

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUSINESS COMMITTEE PARTICIPATES IN 79TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS IN SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Ft. Duchesne, UT November 17, 2022

During the week of October 31, 2022, the Business Committee traveled to Sacramento, California, to participate in the 79th Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI).

On November 1, Business Committee Member Julius T. Murray III, participated in a panel discussion with other tribal leaders responding to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta* case. In the decision, the Supreme Court upset over 200 years of federal Indian law to create new authority for states in Indian Country. Tribal leaders led a moderated discussion about the *Castro-Huerta* case and its many possible impacts for tribal jurisdiction and tribal sovereignty. Business Committee Member Murray shared the Ute Indian Tribe's proposed NCAI resolution recommending a legislative fix to the *Castro-Huerta* decision.

During the week, the Business Committee participated in the Western Caucus and Jurisdiction & Tribal Government Subcommittee meetings to advocate for approval of the Ute Indian Tribe's proposed NCAI resolution recommending a legislative fix to the *Castro-Huerta* decision. The Ute Indian Tribe's proposed NCAI resolution sought to amend the General Crimes Act to preempt state jurisdiction in Indian Country. On November 3, the Ute Indian Tribe's proposed NCAI resolution was passed unanimously during the full Committee meeting.



Business Committee Member Julius T. Murray III, participates in NCAI Panel responding to possible impacts for tribal jurisdiction and tribal sovereignty following the U.S. Supreme Court's *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta* decision.

About the Ute Indian Tribe - The Ute Indian Tribe resides on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in northeastern Utah. Three bands of Utes comprise the Ute Indian Tribe: the Whiteriver Band, the Uncompahgre Band and the Uintah Band. The Tribe has a membership of more than three thousand individuals, with over half living on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. The Ute Indian Tribe operates its own tribal government and oversees approximately 1.3 million acres of trust land which contains significant oil and gas deposits. The Tribal Business Committee is the governing council of the Tribe.