER: Breanne Speas

JAIL DIVISION:

DETENTION CPL: Austin Domebo

DETENTION OFFICER: Jacob Aubertin

DETENTION OFFICER: Armani Bisbee

DETENTION OFFICER: McKenna Baumbaugh

DETENTION OFFICER: (multiple open positions)

NPTPD Statistics

May 1 to September 4, 2025

Calls for service 832

K9 searches with narcotics finds 6 Deployments, 4 Arrests

Total arrests adult and juvenile 31 Adult/ 6 Juveniles

Community Engagement

At NPTPD, we have a clear expectation that all who work here are present and engaged with the community. We have worked diligently meeting many people all over the reservation. Developing relationships with my staff, our community, Tribal employees, and all our neighboring local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. We have attended several community events to include school activities, graduation events and sports. We have provided safe escorts for many memorial services for Tribal members.

Equipment

Grant funding has allowed us to purchase 5 patrol vehicles. These vehicles are getting outfitted in southern Idaho now and should be ready in the next couple of months. We are also in the process of purchasing with grant funds, cameras at various locations in Lapwai and Kamiah. We have submitted a grant to enhance school safety at LHS with equipment and training.

Training

Training in law enforcement is an investment for the future of our department and the Tribe. Since May, different commissioned officers and civilian staff have attended the following training, FLETC corrections and patrol academies. In-service firearms training. We have submitted for a grant to improve mental health for our officers. SRO. Bourgeau attended a campus safety class at the U of I. Captain White Eagle was selected to attend the FBI Executive Command College. Officers completed ALERT instructor active shooter training. NPTPD trained in an active shooter exercise at LHS. Captain White Eagle completed Executive Leadership police training. Two officers completed the Field Training Officer course. Two officers attended FBI LEEDA training. Two of our detectives attended the cell site analysis course.

Criminal Investigations Division

CID has a renewed focus on cooperative work with our regional partners in law enforcement. Nez Perce Tribal Police Detectives have teamed up with the FBI, the Idaho State Police, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the City of Lewiston Police Department to proactively target drug use and sales on and adjacent to the reservation. CID is actively working several cases involving child abuse and sexual assault in close cooperation with the Nez Perce Tribe Prosecutor's Office, the FBI and the United States Attorney's Office. CID has partnered with the Idaho Internet Crimes Against Children task force and is attending training and developing protocol with the goal of the Nez Perce Tribal Police Department becoming a full time ICAC affiliate agency to work child abuse and exploitation cases in partnership with the Idaho Department of Justice. We have assisted our regional partners in the investigation and apprehension of child predators and have received their assistance in investigating Cybertips that originates on the reservation. CID, the Nez Perce Tribe Prosecutor's Office, and Spokane County Medical Examiner's Office obtained specialized training as a regional team in the investigation of domestic violence strangulation and homicide. CID has partnered with OUREscue to combat human trafficking and child exploitation. The Criminal Investigations Division actively investigates every report of child abuse/exploitation, sexual assault, suspicious death and felony drug possession. We are grateful for tribal members' support of our investigations and ask for their maintained vigilance in reporting these crimes through the appropriate channels. Our detectives were activated as part of the FBI Task Force for a homicide in Lapwai in May and a Rape in Lapwai in July.

Administration

The Administration team provides administrative support for Tribal Police and Department of Corrections by entering civil documents and warrants for service. Since May 2025 to present, there were 71 civil documents, and 16 warrants entered for service into the Flex Records Management system, processed 70 records requests, processed 64 Nez Perce Tribe Prosecutors video requests and processed 15 Nez Perce County requests.

We are in the process of hiring of an Assistant Records Clerk/Evidence Technician and are excited to be able to hire a Nez Perce Tribal Member. In addition, we are in the process of offering a contract position for a MMIP Database Administrator, who will be responsible for creating a database of our vulnerable tribal members and volunteers in the event a person goes missing the assessment will be provided to law enforcement to assist in searching for them at their frequent hang outs and/or make contact with their friends and family. As well as the participants will be provided with a MMIP Kit a backpack containing an address book, a flashlight, a Birdie Alarm and a gas card. The MMIP Database Administrator will work closely with Social Services.

NIBRS (National Incident-Based Reporting Systems)

All Administrative Staff completed NIBRS Training, the crime statistics reporting systems for Nez Perce Tribal Police which is uploaded monthly to the national database by the Spillman & Records Administrator.

Motorola Solutions – Data Transfer

As part of Tribal Police Administration and Department of Corrections strategic plan is for the Flex (Police Records) Management system to be housed on our own servers. This will allow cross reference of data in the Tribal Police and Department Corrections systems. We are currently awaiting on agreeable terms of the Memorandum of Agreement with Lewiston Police Department and Nez Perce County Sheriffs Department to begin the data migration of police records.

PROSECUTOR

Mission Statement

To strive for the protection and safety of the people of the Nez Perce Tribe and its communities, through the zealous enforcement of the laws of the Nez Perce Tribal Code. To effectively and fairly administer a balanced approach to the administration of justice in support of the Sovereignty of the Nez Perce Tribe on and off the Reservation.

Staff

Prosecutor, Anne Kelleher

Deputy Prosecutor, Matt Eggar's

Legal Admin Assistant, Delrae Kipp

Activities

The Prosecutor's Office is as busy as ever. Despite being a small community, we continue to face significant challenges with drug and alcohol offenses. Thanks to thorough investigations and well-documented reports, along with excellent body-worn camera footage provided by law enforcement, we successfully prosecuted many felony drug cases last year. With several major sources of illegal drugs now incarcerated or on felony probation, we have seen a decrease in felony drug offenses within the community. Unfortunately, this has not led to a substantial decrease in overall crime.

Fortunately, the record management system we use, Prosecutor by Karpel, enables us to compare charging rates over time. Since summer is generally the most active season for crime, we compared data from May to August 2024 with data from May to August 2025.

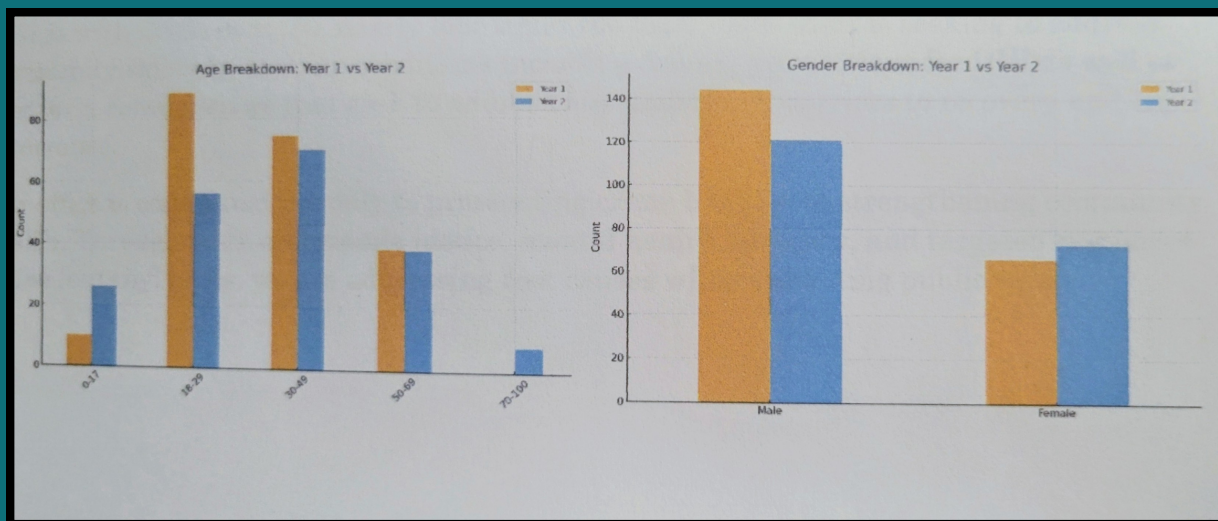
Throughout this period, the Prosecutor's Office handled around 100 cases each year. Battery cases increased this year, while drug charges, as anticipated, declined. We also noticed the emergence of new issues related to underage alcohol and tobacco use. Although men still make up the majority of defendants, there has been an increase in cases involving women, youth, and seniors. Most offenders continue to fall within the age range of 18 to 49.

Top 5 Charge- Year 1

Charge	Count
Paraphernalia-Fentanyl or Meth	13.0
Minor in Possession	8.0
Battery	6.0
PCCS-Marijuana	6.0
Failure to Obey an Order of the Court	6.0

Top 5 Charges- Year 2

Charge	Count
Battery	17.0
Cruelty to Animals	7.0
Aggravated Assault	6.0
Possession of Tobacco by a Person Under 21	6.0
Possession of Alcohol by a Person Under 21	5.0



PUBLIC DEFENDER

Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of the Public Defender is to provide quality representation and zealous advocacy to adults and juveniles accused of criminal offenses filed in the Nez Perce Tribal Court.

Department Manager: Carmel McCurdy

Staffing: 1 full-time attorney; one full-time office specialist II.

Contact Information:

Nez Perce Tribe Office of the Public Defender

P.O. Box 365

Lapwai, ID 83540

208-621-3866

Email: carmelm@nezperce.org

leslieg@nezperce.org

Overview for April 1, 2025 – September 2, 2025

The Public Defender appears in tribal court to represent adults and juveniles accused of committing criminal offenses. The purpose of the Office of the Public Defender is to safeguard individual rights in all criminal and related matters, from arrest or threat of confinement through all stages of the criminal proceedings including appeal and probation matters, if any, consistent with applicable laws, court rules, and rules of professional responsibility. This Office also represents clients engaged in the Nez Perce Tribe Healing to Wellness Court. The Public Defender participates in various working groups for the Tribe, such as the Code Revision team.

The Office Specialist II handles tasks such as creating and organizing case files, keeping digital files, and adding documents to individual files. She tracks the number of cases filed and the categories of charges for each. She fields numerous phone calls, calendars court hearings and meetings, coordinates with the conflict public defenders, and works with Nimiipuu Behavioral Health on receipt of treatment recommendations. She assists clients with identifying additional tribal resources available to them.

This office works to negotiate favorable plea bargains and deferred prosecution agreements for its clients. It is always the decision of the client to either take a case to trial or to accept a plea bargain. We research, draft, and file suppression motions, request additional discovery as necessary, and advocate for clients with sentencing and probation issues. We also repeatedly seek the reduction of bail both at initial arraignment hearings and in formal bail-reduction proceedings. We work closely with Healing to Wellness Court participants to ensure that their needs are met and help our clients with intake forms to coordinate appropriate assessments with Nimiipuu Behavioral Health.

The Public Defender continues to be available to provide guidance to individual tribal members on questions concerning civil matters before the Court, so long as the opposing parties in a civil matter are not Nez Perce tribal members.

Accomplishments

Current active caseload: 181 charges are open and pending (including Juvenile matters). In addition, there are 90 cases (spanning from 2021 to September 2, 2025) that are pending for active bench warrants, including one juvenile. The bench warrant cases will move from pending to active and open upon defendants being picked up by police on their warrants and brought before the Court.

The Public Defender meets with persons charged in the tribal criminal court regarding the charges, their rights and the maximum penalties faced, represents these clients in court hearings, and pursues motion practice to protect the individual defendants' rights under the Code and the Indian Civil Rights Act.

In the five-month period between April 2025 through September 2, 2025, the Office received complaints for a total of one hundred thirteen (113) new charges in adult criminal court. Forty (40) cases were charged at the felony level. Of the 113 charges, thirty (30) involved alcohol and/or drugs, and thirty (30) were domestic violence/family violence charges. The Public Defender represented 32 defendants in 58 charges, and conflict attorneys were assigned a total of 25 defendants brought up on 55 total charges.

Seventeen (17) juvenile petitions were filed on a total of 8 individual juveniles. Two (2) were felony level charges. Thirteen (13) of the petitions involved drugs or alcohol. Three (3) juveniles were assigned conflict attorneys.

Conflict public defenders are necessary because of conflicts involving co-defendants and to allow for continuity of representation where a conflict attorney had represented a particular client in a prior court case.

For the upcoming quarter, the Public Defender will again collaborate with the University of Idaho Legal Aid Clinic to provide legal interns an opportunity to practice in the Tribal criminal court under the supervision of their bar licensed supervising attorney. This collaboration benefits not only the legal interns but serves to introduce law students to tribal court practice to encourage new attorneys to seek positions in tribal courts after graduation.

The Public Defender takes an active role in grant programs, including the Healing to Wellness Court Team, VAWA implementation team, the Sex Offender Registry grant and the Special Domestic Violence Jurisdiction program.

The Public Defender works in conjunction with the Center for Children and Family Futures to draft policy manuals and participant handbooks for implementation of the Family Treatment Court (Family Wellness Court) grant program.

The Public Defender is a member of the LC Valley Domestic Violence Community Response Team, and a member of the Nez Perce County Justice/ Behavioral Health stakeholders.

We continue to pursue a funding source for a professional case management system that will allow this office to manage the large volume of case discovery and calendaring of cases to keep on track with the Prosecutor and Court systems. Such a management system will also support more accurate reporting and tracking.

The Public Defender maintains professional associations in the Idaho Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and served as an At-Large Council Member for the Idaho State Bar Indian Law Section.

PROBATION

Mission Statement

The mission of the Adult and Juvenile Probation Program is to deliver high quality probation services to all eligible clients, encouraging the rehabilitation and recovery of all defendants on probation by following fair, consistent, and transparent procedures which are consistent with the historical cultural and traditional practices of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Staff

Probation Supervisor, Kenneth Bourgeau Jr.

Probation Officer II, Keith Kipp Sr.

Juvenile Diversion Coordinator, Vacant

Juvenile Diversion Life Skills Coach, Vacant

Activities

Recidivism is defined as the tendency for a convicted criminal offender to reoffend. It is measured by rearrest, reconviction or return to incarceration.

The U.S. national recidivism rate as calculated by Bureau of Justice Statistics is 82%.

The State of Idaho has implemented the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, and the recidivism rate has dropped from 38% to 35% in the past three years. With this said we continue to use Restorative Justice through Cultural Reintroduction to better serve our clients by working on the Client's needs. We emphasize on providing structure, accountability, and support systems with cultural teachings for our clients. Through our close working relationship with Nimiipuu Health, Behavioral Health, Education, Voc-Rehab, TERO and other tribal programs. We have been able to keep our Recidivism rate to 15.6%. This remarkable achievement highlights the effectiveness of culturally integrated approaches in reducing repeat offenses. Our program's success is largely attributed to the holistic support services we offer, which address the root causes of criminal behavior.

By fostering a sense of belonging and purpose, we aim to empower individuals to make positive life choices. Our collaboration with various tribal programs ensures a comprehensive network of resources, from mental health support to educational and vocational training, tailored to meet the unique needs of each client.

We are committed to continuous improvement, regularly evaluating our methods and partnerships to adapt to the evolving needs of our community. Our goal is not only to reduce recidivism but also to promote healing and reconciliation, ultimately contributing to the overall well-being and safety of the Nez Perce Tribe.

The Juvenile Diversion Program had a total of four juveniles this summer. All the juveniles did very well, maintaining constant contact and engaged in culturally important activities, such as the Wallowa Youth retreat, name giving and give away ceremonies at Mud Spring camp. The highlight of the summer was seeing the joy and excitement of one of the juveniles getting reunited with family. The program's success was not just measured by participation in these activities but also by the personal growth and development observed in each participant. The juveniles learned valuable life skills, including teamwork, leadership, and cultural appreciation, which will serve them well in their future endeavors.

Throughout the summer, the supportive environment fostered by the program staff and community volunteers played a crucial role in the positive outcomes. Each juvenile was paired with a mentor who provided guidance and encouragement, helping them navigate challenges and celebrate achievements.

Looking ahead, the program aims to expand its reach, offering more opportunities for young people to engage with their culture and community. With continued support, the Juvenile Diversion Program hopes to make an even greater impact in the lives of future participants, inspiring them to pursue their dreams and contribute positively to society.

CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

Mission Statement

Among the NiMiiPuu, children are seen as a gift of the Creator. They represent the future of the Tribe and a link to the values of our culture. In our language, there is no word for orphan. Each child is the center of a circle with deep relationships to his biological parents, his blood relatives and his fellow Tribal members. Adults must put the children first to ensure they are properly nurtured and developed.

Staff:

Director, Lilly James
CSP Attorney, Ronald Calhaun
Case Managers; Lana Rickman, and Charlotte Watters
Admin. Finance Specialist, Verna Taylor
Outreach Specialist, Andre Picard
Admin. Intake Specialist, Ashley Oatman

Funding and Accomplishments

Since Spring General Council, the Child Support Program (CSP) continued to provide vital services to families in our community. During this period, CSP managed an average caseload of more than 330 cases, collecting over \$42,000 in child support payments. This brings the total collected so far in the fiscal year to more than \$238,000.

One important accomplishment was the successful submission and approval of the FY 2026 Child Support Application and Budget. This ensures stable program funding from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

Community Outreach and Awareness

CSP celebrated Child Support Awareness Month in August by hosting multiple outreach events across the community, including activities in Kamiah, Lapwai, Lookingglass Powwow, and at the Mudsprings gathering. Parenting classes were also held in Kamiah and Lapwai, supporting family education and engagement.

Additionally, in July, CSP hosted the Family Tipi Race and Mini Powwow during Lapwai Days, which provided a fun, cultural way to strengthen family connections while promoting CSP services.

CSP also partnered with the Youth Cultural Enrichment Academy (YCEA) Program to provide youth outreach on the importance of family and offered hands-on learning through drum making activities.

During Child Support Awareness Month, CSP thanked its community partners by sharing baked goodies from Taya's Baked Goods, showing appreciation for their continued support and collaboration.

Staff Development and Training

CSP also successfully welcomed its first Youth Intern, Sierra Arthur, who supported outreach and cultural activities during the summer. Her contributions marked an important step in providing opportunities for youth engagement in CSP's work.

All CSP staff completed First Aid/CPR training in July and Cyber Security Awareness Training in August. These trainings ensure that staff are equipped both to safeguard community members' wellbeing and to protect sensitive program data.

The Director attended the Native American Tribal Child Support Directors Bi-Annual Meeting in Lincoln City, OR. Federal updates emphasized a return to focusing child support services on core enforcement activities, such as parent location, paternity establishment, child support order establishment, modifications, collections, and medical support enforcement.

Leadership

CSP Director Lilly James was elected to the National Child Support Engagement Association (NCSEA) Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning September 1, 2025. This appointment provides the Nez Perce Tribe with a strong national voice in shaping child support policy and best practices. Ms. James will also take part in the first national level Lived Experience Advisory Council.

Upcoming Projects and Events

CSP is working with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to schedule an Idaho Tribes Child Support Program Meeting before the end of the fiscal year. This gathering will allow programs to exchange ideas, discuss policies, and strengthen collaboration, with the possibility of engaging the State of Idaho in these discussions and to strengthen tribal-state collaboration.

Looking ahead, CSP is also preparing for the Head Start Powwows in Kamiah and Lapwai in November, as well as the annual Homemade Christmas event in December. Both events will provide valuable opportunities for outreach and family engagement.

Contact Us

CSP proudly offers fee-free services, from child support order establishment to paternity testing. For more information or to get involved:

 (208) 843-7362

 childsupport@nezperce.org

385 Agency Road Lapwai, Idaho 83540

CSP Pictures

CSP 1: CSP's 1st Youth Intern, Sierra Arthur, helping out at the Lapwai Days Mini Powwow.

CSP 2 & 5: CSP's Annual Family Tipi Race.



CSP 3: Intern Sierra delivering Taya's Baked Goods to CSP's Community Partners.



CSP 4: CSP's Youth Outreach with the Youth Cultural Enrichment Academy (YCEA).



TERO

Mission Statement

To ensure that economic opportunities for employment and for contracting within lands subject to the jurisdiction of the Nez Perce Tribe are provided to members of the Nez Perce Tribe and other Native Americans and to businesses owned by members of the Nez Perce Tribe or other Native Americans.

Staff:

Director, Melvin Wheeler

TOSHA Safety Officer, VACANT

Compliance Officer, Calvin Allen

TERO Client Advocate/Youth Apprentice Sponsor, Laatis Lawrence

Office Specialist, Julia Gould



TERO/TYAP Activities 2025

1. Lapwai High School Graduation May 2025

- Nine TERO/TYAP clients graduated from Lapwai High School
- Four of the TYAP clients are out working with construction companies

2. Summer Youth Work Group started working with Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority June 9-August 1, 2025

- Eight TYAP clients started working as laborers with NPTHA maintenance workers
- The projects they completed were beautification of Lapwai & Kamiah senior centers, built eight wood picnic tables then placed them at Sundown Heights Park, NPTHA office, Lapwai & Kamiah senior centers and built/painted flower boxes for both Lapwai & Kamiah housing projects.



“NPTHA was a good place to work because I got to work with my buddies and use the tools”

C. Ellenwood Jr.

- The TYAP clients also went through a financial literacy class during their work week at the NPTHA classroom.
- Four of the TYAP clients earned their driver license during their employment with the NPTHA.

1. Nez Perce TERO/TYAP Program signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with LIUNA Northwest Laborers Employers Training Trust (NWLETT) June 24, 2025

- The MOU is to establish a collaborative partnership between the Nez Perce TERO/TYAP program & LIUNA Laborers NWLETT so we can accomplish a shared commitment to workforce development, skills training and the advancement of career opportunities for our clients. This MOU will help those clients who want to join the union and give them points for direct entry into the Laborers program.

TERO PROJECTS MAY 2025-SEPTEMBER 2025

Contractor	Project
1. ACON	Fiber Optics Part 1
2. Knife River	D-2 Bridge Approaches
3. Crea Construction	Craigmont Basketball Court
4. Knife River	Ferdinand Passing Lane
5. Crea Construction	Mile Post 16/17
6. A. Williams	Sally Ann Creek Culvert Replacement
7. Terry Construction	NPTHA Little Village Project

TERO Dispatches May-September 2025

Flaggers 10 Laborers 8
 HEO 0 CDL Truck Driver 0
 Carpenters 0 Other 0
 Total dispatches= 18 TERO Waivers signed= 0

TERO/TYAP Service to Participants Activities

1. October 9-November 8, 2024

BTI 5-week Fall training for 20 clients

\$190,000.00 (total cost for 5-weeks)

\$9,500.00 (cost per client for 5-weeks)

\$100.00 x 20 = \$2,000 (PPE per client)

Total= \$192,000.00 (covered by Innovation Grant)

2. March 4-April 7, 2025

BTI 5-week Spring training for 15 clients

\$190,000.00 (total cost for 5-weeks)

\$9,500.00 (cost per client for 5-weeks)

\$100.00 X 15 = \$1,500.00 (PPE per client)

Total = \$191,500.00 (covered by Innovation Grant)

3. Summer Youth Work Group June 9-August 1, 2025

8 weeks of on-the-job training (OJT) with Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority's maintenance teams.

80hrs x \$9.25 = \$740.00 (bi-weekly stipend payments)

8 weeks x \$740.00 = \$14,800.00 (stipends spent on client training)

Total= \$14,800.00

4. Nez Perce Tribe Enterprises (Promotions Funding)

Beautification of Lapwai & Kamiah housing projects

\$3,000.00 went to Home Depot for supplies and materials needed to build six wooden tables, flower boxes with flowers and paint both Lapwai & Kamiah Senior Citizens centers.

Total= \$3,000.00

5. Valley Foods Store

\$100.00 x 8 weeks = \$800.00 (water, Gatorade, ice)

TERO/TYAP supplied TYAP workers with cold water, Gatorade and ice in the coolers for the hot summer.

Total= \$800.00

TERO Service to Participants Funds

October 2024-August 2025 Total= \$18,600.00

Fall BTI Class 2024
Turtle Island



Spring BTI class 2025
Turtle Island



GAMING COMMISSION

Mission Statement

The Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commissions (NPTGC) vision is to protect the assets of the Nez Perce Tribal Gaming Enterprise by insuring adequate internal controls are in place and conformed to. Ensure that all gaming activity is honest and fair. Regulate all forms of permissible and authorized gaming within the jurisdiction of the Nez Perce Tribe.

NPTGC

35069 US Hwy 95

Lewiston, ID 83501

Office: 208-621-4744

NPT Gaming Commission Members:

Gabe Bohnee, Chairman

Eva Higheagle , Secretary

Robert Kipp, Vice Chairman

Staff:

Leotis McCormack, Director

Mark Souza, Chief Compliance Officer

Alene Powauke, Internal Auditor

Ken Kipp, Gaming Agent

Liz Minkey, Licensing Agent

Office Specialist,VACANT

Overview and Purpose

The Nez Perce Tribal Gaming Commission was created under the provisions established in the passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), which was enacted to support and promote tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments through the operation of gaming on Indian lands. The Act provides a statutory basis for the federal regulation of Indian gaming and the authorities for Tribes to regulate Tribal Gaming. The Nez Perce Tribe established the Commission to regulate and support tribal gaming as a means of generating revenue for tribal communities.

The Commission consists of three part time members appointed by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee and full time supporting staff to carryout the day to day responsibilities of the Commission. The President, Vice President and the Treasurer/secretary are all selected by the commissioners and affirmed by NPTEC action.

NPTGC Responsibilities:

- regulating and monitoring certain aspects of Nez Perce gaming;
- coordinating its regulatory responsibilities with appropriate jurisdictions;
- providing training and technical assistance to tribal entities;
- reviewing and approving tribal gaming ordinances and management agreements in conjunction with the NPTEC;
- reviewing the backgrounds of individuals and entities to ensure the suitability for gaming licenses of those seeking to work or conduct business with Nez Perce Tribal gaming;
- overseeing and reviewing the conduct and regulation of Nez Perce gaming operations;
- enforcing violations against the Nez Perce Tribal Code and IGRA and its regulations; and
- referring law enforcement matters to appropriate tribal, Federal, and state entities.

REPORT:

- Chief Compliance Officer Souza, Gaming Agent Kipp, Commissioner Higheagle and Commissioner Bohnie attended and successfully completed the National Regulators Academy:
 - Green Bay Wisconsin; Onieda Nation
- Developing mapping steps for expanded jurisdiction in Oregon, Washington.
 - Will establish what is needed for Regulatory Responsibility if the Tribe expands gaming in Washington or Oregon.
- Held bi weekly meetings with Enterprise Leadership:
 - Discussed variances, ICP's, training on report legibility
 - Discussed Bingo Parameters
 - Discussed security concerns
- § Developing Charitable Bingo guidelines for the Nez Perce Tribe
- NIGC Follow up:
 - Drafting and updating policies recommended from NIGC: will submit to Gaming Commission and to the NPTEC for final approval.
 - Media Protection Policy is ready for review and approval
 - Configuration Management Policy is ready for review and approval
- Reformatting the Background Controls for Gaming Commission
- Developing updated Vendor Licensing Fee Schedule.
- Developing Funding mechanisms for NPTGC.
- Working on Signage at the entrance of NPTGC Drive
- Develop and updating NPT TICS Document
- Internal Audit: Worked on Surveillance Audit: Obtaining background information
- Had NLVF for JCI for security to do repair work on security system IYY
- Go over ICRs (Incident Reports) from Casino Security and Surveillance vet out if there are loose ends

- Track variances and send out RFI to reflect correct procedures are being followed these are submitted to Director, Team, and Commissioners weekly
 - Track Drop and Bingo WIN to WRITE submit trackers to GC Director, GC Team and Commissioners
 - Assist in expulsion hearing set up and monitor on site for security of commissioners
 - Director met with Exec Officer and Marketing Director over required items from Internal Audit provide technical assistance regarding ICP submissions for approval
 - Security walk throughs of CRC, IYY, and also Camas with Director to become aware of possible threats and become familiar with facilities, and possible areas of security deficiencies
-
- Research Gaming on Indian Lands as described in CFR25, in particular due to researching Charitable Bingo, endeavors requested annually by a tribal department
 - Develop policy and request forms for Charitable Bingo with use of existing facility and equipment
 - Recruiting for Office Specialist Position
 - After Action Fire Briefing and round table with Enterprise management put on by GC Director
 - Addressed and highlighted areas resulting from fire shut down.
 - Walk throughs and AAB exposed some concerns that are currently being rectified by Enterprise staff

Get In Touch With Us



Phone
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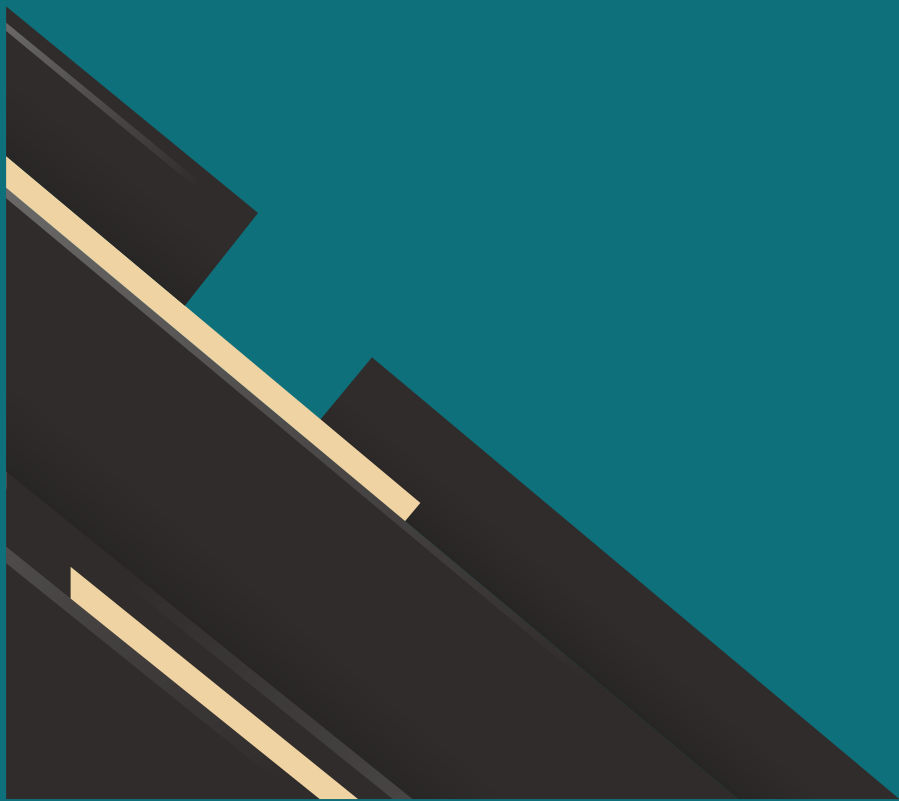


Website
www.nezperce.org



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129 Bever RD,
Lapwai, ID





THANK YOU

