



Chickaloon Tribal Police Department (PD)



CHIEF OF POLICE
DONNA ANTHONY

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)

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Agenda

- Meet the Chickaloon PD Team
- Purpose of Meeting
- Mission
- Vision
- History
- VAWA2022 –Chickaloon’s Jurisdictional Map
- Establishing Tribal Courts Before Starting a Police Department
- The Process to Hire and Start a Tribal Police Department in Alaska
- Chickaloon Police Hiring Process
- Future of Alaska Tribal Law Enforcement
- Course of Action



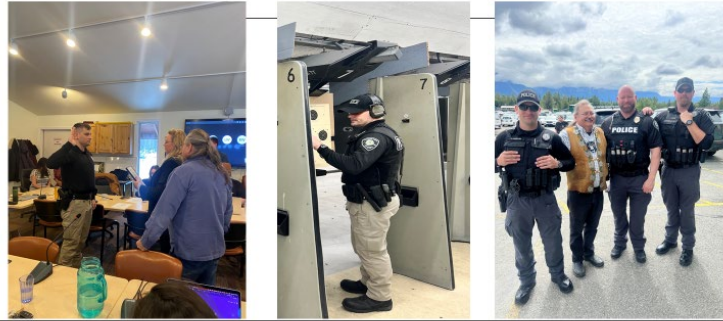
A life in a day with Chickaloon PD



Chief of Police
Donna Anthony



Tribal Police Officer
Deven Stewlow

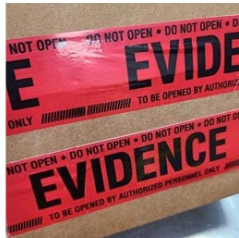


Tribal Police Officer
LD Howard



Terri Larson

Administrator, Evidence, TAPS Coordinator and Dispatch



Police Graduation
June 9, 2023 -UAF



Reserve Tribal Police Officer
Todd Herring



A life in a day with Chickaloon PD



Bret Chisholm- Program Manager



Dayna Carden- Police Administrator

Purpose of Meeting

About the Chickaloon Tribal Police Model in the State of Alaska.



Mission

Our Mission

To uphold Tribal, State, and Federal laws; protect life and property; and promote and preserve peace within the community through safe, humane, and effective law enforcement.

Our Values

CVTC Officers serve with:

Professionalism

Integrity

Fairness

Timeliness

High moral and ethical conduct

We build peace not only through enforcement, but by fostering **public trust** through proactive community engagement.



Vision:

Enhancing Tribal Public Safety and Justice in Alaska

Expand and Train the Regional Tribal Court System

- Increasing access to justice and court services for Tribal communities.

Expand and Train Tribal Police in Alaska

- Comprehensive training for law enforcement to handle unique challenges within the Villages.

Dispatch Contract with Palmer Police Dispatch and a Backup Tribal Dispatch Center using StarLink for backup communication.

Full Tribal Access Program (TAP) Fingerprint Machine

- Implement fingerprint systems for security and data sharing, (Arrest of suspect)



Enhancing Tribal Public Safety and Justice in Alaska

Chickaloon PD Training with APSIN

- The first Federally recognized Tribal Police Department to access to the Alaska Public Safety Information Network.

Strengthen Partnerships with Key Agencies

- Collaborate with **BIA, Alaska State Troopers, U.S. Attorney's Office**, and others to share jurisdiction and improve safety.

Build a Tribal Detention Facility

- Develop a detention facility for safe incarceration that will have Tribal programs such as Wellness Courts, Youth Courts, Drug rehab programs and more.

Become a Training Facility for All Tribes in Alaska

- Provide training for all **229 Federally Recognized Tribes** in collaboration with **FLETC/BIA** for Courts, Dispatch, Police, Victim advocate, probation and judicial officers.

Mentor out Tribal Youth Through the Youth Court and Explore Program

- Empower youth with legal education and leadership skills.



History and Setbacks of Chickaloon Tribal Police Department

Certified Tribal Police Department Established in the 1980s

- **Overview:** Chickaloon Tribal Police Department was established as a **law enforcement agency** in the **1980s**.
- **Early Training:** Tribal police officers **attended Certified Police Academies** in **Fairbanks** and **Sitka**, providing them with the necessary skills and qualifications.

Setback in February 2020

- **Issue:** The **Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC)** decided **not to recognize Tribal Police** with **State authority** following a letter issued in **February 2020**.
- This decision hindered the ability of **Chickaloon Tribal Police** to operate with **state authority** despite previous training and certifications.

CHICKALOON PD 1980'S



History and Setbacks of Chickaloon Tribal Police Department

And Local Opposition

- **Sutton Community Council** expressed opposition, **resisting the recognition** of Chickaloon Tribal Police was working towards a commission with the **Alaska State Troopers**. (38 letters)
- This disagreement has created **additional challenges** in gaining the full support necessary for effective law enforcement operations even with VAWA2022.
- In Alaska Tribes share “**Concurrent**” jurisdiction with State and Federal partners.



What does VAWA 2022 do for Alaska Tribes?

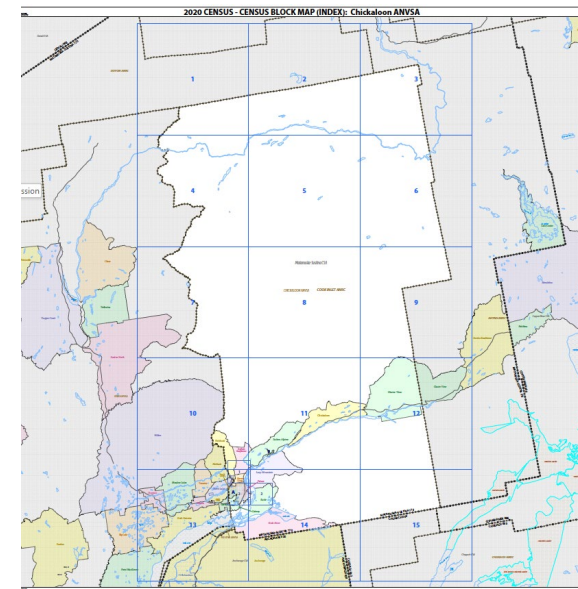
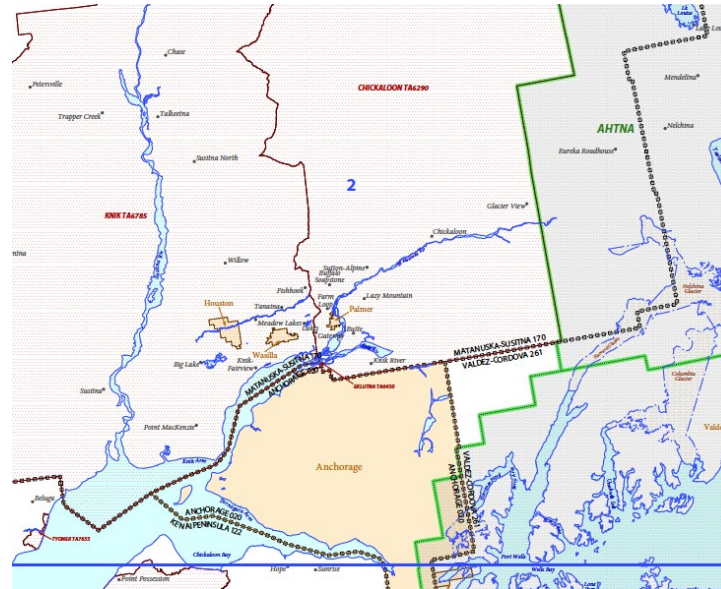
The law defines the territorial jurisdiction of an Alaska tribe. Instead of the usual reference of “Indian country” an Alaska tribe's jurisdiction is the “Village,” which means the Alaska Native Village Statistical area covering all or any portion of a native village ... as depicted on the “tribal statistical area program verification map of the bureau of the census.”



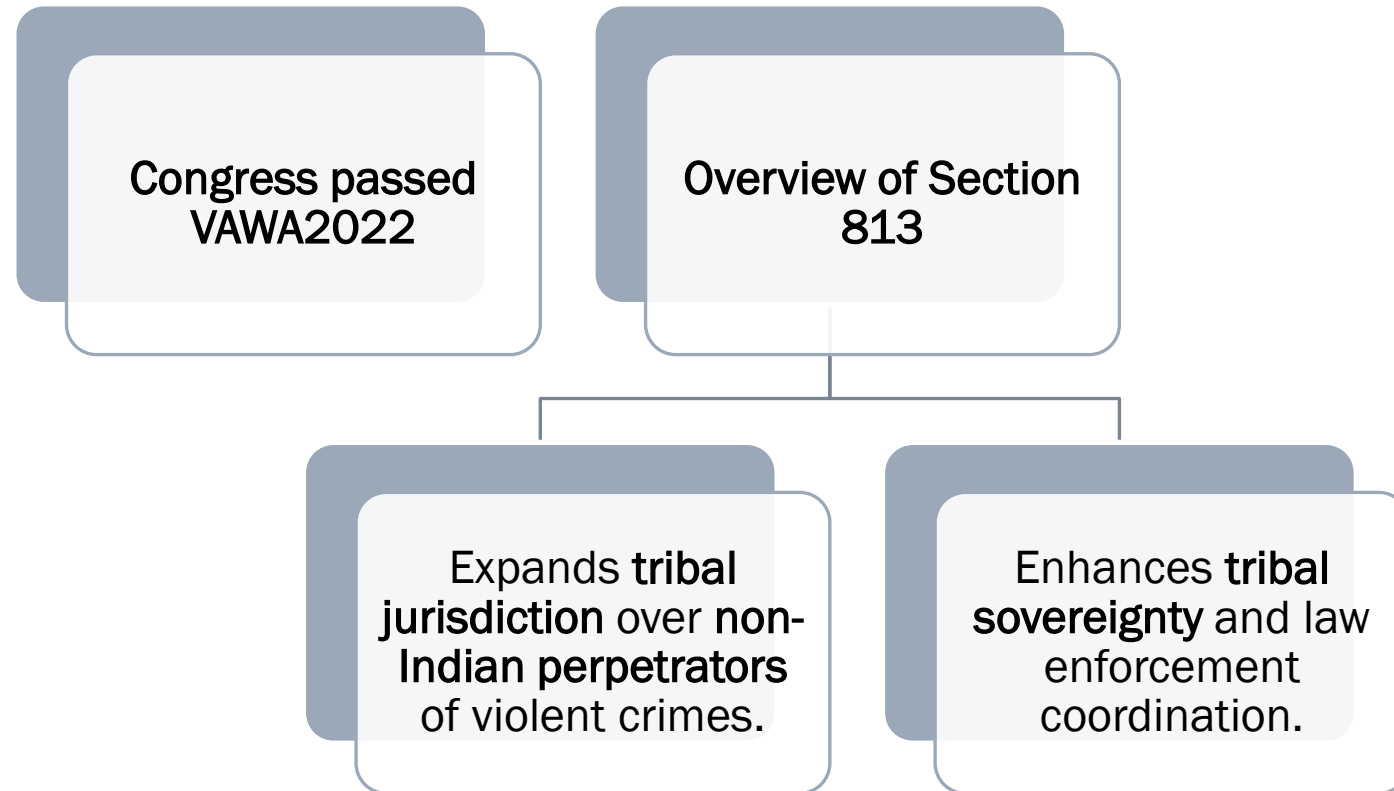
2020 Census Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas

Concurrent Jurisdiction—The exercise of special Tribal criminal jurisdiction by a participating Tribe shall be concurrent with the jurisdiction of the United States, the State, or both.

* The Chickaloon Special Tribal Jurisdiction is the size of Connecticut.



VAWA 2022 - Section 813



The Process to Hire and Start a Tribal Police Department in Alaska

Step 1: Obtain an ORI Number

- **ORI (Originating Agency Identifier):** Apply for an ORI to officially recognize the Tribal Police Department within the criminal justice system.
- **Significance:** The ORI enables your department to share and receive **criminal justice data** with state and national databases.

Step 2: Develop Policies and Procedures

- **Tribal Police Policies:** Create clear, comprehensive policies that define how your **Tribal Police Department** will operate, including:

- **Use of Force**
- **Code of Conduct**
- **Patrol Guidelines**
- **Investigation Protocols**



- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):** Develop procedures for **daily operations, incident response, evidence handling, and reporting.**

Process to Hire and Start a Tribal Police Department



Step 3: Evidence Handling and Management

Evidence Policies: Implement guidelines for proper evidence collection, storage, and chain of custody.

Secure Evidence Storage: Establish secure facilities for evidence storage to ensure integrity.

Documentation: Keep detailed records of evidence from the point of collection to its presentation in court.



Step 4: Establish Dispatch System

Tribal Dispatch Center: Set up a Tribal Dispatch Center or partner with local dispatch services for emergency response coordination.

StarLink/Backup System: Use StarLink or other reliable technologies to ensure constant communication during emergencies.

Process to Hire and Start a Tribal Police Department

Step 5: Full Tribal Access Program (TAP)

- **TAP:** Equip the department with access to the **Full Tribal Access Program (TAP)** for running **background checks** and accessing important databases (e.g., criminal history, stolen property).
- **TAP Fingerprint Machine:** Obtain and use a **TAP Fingerprint Machine** for identity verification and criminal background checks.



Step 6: APSIN and Law Enforcement Training

- **APSIN Training:** Ensure that all officers are trained on using **Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN)** for accessing state and national databases, such as warrants and criminal records.
- **Ongoing Training:** Provide continuous training in **tribal, state, and federal law enforcement practices**.



Process to Hire and Start a Tribal Police Department

Step 7: Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs)

- **Collaborations:** Establish **Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs)** with:
 - **Local law enforcement** (e.g., municipal police and sheriff's offices)
 - **State law enforcement** (e.g., Alaska State Troopers)
 - **Federal agencies** (e.g., FBI, BIA, US Marshals)
 - **Tribal Government to Government Agreements (MOA)**
- **Purpose of MOAs:** These agreements will facilitate **joint operations, information sharing**, and ensure your department has the support it needs.



Process to Hire and Start a Tribal Police Department

Step 8: Hire a Police Chief with Extensive Experience

- **Importance of Experience:** It is crucial to hire a **Police Chief** with **20+ years of law enforcement experience** to effectively lead the department from inception.
- Alternatively, hire a **Police Chief** with **10+ years of experience** along with completion of **Command School** training from either the **FBI** or **BIA** to ensure **strong leadership** and successful departmental establishment.
- **Leadership Role:** The Police Chief will be instrumental in the development of the department's policies, staff training, and building relationships with **local, state, and federal partners**



Chickaloon Police Hiring Process

STEP 1: Application & Initial Assessments

- **Application Process:**
 - Submit an **application** for consideration to join the Chickaloon Police Department.
- **Oral Board:**
 - Candidates are evaluated through a **structured oral interview** designed to assess communication skills, judgment, and readiness for the role.
- **Background Check:**
 - Complete the **F3 Personal History Statement** (as recommended by the **Alaska Police Standards Council**).
 - **Background check** to ensure eligibility and integrity.
- **Psychological Evaluation:**
 - To assess **psychological fitness** and ensure candidates are mentally prepared for law enforcement duties.



Chickaloon Police Hiring Process

- **Physical Exam:**
 - Candidates complete a **Health Questionnaire** to assess **physical fitness** and readiness for the demands of law enforcement.
- **Polygraph Exam:**
 - A **polygraph exam** is offered by **Commander Shane LaCroix** at the **Palmer Police Department** to assess truthfulness.
- **Submit Application to U.S. Indian Police Academy or the University of Fairbanks:**
 - Once all initial assessments are completed, **submit the application** to the **Academy** for enrollment.
- **Academy Attendance:**
 - Upon acceptance, the officer attends a **16-week Police Academy** at the **Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC)** in **New Mexico** or the **University of Fairbanks** to receive foundational training.



Chickaloon Police Hiring Process

STEP 2: Post-Academy Training

- **Field Training Officer Program (FTO):**
 - After completion of the **Police Academy**, new recruits attend the **Field Training Officer Program (FTO)** for 1 month. This **hands-on training** includes real-world patrols and mentorship under experienced officers.
- **Additional Training:**
 - Officers also undergo specialized training in areas like **criminal investigations, community policing**, and other essential law enforcement skills through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, (FLETC), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) National Advocacy Center (NAC), Conferences and more.



Court:

- *Chief Judge * Contract Judges
- *Youth Court *Wellness Court
- *Domestic/Civil/Criminal Court
- *Prosecuting Attorney * Defense Attorney
- *ICWA case worker
- * Victim /Family advocate
- *Probation Officer
- * Talking Circle

Law Enforcement

- *Chief of Police
- *Police Officers –(Lt.,Sgt's, Officers, Reserves-Explores
- *Victim Specialist Advocate (law/enforcement)
- *Fish & Wildlife Officers
- *Search and Rescue
- *Dispatch
- *Judicial Officer/Tribal Courts service

Tribal Detention Facility:

- Misdemeanor Detention Facility- Youth/Adult
- Drug /Alcohol rehab programs
- Mental Health programs
- Talking circles
- Youth programs/Mentors/Elders

State of Alaska Corrections:

- Non-native & native
- Misdemeanors & Felony Level

Federal Detention

- Non-native & native
- (US Attorney/US Marshal/ BOP)

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) Artesia, New Mexico (Free) or the University of Fairbanks Police Academy, AK (\$12,000)

16-WEEK ACADEMY



Future of Alaska Tribal Law Enforcement

"By weaving traditional tribal values into contemporary law enforcement, we create a model that honors cultural heritage while addressing modern challenges. This approach not only builds trust and improves community relations but also fosters a shared responsibility for safety and justice. Incorporating community talking circles and wellness courts further strengthens this model, benefiting both our elders and youth, and promoting a holistic approach to justice." — **Donna Anthony**



Course of Action

This Police Model is NOT New. Just New for Alaska

- The Tribal Police model is already in place and proven effective in other areas of the U.S.
- Alaska is years behind in years.

Key Needs for Alaska's Law Enforcement System

- VPO/VPSO (Village Public Safety Officers) are essential for addressing law enforcement gaps in rural communities.
- Alaska State Troopers are crucial for providing support and covering larger jurisdictions.
- Local police agencies are necessary to handle city-specific law enforcement challenges.
- Tribal Police are critical to address the unique needs of Alaska Native communities during this “law enforcement emergency.” Attorney General Bar 2019

Collaboration is Key

- Agencies need to come together: Local, state, tribal, and federal agencies must collaborate to create a unified law enforcement system that can serve **ALL the people** of Alaska.
- Together, we can better serve Alaska's diverse communities and **ensure safety and justice** for everyone.



Recognition by the Alaska Police Standards Council

- Chickaloon Police Department (CPD)
- Serving our tribal community with professionalism and integrity
- Fully operational department with an ORI (Originating Agency Identifier)
- We respectfully request formal recognition by the Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC).



Why Recognition Matters

- Ensures **standardization** in training, hiring, and accountability
- Enhances **interagency collaboration and communication**
- Strengthens **public trust**
- Provides **career mobility** for our officers



Existing Precedents

Other Recognized Agencies Include:

- Alaska Railroad Police
- University Police Departments

Why Not Us?

- Like those agencies, CPD serves a public safety role
- Our officers respond to calls, conduct investigations, and protect lives daily



Example

Washington State:

- Recognizes tribal police under state law
- Officers receive state and federal commissions (BIA)
Chickaloon PD seeks similar recognition in Alaska



Summary

We ask APSC to:

- Recognize Chickaloon Police Department
- Treat CPD with parity to other specialized agencies
- Support law enforcement equity across Alaska



Discussion



Contact Information

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