

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
WESTERN DIVISION**

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|                           | ) |                         |
|                           | ) | <b>Civil Action No.</b> |
|                           | ) |                         |
|                           | ) | DECLARATION OF LISA     |
| <b>Oglala Sioux Tribe</b> | ) | ADAMS                   |
| <b>v.</b>                 | ) |                         |
| <b>UNITED STATES OF</b>   | ) |                         |
| <b>AMERICA</b>            | ) |                         |
| <i>et al.</i>             | ) |                         |
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I, Lisa Adams, make the following affidavit.

1. I currently serve as the Attorney General of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, a federally recognized Tribe.
2. I began my term as Attorney General on or around May 30, 2022.
3. Prior to serving as Attorney General I had served as the Chief Judge of the Oglala Sioux Tribal Court; an Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of the Oglala Nation; and as in house counsel for the Oglala Sioux Tribe.
4. Since taking office on May 30, 2022, there have been at least three successful homicides on the reservation - one of which involved a child victim - and at least two attempt homicides.
5. Police officers often have difficulty controlling active crime scenes in rural areas as evidence which is often spread over a large area and bereaved, traumatized, and angry family members attempt to invade the crime scene, touching things, and sometimes moving evidence.
6. Since taking office, I have received reports of sentencings in twenty-six drug

trafficking convictions in the U.S District Court for the District of South Dakota involving tribal members.

7. Having been a prosecutor in Newark, New Jersey which, at the time, had a police force of over 4500 officers excluding special forces units such as SWAT, and its Narcotics Task Force; proportionally, the level of violent, serious, and drug-related offense appears greater in Pine Ridge.
8. I would personally liken the level of violent crime and drug trafficking on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation in 2022 to Compton, California or the Crenshaw District of Los Angeles, California at the height of the gang wars and drug trafficking in the 1980s.
9. The level sex offenses generally, and sex offenses involving minors is proportionally equivalent to any large city.
10. The number of violent or drug-related juvenile offenses is also proportionally equivalent to any city.
11. I have not a scintilla of doubt that the burgeoning criminal activity occurring on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is the direct result of a police force whose size is woefully inadequate to address the geographical area and the population size, and the result has been serious injury, and death of community members.
12. Police officers are in extreme jeopardy from being on patrol in one-officer units in dangerous and unpredictable tribal housing clusters.
13. In June 2022, one officer was attacked by juveniles hurling logs and an ice chest through the window of his patrol unit. This resulted in glass in his eyes and respiratory pathways.
14. I personally fear that it is only a matter of time before an officer is seriously injured or

killed given the dramatic rise in weapons offenses, gun violence, drug trafficking, and gang activity occurring within reservation boundaries.

15. Failure to have a sufficient law enforcement presence has allowed drug traffickers the ability to intimidate and threaten, or otherwise take action against community or family member witnesses who report crimes and perpetrators.

I hereby swear under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true to the best of my belief and knowledge.

By:   
Lisa Adams

Date: July 11, 2022